SD 830 Spiritual Direction and Formation Specialization (2 credit hours)
Fall 2016

Required Texts:

Course Description:
This seminar has three foci: one, to become familiar with the nature of inner work in the context of spiritual direction; two, to explore selfhood in Christ and its impact on spiritual direction; and three, to consider contemplative prayer and practice, as well as their roles in spiritual direction.

Student Learning Outcomes:
Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:
1. Engage in personal, spiritual reflection;
2. Have a foundational understanding of dream work, both for their own growth and for their practice of spiritual direction;
3. Articulate a personal vision for ministry rooted in his or her authentic personhood;
4. Identify issues within depth psychology that aid in the art of soul-care;
5. Have a basic understanding of contemplative prayer and its role in spiritual direction.

Pre-seminar Assignments: Due Thursday, July 14, 2016
1. Read the Nouwen text.
   a. The student will write a paper (5 pages) which analyzes the scriptural and theological bases for a ministry that grows out of one’s wounds. What supports this ministry stance? What challenges this approach to ministry? The last section of the paper will include insights for ministry the student gained from reading this book, especially for the ministry of spiritual direction.
   b. This paper should be written in formal, academic style. Submit this paper via email to jt.webber@att.net.
   c. At the July 14 seminar, be prepared to discuss Nouwen’s notion that ministry arises out of the wounds of the minister.
2. Read the Linn text, *Healing the Purpose of Your Life*.
   a. Write a paper (4 pages) that includes two parts:
      i. A synopsis of the book (1 page);
      ii. A reflection on the student’s current understanding of his or her sealed orders (3 pages). The student will include his or her story of the significant people, events, and experiences that led to this particular understanding of his or her life-purpose. Also, the student will reflect on how this understanding of his or her sealed orders currently is manifested in his or her life.
   b. This paper should be informal in style, but excellence in grammar is expected. Submit this paper via email to jt.webber@att.net.
   c. At the July 14 seminar, be prepared to discuss the student’s current understanding of his or her sealed orders.

3. Read the Sanford text.
   a. The student will write a critical review (4 pages) of *The Kingdom Within*. The critical review will be followed by a reflection paper (3 pages) in which the student notes at least three ideas in Sanford’s work that illumine his or her understanding of their own inner self.
   b. Submit this paper via email to jt.webber@att.net.

Post-seminar Assignments: Due October 15, 2016
1. Read the Kelsey text, *Dreams: A Way to Listen to God*.
   a. The student will record two dreams over the course of this term. Recording the dream entails writing down the details of the dream, insofar as they can be remembered upon waking, including symbols and images that appeared in the dream. More information on recording dreams will be discussed in the July seminar.
   b. Write a paper (3-4 pages) related to his or her own dream work. The paper will include a simple narrative description of each dream, its symbols and images, followed by any interpretive insights the student has about the dream. Each dream narrative and interpretation should be 1.5-2 pages in length.
   c. This paper should be informal in style, but excellence in grammar is expected. Submit this paper via email to jt.webber@att.net.

   a. In a single document, write a critical review (4 pages) of Keating’s *Intimacy with God* and a critical review (4 pages) of Rohr’s *Immortal Diamond*. Follow these two critical reviews with a reflection paper (3 pages) in which the student identifies how their understanding of the true self and false self was changed by these two texts. Further, the student may reflect on his or her own experience of contemplative prayer (through Centering Prayer, meditation, *lectio divina*, or other forms) in addressing the false self system. How is the student’s understanding of the inner self related to the ministry of spiritual direction?
   b. Papers may be submitted via email to jt.webber@att.net.

**Student Workload Expectations:**
Class Time – 6 hours
Textbooks - (869 pages @ 20 pp/hr) = 43.5 hours
Papers – 46.5 hours

*Total – 96 hours*
Course Grading Scale: “A” represents excellent work in all categories (fulfillment of assignment, writing and formatting, and doctoral level content); “B” represents good work in all categories; anything below a “B-” is considered below doctoral level.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Minimum Score</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Minimum Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>98-100</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>84-85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>94-97</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>80-83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>92-93</td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>78-79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>89-91</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>70-77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>86-88</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>0-69</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Classroom-related Academic Policies

A. Work is expected on the due date. Late papers will receive no less than a one-letter grade reduction.

B. Turnitin.com
   1. Assignments may require submission to www.turnitin.com to check for originality and style. The assignments that are required for submission will be described in the syllabus.
   2. Students will create an account at www.turnitin.com. After doing so, the student will join the course page with the code and password supplied by the instructor. A list of assignments and due dates will be available on the course page.
   3. Students will submit assignments by the due date and time and will be required to submit the assignments in a hard copy format as well.

