



CANADIAN  
THEOLOGICAL  
SEMINARY  
Alliance University College

**PT 501 Personal Formation and Development  
Fall 2006**

**Instructor: Dr. Peter Ralph  
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**Course Objectives**

This course will provide students with the means to assess their person formation and growth to date. It will require them to plan steps of growth that will guide them in making choices either while in seminary or while entering ministry. It will use insights from the Christian spiritual tradition, from psychology in the form of the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator. It will provide a structure for evaluating personal vocational development and sexuality as these bear on preparing for and applying ministry.

**Learning Outcomes**

Students will be able to:

- evaluate their spiritual formation in light of Christian Trinitarian faith
- evaluate their spiritual formation in the light of classic spiritual cultures and “maps” of Christian formation
- evaluate the development of their sense of vocation to Christian ministry
- assess their sexual development in light of vocation to Christian ministry
- assess their personal formation in terms of the Myers Briggs Type Indicator
- test their understanding of communication in a post-modern world

**Requirement for the Myers Briggs Type Indicator**

Students have paid a fee which enables students to take the MBTI electronically, receive a professionally generated description of their type and its application, and establish their profile in the Ministry Placement Office for future use. The MBTI profile will be used in PT710 also. **Students must complete the MBTI instrument before Tuesday morning in order to profit from the interpretation of the instrument later in the week.**

Students’ email addresses will be collected on Monday morning in order to begin this process. Students should receive, complete and return the instrument through email within 24 hours. See Fern Buszowski, Manager of the Practicum Program and Career Development Centre at CTS with any issues. **A significant portion of this course cannot be completed without completing the MBTI.** [fbuszowski@auc-nuc.ca](mailto:fbuszowski@auc-nuc.ca)  
403-410-2908 Room 757

### **Textbooks and Pre-Course Reading**

Diane Schoemperlen's *Our Lady Of The Lost And Found* is required. Schomperlen's novel will prove to be quite out of the ordinary reading. Class discussion will feature this book. Students will submit a book reflection paper describing how they would engage the author of the book in a spiritual conversation.

Students will complete 1125 pages of reading including the course text and any choices from the recommended reading list. Substitute reading material may be negotiated with the instructor. Students will submit a (minimum) three-page report of each book read. The report will include a brief (one page maximum) analysis of the content of the reading, and an assessment (at least two pages) of the relevance of the material to the student's present and future formation as discussed in class. The ability to integrate across topics will be a key to success in this report.

### **Reading Reports**

Students will choose readings that correspond to class topics, and will read as added learning for their assigned papers. Reports of this reading will be handed in at the same time as the papers to which they relate.

### **Assigned Papers**

Paper 1. Personal Formation and my Spirituality (will assess the student's formation, including the categories discussed in class: Please note, a "personal testimony" alone will not fulfill the requirements of this paper.)

Paper 2. Personal Formation and my Vocation (will assess the student's sense of calling to ministry according to class discussions.)

Paper 3. Personal Formation and my Sexuality (will assess personal and ministry-related issues in sexuality according to class discussions)

Paper 4. Personal Formation and my Temperament (will assess the student's present and future development in terms of the Myers Briggs Type Indicator.)

Paper 5. Personal Formation: an Integration (will integrate course material, reading, previous learning and experience, and will offer short-term and long-term plans for future choices based on this integration.)

### **Due Dates**

Paper and reading report #1: week of Sept. 25

Paper and reading report #2: week of Oct. 16

Paper and reading report #3: week of Nov. 4

Paper and reading report #4: week of Nov. 25

Paper and reading report #5: week of Dec. 11

### **Attendance Policy**

Students are expected to attend all class sessions for their entire duration.

### **Evaluation**

Five short papers 15% each	75%
Reading and reports	25%
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	100%

### **Paper Format**

Seminary papers are to follow the guidelines of *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses and Dissertations*, by Kate L. Turabian (6<sup>th</sup> edition) and/or *The Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (Fourth edition). The instructor will indicate where these guidelines may be waived or substituted. Students will identify, on the first or cover page of all assignments, the course name, the instructor’s name and their own name (student ID numbers are optional) and their mail box number. Students will refrain from using graphics of any kind in preparing papers. Papers will be double-spaced, no more and no less, whether between lines or between paragraphs. All type will be 12 point. Book reflections will show the total number of pages read per book on the title page of the paper.

### **Important Notes**

- If not turned in to the instructor in class, students are to submit their completed assignments and exams to the Receptionist on 6<sup>th</sup> floor. The Receptionist will note the date received and forward assignments to the respective instructors immediately.
- Last date and time to enter course without permission and/or voluntarily withdraw from course without financial penalty: September 15.
- Last date and time to voluntarily withdraw from course or change to audit without academic penalty: November 15.
- It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies of CTS as are stated in the Student Handbook and Academic Calendar and Catalogue. 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@auc-nuc.ca](mailto:privacy@auc-nuc.ca).

