

School of Theology and Ministry Seattle University

Ministerial and Theological Integration
STMM 557 - 02

Course Syllabus

Course Information and Schedule

Fall Quarter
3 credits
Dates: Tuesdays, September 25- November 27, 2012
Class Location: Hunthausen Hall, Room 160
Time: 5:45 pm – 8:35 pm

Rev. Dr. Rick Russell, Adjunct Faculty

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Appointments: Contact directly: e-mail, phone, or voicemail.
Please leave home and or work numbers.

Basic Class Information, Course Requirements and Texts:

Text for Ministerial and Theological Integration, Student Course Materials. Chapter 3 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 for your primary work as a person doing public or professional ministry.

As a pastoral minister, you no longer act simply as an individual. You are a public figure, a representative of an agency, 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 thoughtful, 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 contains a succinct description of the approach used in this course.

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 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.

You are accountable to yourself and to others within the context of your ministerial placement. You will benefit by committing yourself to growth and development using the required competencies as guides. This program offers the opportunity to experience yourself as answerable to ultimate values 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.

Grades:

Course Requirements for a “B” grade - [See Chapter 3 of the Text for MTI]

- Class participation and Regular attendance –
- Competencies / Outcomes and Goals
- Papers / Assignments / Evidence of assigned reading
- Feedback / Evaluation

To receive an “A” grade: “...an outstanding achievement in these areas.”

Papers: Unless otherwise noted all papers are to be distributed electronically to peers and faculty 2 days prior to class presentation, i.e., Sunday evening.

Overview of Fall Assignments:

1. Internship Job Description - can be revised at the beginning of each quarter.
2. Personal and Professional Goals – presented and revised
3. Papers - 3 primary papers
 - 2-Critical Incidents [p. 109]** – (2 pages) & **Integration/ Learning paper [p. 125]** (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. 114]** – (4 to 6 pages) – and **Integration/ Learning paper [p. 109]** (1 page)
A significant event, which is focused on your internship
4. Reading
Required Reading: as described on page 57 of the Student Text. Catholic students are required to read two additional documents.
5. Leadership -
 - a. Prayer, Time Keeper
 - b. Last class session Closing Ritual
 - c. Book Conversation – read and select one for presentation
Gula, *Ethics in Pastoral Ministry* Chapters 1, 2 and 4.
Graham, Walton, & Ward, *Theological Reflection: Methods* [selected Chapters]
Robinson, *Gilead*
Parker, *Let Your Life Speak*
6. Comments and peer 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 fuller description will be distributed in week 8]
 - a. Self Reflection paper to include:
 - 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 from student text Chapter 3.
 - b. Peer feedback
 - c. On-site Supervisor feedback form – see text [p.132].
 - 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 October 22nd for a conversation which focus on:
 - a. Identify core learnings – name affirmations and challenges for yourself.
 - b. Name learnings from the course thus far.....
 - c. What you do not understand.....
 - d. Demonstrate elementary understanding of Theological Reflection.

Course Outline and Assignments

Session 1: Tuesday, September 25, 2012

Class Agenda:

Prayer: _____ Rick _____ Time Keeper: _____ Rick _____

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 MTI Textbook – review contents
Next week's assignments – Goals etc.
Exchange of Information Form - Distributed
Prayer - Closure

Note: 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.

Session 2: Tuesday, October 2, 2012

Class Agenda:

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

Prayer
Issues or Questions – Group principles
Questions from Text reading
Conversation: About Feedback: What happens when giving and receiving?
Internship – Presentation – What? Who? Why? Where? [10 min each]

Goals – personal and professional, [10 min each]

1. _____ 2. _____
3. _____

Book Review and Presentation:

Graham, Walton, & Ward, *Theological Reflection: Methods*—Introduction [20 minutes]

A. _____

Conversation: What is Theological Reflection – Where are we going?

Debrief / Closure

Session 3: Tuesday, October 19, 2012

Class Agenda:

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

Prayer
Issues or Questions
Questions from Text reading

Goals – personal and professional, [10 min each]

4. _____ 5. _____

6. _____

Book Review and Presentation:

Graham, Walton, & Ward, *Theological Reflection: Methods*—Chapter 1 [20 minutes]

B. _____

Book Review and Presentation / Conversation:

Gula, *Ethics in Pastoral Ministry* – Chapter 1 [20 min]

C. _____

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

Discuss Assignment: – Critical Incident

Debrief / Closure

Session 4: Tuesday, October 16, 2012

Class Agenda:

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

Prayer
Questions and or issues

Critical Incident # 1 -Presentation [20 min each]

1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____

Book review and Presentation:

Gula, *Ethics in Pastoral Ministry* – Chapter 2 [20 min]

D. _____

Debrief / Closure

Note: Schedule an appointment with Faculty the week of October 22nd.

Session 5: Tuesday, October 23, 2012

Class Agenda:

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

Prayer

Questions and or issues

Critical Incident # 1 -Presentation [20 min each]

4. _____ 5. _____

6. _____

Book review and Presentation:

Robinson, *Gilead* (pages 1-122) [30 min]

E. _____

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

Debrief / Closure

Session 6: Tuesday, October 30, 2012

Class Agenda:

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

Questions and or issues

Conversation: How are we doing?

Critical Incident #2 - Presentation [20 min each]

1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____

Book review and Presentation:

Robinson, *Gilead* (pages 123-end) [30 min]

F. _____

Debrief / Closure

Session 7: Tuesday, November 6, 2012

Class Agenda:

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

Prayer

Questions and or issues

Critical Incident #2 - Presentation [20 min each]

4. _____ 5. _____

6. _____

Gula, *Ethics in Pastoral Ministry* – Chapter 4 [20 min]

G. _____

Debrief / Closure

Session 8: Tuesday, November 13, 2012

Class Agenda:

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

Prayer

Questions and or issues

Discussion: Feedback Forms

Verbatim Presentation [25 min each]

1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____

Book review and Presentation:

Parker Palmer, *Let Your Life Speak* (Chapters 1-3) [30 min]

H. _____

Debrief / Closure

Session 9: Tuesday, November 20, 2012

Class Agenda:

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

Prayer

Questions and or issues

Review Competencies

Verbatim Presentation [25 min each]

4. _____ 5. _____

6. _____

Book review and Presentation:

Parker Palmer, *Let Your Life Speak* (Chapters 4-6) [30 min]

I. _____

Debrief / Closure

Session 10: Tuesday, November 27, 2012

Class Agenda:

Peer Feedback Ritual and Closure

Planning Team:

a. _____ b. _____

Subject to Revision prior to class.