



Directed Study

PT 710: Ministry Values and Practice

Winter 2010 (3 credits)

Instructor: Rev. Arch Wong, D.Min., Ph.D.

Contacting the Instructor

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Course Description

This course provides the opportunity for learners to examine their beliefs concerning ministry and the practice of ministry as reflective-practitioners. The formation of a reflective-practitioner in ministry includes: 1) the integration of spiritual formation and the working out of continual calling; and 2) the development of basics skills and methods necessary for theological reflection and understanding professional values and practice in ministerial settings.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, the learner should be able to:

- Clarify and/or renew calling into professional ministry by understanding self;
- Engage in critical/theological reflection about the nature of ministry in terms of being a reflective practitioner; and
- Understand and be able to use qualitative research methodologies for ministry.

Required Texts

Swinton, J. and Mowat, H. (2006). *Practical theology and qualitative research*. London: SCM Press.

MBTI Inventory. (\$50.00, this is a one-time charge and will be billed to your student account if you have not done this already in PT 501class).

Course Requirements

All assignments must be turned in on time on the assigned date. Any assignment turned in after the deadline will receive an "F". But it must still be handed in or the final grade will be "Incomplete". There are extenuating circumstances from time to time, and these may be discussed with the instructor.

Co-requisite

The learner must be currently in a ministry approved by the instructor (please see instructor). This is important for the qualitative research project. If this is a concern, please see the instructor.

Personal Calling Statement

I will lead you through this assignment by way of emailing the powerpoint slides which will give clear instructions and due dates to complete the time-line, core values, and vision which will result in a Personal Calling Statement.

Qualitative Methodology Paper

Choose two of the qualitative methodologies below and write a 10-12 page paper for each:

1. Ethnography
2. Phenomenology
3. Narrative Inquiry
4. Appreciative Inquiry
5. Action research

The following core points should be addressed in the papers:

- Historical background (brief)
- Core conceptual framework

- Distinguishing characteristics of the methodology
- Basic methods using examples of research data
- Key references used to enter the field

Qualitative Research Paper

This is a small scale research project (a micro project or pilot project). Use one of the qualitative research methodologies that you researched above. I will give instructions in writing the paper. The final paper for the small scale research project is due April 13th.

Course Grades

Personal Calling Statement	50%
Qualitative Methodology: Group Task, Paper, and Presentation	30%
Qualitative Research Paper	20%

The available letters for this course grades are as follows:

Letter Grade Percentage

A+	93-100%	Excellent - superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter
A	85-92%	
A-	80-84%	
B+	77-79%	Good - clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter complete
B	73-76%	
B-	70-72%	
C+	67-69%	Satisfactory - basic understanding of subject matter
C	63-66%	
C-	60-62%	
D+	55-59%	Minimal pass - marginal performance
D	50-54%	
F	below 50%	Failure - unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements.

Important Notes

Besides class time, one of the other ways I will communicate with you is through your campus student email. Please check this periodically or forward this email account to your main email account. Laptop computers may be used for note taking only unless specify by the instructor. Please do not access the network/internet during class unless specify by instructor. Please turn off all cell phones during class and please no text-messaging. Recording of any type is not permitted unless permission is given by the instructor.

It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies of as are stated in the Student Handbook and 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. The last day to enter a course without permission and /or voluntary withdrawal from a course or change to audit without financial penalty: January 15th. 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." Alternative times for final examinations cannot be scheduled without prior approval. Requests for course extensions or alternative examination time must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by the appropriate deadline. Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise "due to circumstances beyond the student's control."

We are committed to fostering personal integrity and will not overlook breaches of integrity such as plagiarism and cheating. 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 and the Student Handbook 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. This syllabus is a contract between the instructor and you. Students are advised to retain this syllabus for their records.

Academic Dishonesty: Plagiarism

Plagiarism involves presenting someone else's ideas, words, or work as one's own. Any attempt to obtain credit for academic work through fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest means is plagiarism. Fraud and theft best describe plagiarism, but plagiarism can also occur seemingly by accident when a student fails or forgets to give credit to another person's ideas or words.

Plagiarism includes:

- Submitting work previously submitted in another course without the consent of the instructor.
- Representing the words, ideas, or work of another as one's own in any academic exercise.
- Conducting any act that defrauds the academic process.
- Nearly all forms of plagiarism can be avoided by giving credit to others whenever using:
 - Another person's idea, opinion, or theory.
 - Any facts, statistics, graphs, drawings—any pieces of information—that are not common knowledge.
 - Quotations of another person's actual spoken or written words.
 - A paraphrase of another person's spoken or written words.

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating

Cheating is another serious form of academic dishonesty. Cheating includes, but is not limited to:

- Sitting for an examination by surrogate or acting as a surrogate.
- Tampering or attempting to tamper with examinations, grades, or class records.
- Communicating with another student during an examination in a dishonest way.
- Bringing into an examination any textbook, notebook, paper, information or electronic device not authorized by the instructor or examiner.
- Consulting any person or materials outside the examination room without permission to do so.
- Attempting to read other students' examination papers.

Penalties

If an instructor finds there is sufficient evidence of academic dishonesty on the part of a student, then the student will be subject to penalty. Any form of academic dishonesty may result in a zero grade on the assignment, loss of credit in that course, suspension, or other administrative action, as determined by committee.