

BHS 405

Spiritual Care and Dementia

Number of credits: 3

Semester: Winter, 2015
Dates: February 17-21
Days: Tuesday-Saturday
Room: A2210

Instructor: Jean Morris
Email: jmorris@ambrose.edu

Course Description:

This course will explore theological and pastoral themes related to ministry with people living with dementia. Students will learn about pastoral assessment, models of pastoral care, worship resources and congregational programs that support the spiritual needs of people with dementia. As well as discussing biblical perspectives on aging and a holistic approach to pastoral care, students will have conversations with chaplains, care givers and family members. This course is designed for those with interests in chaplaincy and congregational pastoral care.

Further Course Information:

Expected Learning Outcomes:

It is the aim of the course that students acquire the following skills:

1. To gain understanding of the pastoral needs and theological issues facing people who live with dementia, and their families
2. To understand the importance of spiritual assessment for pastoral care.
3. To explore congregational programs and initiatives that are responsive to those who live with dementia.
4. To have discussion with trained chaplains about the provision of pastoral care to people living with dementia.

Important Dates:

First day of classes: February 17, 2015

Registration revision period: 4:00pm of the first day of classes, Feb. 17

Last day to withdraw from course: 1:00PM of the fourth (4th) day of classes, Friday, Feb. 20

Last day to apply for time extension for coursework: March 30, 2015

Outline:

- Tues. am Biblical and Pastoral Themes in Dementia Care
- Tues. pm Understanding Dementia from a bio-medical perspective
- Wed. am A Pastoral Theology of Dementia
- Wed. pm Spiritual Assessment – What? Why? How?
- Thurs.am Researched Based Drama on Dementia
- Thus. pm Presentation and conversation with long term care Chaplain, Jan Burgerhout
- Fri. am Dementia and Congregational Life - pastoral care, worship and programs
- Fri. pm Presentation and conversation with Rev. Doug Johnston – Pastor and Chaplain
- Sat. am Spirituality and Pastoral Care of Family Members
- Sat. pm Class presentations

Requirements:

1. Write a 5 page review of a book from the reading list discussing the author's main points and how the book affected your understanding of spirituality and dementia. A reading list will be provided on the first day of class.
2. Develop a script for a Christian worship service for a congregation of long term care residents, most of who live with dementia. Include prayers, scripture readings, meditation/sermon, and music and provide the theological and pastoral rationale for each component and for the service as a whole.

OR

Write a 9-12 page paper (double-spaced) outlining the major themes of John Swinton's book, *Dementia Living in the Memories of God*, and reflecting on the ways in which those themes have informed or changed your perspective of spirituality and dementia.

3. Prepare a package of information and resources that would be useful for a family member, from your faith community, of a person recently diagnosed with dementia. Provide a 3-4 page paper describing the rationale for your choices.
4. Make a 10 minute presentation during the course on either:
 - A chosen biblical passage and how it relates to spirituality and dementia.
 - An idea for a congregational program or initiative in areas of pastoral care, worship, and mission/outreach which would be responsive to the spiritual needs of people living with dementia or their family members.

Submission of Assignments:

All written assignments will be due not later than April 30, 2015 and will be submitted to the instructor via email.

Attendance:

Students are expected to attend each day of week module classes. Given that this is a module course, it is extremely important that you attend all of the class time.

Evaluation:

Book review or Interview 25%

Worship Service script or 8-10 page paper 40%

Package on information 20%

Class presentation 15 %

Written assignments will be graded for clearly expressed ideas and logically organized flow 25%

Insightful reflection, depth of thought and analysis of concepts, quality and relevance of citations 60%

Grammar, syntax, spelling, reference formats 15%

Oral class presentation will be graded on integration of concepts from the course 75%

Creativity 25%

Grade Summary:

The available letters for course grades are as follows:

<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Description</u>
A+	
A	Excellent
A-	
B+	
B	Good
B-	
C+	
C	Satisfactory
C-	
D+	
D	Minimal Pass
F	Failure

Textbooks:

Swinton, John Dementia Living in the Memories of God (Eerdmans, 2013)

Fitchett, George Assessing Spiritual Needs (Augsburg Fortress, 1993)

Policies:

All students have received an Ambrose e-mail account upon registration. It is the student's responsibility to check this account regularly as the Ambrose email system will be the professor's instrument for notifying students of important matters (Cancelled class sessions, extensions, requested appointments, etc.) between class sessions. If students do not wish to use their Ambrose accounts, it is highly recommended that they forward all messages from the Ambrose account to the other account.

