

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

Textbooks and Pre-Course Reading

Diane Schoemperlen’s *Our Lady Of The Lost And Found* is required. Schoemperlen’s novel will prove to be quite out of the ordinary. A recommended reading list may be found in the CTS library.

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. For Diane Schoemperlen’s book, students will reflect in their report on ways they might engage this author in conversation about faith.

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 may be handed in at the same time as the papers to which they relate. The wise student will not leave either the reading or the reports until the end of the semester.

Assigned Papers

Paper 1. Personal Formation and my Spirituality (will evaluate 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 issues in sexuality as well as ministry-related issues, whether past, present or future.)

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 an integration.)

Due Dates

Paper 1: Week of Jan.20

Paper 2: Week of Feb.10

Paper 3: Week of March 3

Paper 4: Week of March 31

Paper 5: Week of April 7

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%

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 (6th 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.

Bibliography

Clergy Families

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.

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

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

Nouwen, Henry. Intimacy: Pastoral Psychological Essays.

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

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

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

Trinitarian Spirituality

British Council Of Churches: The Forgotten Trinity.

Houston, James: Prayer: The Friendship That Transforms.

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

Myers Briggs Type Indicator

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

Myers, Isabel, with Peter Myers. Gifts Differing.

Sexuality

Allender, Dan. The Wounded Heart.

Balswick, Jack. Men At the Crossroad
Authentic Human Sexuality.
The Family

Crabb, Lawrence. Men And Women.

Dalbey, Gordon. Father And Son.
Healing The Masculine Soul.

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

Hart, Arch. The Sexual Man.

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

Joy, Donald. Bonding.
Re-Bonding.
Unfinished Business.

Laaser, Mark. The Secret Sin.

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

Rutter, Peter. Sex In The Forbidden Zone.

Schaumberg, H. False Intimacy.

Smedes, Lewis. Sex For Christians.

Tannen, Deborah. You Just Don't Understand.

Trobisch, Walter. Living With Unfulfilled desires.

White, John. Eros Defiled: The Christian And Sexual Sin.

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

Types Of Spirituality

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

Vocation

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

Deratanay, Edward. When God Calls You.

Peck, M. Scott. A World Waiting To Be Born: Civility Rediscovered.

Kraemer, Hendrik. A Theology Of The Laity.

Moore, Thomas. Care Of The Soul: A Guide For Cultivating Depth And Sacredness in Everyday Life.

Mouw, Richard. Called To Holy Worldliness.

Nemeck, F. and M. Coombs. Called By God.

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

Ryken, Leyland. Work And Leisure In Christian Perspective.

Sherman, Douglas, and William Hendriks. Your Work Matters To God.