- | <u>Grading Scale</u> | <u>Letter Grade</u> | <u>Description</u> |
|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
|                      | A+                  | Excellent          |
|                      | A                   |                    |
|                      | A-                  | Good               |
|                      | B+                  |                    |
|                      | B                   |                    |
|                      | B-                  |                    |
|                      | C+                  | Satisfactory       |
|                      | C                   |                    |

C-	
D+	
D	Minimal Pass
F	Failure

- *Policy on extensions.* Requests for a course extension must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by December 20. Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise "due to circumstances beyond the student's control." All written assignments turned in after December 20 must be submitted to the Receptionist on the 6th floor. The professor will not accept any written work after December 20 unless permission has been granted from the Registrar's office
- *Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty Policy.* The seminary maintains a zero tolerance policy on plagiarism and academic dishonesty. Plagiarism and academic dishonesty can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the seminary. Even unintentional plagiarism is to be avoided at all costs. Students are expected to be familiar with the policy statements in the current academic calendar and the student handbook that deal with plagiarism, academic dishonesty (cheating), and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean

### **Bibliography**

#### **Clergy Families**

Briscoe, D. Stuart. Pulling Together When you're Pulled Apart.

Hands, Donald R. Spiritual Wholeness for Clergy: a New Psychology of Intimacy with God, Self, and Others

Langford, Daniel. The Pastor's Family: The Calling of Family Life and Pastoral Responsibilities.

Larson, Lyle and Walter Goltz. Clergy Families In Canada: An Initial Report.

Lee, Cameron and Jack Balswick. Life In A Glass House: The Minister's Family In Its Unique Social Context.

O'Brien, Gene. Couples Praying: A Special Intimacy.

Richardson, Ron. Becoming a Healthier Pastor: Family Systems Theory and The Pastor's Own Family.

Shelley, Marshall. The Healthy Hectic Home: Raising A Family In The Midst Of Ministry.

## **Desert Wisdom**

Nomura, Yushi. Desert Wisdom: Sayings From The Desert Fathers.

## **Intimacy**

Brennan, M. Bridget. Claiming our Deepest Desires: the Power of an Intimate Marriage

Brenton, Myron. Friendship

Burr, R. Develop Your Secret Closet of Prayer.

Covington, Stephanie. Leaving the Enchanted Forest: The Path from Relationship  
Addiction to Intimacy

DeMoss, Robert G. Sex and the Single Person: Dealing Honestly with the Need for  
Intimacy

Diamond, Jed. Looking for Love in all the Wrong Places: Overcoming Romantic and  
Sexual Addictions

Ferder, Fran and John Heagle. Your Sexual Self: Pathway to Intimacy.

Fischer, Kathleen R. Promises to keep: Developing the Skills of Marriage  
Groom, Nancy. Risking Intimacy.

Harvey, Donald R. The Spiritually Intimate Marriage

Hershey, Terry. Intimacy: Where Do I go to Find Love?

Joy, Donald M. Re-bonding: Preventing and Restoring Damaged Relationships

Keyes, Ken. A Conscious Person's Guide to Relationships

MacDonald, Gordon. The Tests Men Face. (cassettes)

Manning, Brennan. Abba's Child

Mayhue, Rich. Spiritual Intimacy.

McDonald, Robert L. Intimacy: Overcoming the Fear of Closeness

McGinnis, Alan Loy. The Friendship Factor: How to get Closer to the People you Care  
for.

Moore, Thomas. Soul mates: Honoring the Mysteries of Love and Relationship

Myers, Joseph R. The Search to Belong: Rethinking Intimacy, Community, and Small Groups

Nouwen, Henry. Intimacy: Pastoral Psychological Essays.

Oden, Thomas. Game Free: A Guide To The Meaning Of Intimacy.

Phillips, Holly Faith. What does she want from me, Anyway?: Honest Answers to the Questions Men ask about Women

Purnell, Dick. Becoming a Friend and Lover

Rainey, Dennis. Lonely Husbands, Lonely Wives: Rekindling Intimacy in every Marriage

Rowley, Wm. Nothing To Hide: The Search For Authentic Relationships.

Rubin, Lillian B. Intimate Strangers: Men and Women Together

Schaef, Anne Wilson. Escape from Intimacy: the Pseudo-relationship Addictions: Untangling the “love” addictions, sex, romance, relationships

Schaumburg, Harry W. False Intimacy: Understanding the Struggle of Sexual Addiction  
Shelton, Charles M. Intimacy and the Moral Life

Smalley, Gary, and John Trent. The Language Of Love: A Powerful Way To Maximize Insight, Intimacy, And Understanding.

Storkey, Elaine. The Search for Intimacy

Throne, Brian. Infinitely Beloved: the Challenge of Divine Intimacy

Whitehead, James and Evelyn. A Sense of Sexuality: Christian Love and Intimacy.

### **Trinitarian Spirituality**

Adam, Peter. Living the Trinity

Blyth, Myra. Celebrating the Trinity: Faith, Worship and Mission

British Council Of Churches: The Forgotten Trinity.

