# School of Theology and Ministry
Seattle University

## Ministerial and Theological Integration
STMM 557 - 01

# Course Syllabus

### Course Information and Schedule
Fall Quarter
3 credits
Dates: Fridays September 26 – November 21, 2008
Class Location: Hunthausen Hall, Room 150
Time: 9:00 am – Noon

### Adjunct Faculty March Gunderson M.Div, M. Ed.
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### Basic Class Information, Course Requirements and Texts:
*Manual for Ministerial and Theological Integration, Student Course Materials* (Reference: Chapter 2) contains the course description, goals / focus for Fall Quarter, course description and requirements, texts – both required and recommended and grade distribution.

### The Approach

As you begin your ministerial internship this quarter, you will actively explore your call to ministry by actually doing the ministry of the church – service to the people of God. Your internship will be the context of your primary work as a person doing professional ministry.

As a pastoral minister, you no longer act simply as an individual. You are a public figure, a representative of the church or organization where you are interning. You become the visible expression of the organization's mission, vision, values, customs and beliefs.

The class will afford you the opportunity to do the tough and careful work of reflecting on your contextual experience by using the tools of Theological Reflection. Ministerial and Theological Integration is a way for you to explore: professional / personal development and identity, vocation, theological insight and assumptions, ecclesiology, culture, receive peer feedback, and take action.

MTI is a fundamental link between the academy and practical ministry. As such, MTI is key to the engaging the formation process. The formation statement found in the *Formation / Field Education Student Manual* Chapter 2, and contains a succinct description of the approach used in this course.

### Some Few Details:

- Unless otherwise discussed, you will need to bring enough copies of your work for each member of the class including the faculty.

- The Integration / Learnings Paper 1 page – (unless otherwise discussed) will be do one week after you have presented in class. The Integration / Learnings Paper should be accompanied by the papers critiqued by peers.

- Permission to keep a classmates paper must be given by the author.

- Class presentations are the occasion to invite your colleagues to participate in your learning. You need to set the tone, identifying what you want from your peers. Be specific and concrete, manage your time, and name the central issue or question you are addressing. Do not read a paper to the class, in many cases your peers have already read your paper.

- The class will create norms or principles of our common life.

*It is not how far you swim; it is how you swim far.*

## Things That Work Best:

- This class is built on the profound assumption that **you are a person of worth and value**, you do not need to prove yourself to the faculty, one another or even to God.

- **Participation in class** includes peer evaluation, attentiveness to the needs of the self as well as others, identification of your own learnings, prayer, faith sharing and written and oral presentations. Integrity is at the heart of ministry.

- **Questions** are almost always more important than answers. Make very visible in your MTI work the questions you are raising of your self, your work, and your theological understandings. This also includes questions about your internship, issues of justice, culture, and political events that influence your pastoral ministry.

- A due sense of accountability for your **ministerial placement**, committing to growth and development toward required competencies. Here is a chance to experience yourself as accountable to God and self in a sustained fashion.

- **A journal** is a helpful tool for recording your experiences, readings, peer evaluations and interactions which make up your daily journey. While journaling, you will want to be attentive to the social, cultural and political elements of the culture (newspaper / TV / books), the faith tradition and your own insights, thoughts, and feelings. You will not be asked to share your journal writings unless you so choose.

- In oral presentations and written work it is most critical to name, tag, briefly describe, or give evidence of personal / professional learnings gained from theological reflection and peer evaluations.

- All written work is expected to meet the STM writing guidelines.

*The Questions we ask shape our destiny*

Rev. Martin Luther King

## Grades:

Course Requirements for a "B" grade – detailed description found in Chapter 3
- Class participation and Regular attendance
- Completion of written work
- Feedback / Evaluation
- Evidence of assigned reading - Quarter focus – Chapter 2

To receive an "A" grade: "…an outstanding achievement in these areas."

**Papers**: Unless otherwise noted papers are to be distributed electronically to peers and faculty 3 days prior to presentation. <Sunday – 6:00pm>

## Overview of Fall Assignments:

1. Internship Job Description - can be revised at the beginning of each quarter.
2. Personal and Professional Goals – presented or revised
3. Papers 3 primary papers
   - ☐ **2-Critical Incident [p.76]** – (2 pages) & **Integration/ Learning paper [p.87]** (1 page)
     *your experience in ministry as it relates to your internship and your vocation*
     *your experience of professionalism and growth as a pastoral person*

   - ☐ **1-Verbatim [p.78] –** (4 to 6 pages) – **and Integration/ Learning paper [p.87]** (1 page)
     A significant event, which is focused on your internship
4. Reading
   - ☐ **Required Reading**: as described on pages 26-27 of the Student Manual.

5. Leadership -
   a. Prayer, Time Keeper
   b. Last class session Closing Ritual
   c. Book Conversation – read and select 1 for presentation
      *Gula, Ethics in Pastoral Ministry; Ch1,2 and 4.*
      *Grahham,Walton, & Ward Theological Reflection: Methods [selected Chapters]*
      *Robinson. Gilead*
      *Parker: Let Your Life Speak*

6. Comments and feedback (providing affirmations and challenges for growth) on all peer papers. Comments to be written on your copy of the presenter paper and returned to presenters.

7. Feedback – all due the last day of class
   a. Self Reflection paper to include: [A full description will be distributed in week 8]
      i. Key learnings,
      ii. At this point in the class, what does Theological Reflection Mean to you,
      iii. Goals – personal and professional,
      iv. Competencies assessed student manual p. 19-23.
   b. Peer feedback
   c. On-site Supervisor feedback form – see manual [p. 95].
   d. ½ page feedback on instructor
   e. ½ page feedback on internship site
   f. STM course evaluation – distributed last 15 minutes of last session of class.