During the **Registration Revision Period** students may to enter a course without permission, change the designation of any class from credit to audit and /or voluntary withdraw from a course without financial or academic penalty. These courses will not appear on the student's transcript. Courses should be added or dropped on the student portal by the deadline date, please consult the List of Important Dates. After that date, the original status remains and the student is responsible for related fees.

Students intending to withdraw from a course after the Registration Revision Period must apply to the Office of the Registrar by submitting a Request to Withdraw from a Course by the **Withdrawal Deadline**, please consult the List of Important Dates. Withdrawal from courses after the Registration Revision period will not be eligible for tuition refund. A grade of "W" will appear on the student's transcript.

Students wishing to withdraw from a course, but who fail to do so by the applicable date, will receive the grade earned in accordance with the course syllabus. A student obliged to withdraw from a course after the Withdrawal Deadline because of health or other reasons may apply to the Registrar for special consideration.

Students, who find a conflict in their exam schedule must submit a **Revised Examination** Request form to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date, please consult the List of Important Dates. Requests will be considered for the following reasons only: 1) the scheduled final examination slot conflicts with another exam; 2) three final exams within three consecutive exam time blocks; 3) the scheduled final exam slot conflicts with an exam at another institution; 4) extenuating circumstances. Travel is not considered a valid excuse for re-scheduling or missing a final exam.

Electronic Etiquette

Students are expected to treat their instructor, guest speakers, and fellow students with respect. It is disruptive to the learning goals of a course or seminar and disrespectful to fellow students and the instructor to engage in electronically-enabled activities unrelated to the class during a class session. Please turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices during class. Laptops should be used for class-related purposes only. Please do not use iPods, MP3 players, or headphones. Do not text, read, or send personal emails, go on Facebook or other social networks, search the internet, or play computer games during class. The professor has the right to disallow the student to use a laptop in future lectures and/or to ask a student to withdraw from the session if s/he does not comply with this policy. Repeat offenders will be directed to the Dean. If you are expecting communication due to an emergency, please speak with the professor before the class begins.

Academic Policies

It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies as stated in the Academic Calendar. Personal information, that is information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual, may be collected as a requirement as part of taking this class. Any information collected will only be used and disclosed for the purpose for which the collection was intended. For further information contact the Privacy Compliance Officer at privacy@ambrose.edu.

Extensions

Although extensions to coursework in the semester are at the discretion of the instructor, students may not turn in coursework for evaluation after the last day of the scheduled final examination period unless they have received permission for a "**Course Extension**" from the Registrar's Office. Requests for course extensions or alternative examination time must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date, please consult the List of Important Dates. Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise "due to circumstances beyond the student's control".

Appeal of Grade

An appeal for change of grade on any course work must be made to the course instructor within one week of receiving notification of the grade. An appeal for change of final grade must be submitted to the Office of the Registrar in writing within 30 days of receiving notification of the final grade, providing the basis for appeal. A review fee of \$50.00 must accompany the appeal to review final grades. If the appeal is sustained, the fee will be refunded.

Academic Integrity

We are committed to fostering personal integrity and will not overlook breaches of integrity such as plagiarism and cheating. Academic dishonesty is taken seriously at Ambrose University College as it undermines our academic standards and affects the integrity of each member of our learning community. Any attempt to obtain credit for academic work through fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest means is academic dishonesty. Plagiarism involves presenting someone else's ideas, words, or work as one's own. Plagiarism is fraud and theft, but plagiarism can also occur by accident when a student fails or forgets to give credit to another person's ideas or words. Plagiarism and cheating can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the university college. Students are expected to be familiar with the policies in the current Academic Calendar that deal with plagiarism, cheating, and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean and become part of the student's permanent record.

Students are strongly advised to retain this syllabus for their records.