Coppedge, Allan. Portraits of God: a Biblical Theology of Holiness

Downey, Michael. Altogether Gift: A Trinitarian Spirituality

Duck, Ruth C. Praising God: the Trinity in Christian Worship

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Houston, James: Prayer: The Friendship That Transforms.

Johanson, Darrell W. Experiencing the Trinity

Kimel, Alvin F. Speaking the Christian God: the Holy Trinity and the Challenge of Feminism

Letham, Robert. The Holy Trinity: in Scripture, History, Theology, and Worship

Maloney, George A. Abiding in the Indwelling Trinity

McGrath, Alister E. Understanding the Trinity

Navone, John J. Self-giving, and Sharing: the Trinity and Human Fulfillment

Olsen, V. Norskov. The New Relatedness for Men and Women in Christ: a Mirror of the Divine

Owen, John. Communion with God

Powell, Samuel M. Participating in God: Creation and Trinity

Prokes, Mary Timothy. Mutuality: the Human Image of Trinitarian Love

Torrance, James. Worship, Community, and The Triune God Of Grace.

White, James R. The Forgotten Trinity

### **Myers Briggs Type Indicator**

Edwards, Lloyd. How we Belong, Fight and Pray: the MBTI as a Key to Congregational Dynamics

Francis, Leslie J. Personality type and Scripture

Grant, Harold; Thompson, Magdala, and Thomas Clarke. From Image To Likeness: A Jungian Path In The Gospel Journey.

Harbaugh, Gary L. God's Gifted People: Discovering and Using your Spiritual and Personal Gifts

Johnson, Reginald. Celebrate my Soul

Kroeger, Otto. Type talk at Work: How 16 Personality Types Determine your Success on the Job

Myers, Isabel Briggs. Manual, a Guide to the Development and Use of the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator

Myers, Isabel, with Peter Myers. Gifts Differing.

Osborn, Lawrence. God's Diverse People

Provost, Judith A. A Casebook, Applications of the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator in Counseling

Tieger, Paul. D. Do What You Are: Discover the perfect Career For You.

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Allender, Dan. The Wounded Heart.

Every Man's Battle: Winning The War on Sexual Temptation.

Balswick, Jack. Men At the Crossroad

Authentic Human Sexuality.

The Family

Brown, David Mark. Tainted Love: God, Sex and Religion For The Not-So-Pure At Heart.

Crabb, Lawrence. Men And Women.

Dalbey, Gordon. Father And Son.

Healing The Masculine Soul.

Dawn, Marva. Sexual Character: Beyond Technique To Intimacy.

Elliot, Elizabeth. Passion and Purity: Learning to Bring Your Life Under Christ's Control.

Grenz, Stanley. Sexual Ethics: An Evangelical Perspective.

Hart, Arch. The Sexual Man.



Hubbard, M.G. Women, The Misunderstood Majority.

Ind, Jo. Memories of Bliss: God, Sex and Us.

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Matzko, David. Sex and Love in the Home: A Theology of the Household.  
Sexual Healing: God's Plan For the Sanctification of Broken Lives.

McMinn, Lisa. Sexuality and Holy Longing: Embracing Intimacy In A Broken World.

Neuchterlein, Ann-Marie, and Celia Hahn. The Male-Female Church Staff.

Rhinehart, Paula. Sex and The Soul Of A Woman: The Reality Of Love And Romance  
in An Age Of Casual Sex.

Rutter, Peter. Sex In The Forbidden Zone.

Schaumberg, H. False Intimacy.

Sell, Charles. Achieving The impossible: Intimate Marriage.

Smedes, Lewis. Sex For Christians.

Tannen, Deborah. You Just Don't Understand.

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:" Redeemed: Breaking The Stranglehold Of Sexual Sin.

Wright, H. Norman. Always Daddy's Girl.

Young, H. Edwin. Pure Sex.

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Sager, Allan. Gospel-Centred Spirituality: An Introduction To Our Spiritual Journey.

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Andrew, Brother. The Unforgettable Story of a Man who Discovered the Adventure of the Calling

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Bayly, Joseph. Essays on Guidance

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Bockmuehl, Klaus. Recovering Vocation Today. (CRUX: Sept. 1988, v.24, #3.)

Bradley, John. Unlocking your Sixth Suitcase: How to Love What you Do and Do what you Love

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Holderness, Ginny Ward. Career and Calling: a Guide for Counselors, Youth and Young Adults

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Klingaman Patrick. Thank God it's Monday

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Mouw, Richard. Called To Holy Worldliness.

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Palmer, Parker. Let Your Life Speak: Listening For The Voice Of Vocation.

Parker, Ronald. Do I Belong In Seminary?

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Peterson, Eugene. Under The Unpredictable Plant: An Exploration In Vocational Holiness.

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Proctor Samuel. We have this Ministry: the heart of the Pastor's Vocation

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Van Vuuren, Nancy. *Work and Career*

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