8. Meet for 1 hr with Faculty the week of <u>October 27th</u> for a conversation which focus on:[student responsible for scheduling]
   a. Identify core learnings – name affirmations and challenges for your self.
   b. Name learnings from the course.
   c. What you do not understand.
   d. Demonstrate elementary understanding of Theological Reflection.

# Course Outline and Assignments

## Session 1: Friday, September 26, 2008

Class Agenda:
Prayer: _____March__ Time Keeper: _____ Snack: _____March__

Prayer and Welcome
Getting Acquainted
Questions about the Class
Faculty Approach to class
Role of On-site Supervisor
Identifying group guidelines and principles of our common work
Review Syllabus
Journal writing as a tool for reflection
Sign up for assignments – prayer, timekeeper (snack is optional)
The Manual – review contents
Next week's assignments – Goals etc.
Exchange of Information Form - Distributed
Prayer - Closure

Notes:
1. Give each other address/e-mail/ phone as you choose.
2. Arrange any changes in the assignments with each other and notify everyone in the class and faculty of those changes.
3. Times for presentations / didactics / conversations / book reviews, etc. are approximations and may be changed.

## Session 2: Friday, October 3, 2008

Class Agenda:
Prayer/Check-in/Closure: _____ Time Keeper: _____ Snack: _____

**Prayer**

**Issues or Questions** – Group principles

**Questions from Manual reading**

**Didactic / Conversation**: About Feedback: What happens when giving and receiving?

**Internship** – Presentation – What? Who? Why? Where? [10 min each]

**Goals** – personal and professional, [15 min each]

1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____ 4. _____

5. _____ 6. _____

7. _____

**Didactic / Discussion**: What is Theological Reflection – Where are we going?

**Debrief / Closure**

## Session 3: Friday, October 10, 2008

Class Agenda:
Prayer/Check-in/Closure: _____ Time Keeper: _____ Snack: _____

**Prayer**

**Issues or Questions** – Group principles

**Questions from Manual reading**

**Goals** – personal and professional, [15 min each] as needed

_____ _____

_____ _____

**Book Review and Presentation:**
*Grahham,Walton, & Ward Theological Reflection: Methods [Introduction—[20 minutes]*

1. _____

*Grahham,Walton, & Ward Theological Reflection: Methods [Chapter 1 – 20 minutes]*

2. _____

**Didactic / Discussion**: What is Theological Reflection – Where are we going?

**Debrief / Closure**

## Session 4: Friday, October 17, 2008

Class Agenda:
Prayer/Check-in/Closure: _____ Time Keeper: _____ Snack: _____

**Questions and or issues**

**Goals** – personal and professional 15 min each. (If needed).

**Book Review and Presentation / Conversation:**
Gula, *Ethics in Pastoral Ministry* – [Chapters 1 & 2] [about 20 min]

3. _____

**Discuss Assignment:** – Critical Incident

**Didactic / Discussion:** What is Theological Reflection?

**Conversation:** _____ _____

**Debrief / Closure**

Note: Schedule an appointment with Faculty the week of October 27th.

## Session 5: Friday, October 24, 2008

Class Agenda:
Prayer/Check-in/Closure: _____ Time Keeper: _____ Snack: _____

**Questions and or issues**

**Discussion:** The Verbatim as a way to get to Theological Reflection.

**Critical Incident #1 Presentation** [20 min each]

1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____ 4. _____

5. _____ 6. _____
7. _____

**Debrief / Closure**

## Session 6: Friday, October 31, 2008

Class Agenda:
Prayer/Check-in/Closure: _____ Time Keeper: _____ Snack: _____

**Questions and or issues**

**Conversation:** How are we doing?

**Critical Incident #2 Presentation** [20 - min each]

3. _____ 4. _____

5. _____

**Book Review and Presentation / Conversation:**
Gula, *Ethics in Pastoral Ministry* – [Chapter 4 – about 20 min]

5. _____

**Debrief / Closure**

## Session 7: Friday, November 7, 2008

Class Agenda:
Prayer/Check-in/Closure: _____ Time Keeper: _____ Snack: _____

**Questions and or issues**

**Critical Incident #2 Presentation** [20 min each]

6. _____ 7. _____

**Verbatim** Presentation [20 min each]

1. _____ 2. _____

5. _____

**Book Review and Presentation:**
Gilead – What stands out in the 1st half of the book????

4. _____

**Debrief / Closure**

## Session 8: Friday, November 14, 2008

Class Agenda:
Prayer/Check-in/Closure: _____ Time Keeper: _____ Snack: _____

**Questions and or issues**

**Discussion: Feedback Forms**

**Critical Incident #2 Presentation** [15 min each]

1. _____ 2. _____

**Verbatim** Presentation [20 min each]

3. _____ 4. _____

6. _____ 7._____

**Book Review and Presentation:**
Gilead – What stands out in the 2nd half of the book????

6. _____

**Debrief / Closure**

Note: Schedule an appointment with Faculty the week of November 6th.

# Session 9: Friday, November 21, 2008

Class Agenda:

Prayer/Check-in/Closure: _____ Time Keeper: _____ Snack: _____

**Peer Feedback Ritual and Closure** [See handout]

- ☐ Use handout as guide
- ☐ include reflection on **Parker Palmer** , *Let Your Life Speak*
- ☐ prepare ritual with break/snack

**Planning Team**:

a. _____ b. _____

c. _____ d. _____

**Feedback Discussion**

**Next Quarter**

**Closure**

*To show great love for God and our neighbor*
*we need not do great things.*
*It is how much love we put in the doing*
*that makes our offering something beautiful for God*

Mother Teresa of Calcutta

Subject to Revision prior to class – Instructor will have copies of syllabus on the first day of class.

9/10/2008