C. Electronic Equipment Usage in Classrooms
   It is expected that students will use technology (cell phones, laptop computers, iPads, etc.) during classes only for the purposes of class work. Therefore, students should turn off cell phones and refrain from texting and using laptop computers during classes except for the purposes of taking notes or doing research specifically authorized by the course instructor. Students who have emergency needs not covered by this policy must ask for an exception from the course instructor.

D. Review the Academic Catalog for requirements regarding Incompletes and Plagiarism issues. For more information on Library Services, please download the Library Handbook from the HGST website.

Doctor of Ministry Policies: (find the full listing of DMin Policies in the HGST Academic Catalog, pages 28ff)

A. Assignments
   Students in the DMin program will read, research, study, experience, and evaluate applied theology and personal spiritual concepts. This degree promotes research on vital issues affecting the quality of life in faith communities as well as the development of new approaches, strategies, and styles of ministry in a wide variety of institutional and cultural settings. The resulting learning process equips the student for critical evaluation in the context and practice of ministry and fosters an integration of theory and effective pastoral practice with a view toward transforming communities.

   Pre-seminar assignments are due no later than the course start date. Students are encouraged, however, to bring all written assignments the first day of the seminar week. Students, with missing pre-seminar assignments, may be dropped from those sections of the seminar, may not be permitted to attend those sections, and may receive a failing grade for those sections.

   Students should expect approximately 2,000 pages of reading each semester. It is expected that the books will be acquired and that the reading assignments will be completed in order that candidates may be exposed to the material prior to the seminar.

   Post-seminar written assignments are to be submitted within ninety days after the session ends, at prescribed deadlines. Assignments should be emailed directly to professors on or before the due date. Competence will be demonstrated through creative projects and papers, which apply
professional experience in connection with course content. These assignments will demonstrate an understanding of the writing skills required for the doctoral level and of the subject matter, bibliography, theory, and methodology covered in the seminar.

Written work will follow the prescribed HGST/Turabian style and should meet the deadlines required in each course syllabus. Grades will reflect the meeting of these criteria as well as the content.

Students are encouraged to email copies of completed assignments to the Director and to keep hard copies and external digital copies on file to protect work from being lost due to a computer malfunction. Graded papers are usually available for pick up at the following seminar unless they are returned via email.

Written assignments for Project and Practicum completion are described and delineated in the “Project and Practicum Manual,” which is available via the website. The Manual also includes deadlines for Project and Practicum Report completion and all pre-graduation deadlines.

B. Extensions and Incomplete Grade Policy

Seminar assignments are to be completed and mailed or emailed on or before the established due date. However, upon receiving a completed Extension Request Form and payment of $50 per professor, a thirty-day extension (one for each professor) may be granted by the DMin Office. The extension request should be received before the original due date. The professor shall reduce the grade by at least one-half letter grade. Work postmarked after the due date or the one-time thirty-day extension due date is subject to a minimum one letter grade reduction. No class work will be accepted after the close of the semester (except for previously granted 30-day extensions), a grade of “F” will be given, and the semester will have to be repeated for credit. The student will be placed on Academic Probation at that time until a cumulative GPA of no less than a B average is earned during the next semester.

The student will be given one opportunity to make up a failed seminar section, either the next time it is offered or through make-up work, to receive an acceptable grade and raise the overall GPA to an acceptable score. In order for the GPA to move to an acceptable score, the Academic Office may replace the “F” with an “NCF” so that the make-up work will count appropriately. If the student does not make up the section during the timeframe noted above, the grade will be remain an “F,” the failing grade will appear on his or her transcript, Academic Stop will go into effect, and the student’s file will be sent to the DMin Oversight Committee with recommended action.

Notes for Writing Assignments: All “formal, academic” writing assignments must conform to Kate Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 8th Edition. This includes matters of style and format. Certain assignments may be less formal, and students will follow the professor’s instructions for those assignments.

For formal, academic writing, the instructor requires the use of footnotes for documentation when more than one resource is cited. The student should number pages. According to Turabian, page numbers should be in the upper right hand corner, except on pages with major headings (titles). Margins should be one inch on all four sides, except where major headings (titles) require a two-inch top margin. All students should utilize 12-point Times New Roman font throughout. The instructor prefers that the student not use presentation or report binders or folders. He prefers submission of papers with staples or binder clips.

Critical, or formal, writing differs from colloquial writing or spoken English at several points. The student should note the following guidelines for critical writing. The instructor expects students to follow these guidelines strictly for academic-style assignments. Failure to do so will be penalized.

- Avoid 1st or 2nd person references (“I,” “we,” or “you”). Keep the written projects objective and professional. Remember that imperative forms are second person.
- Never use contractions.
- Avoid passive voice construction (i.e., The student should write “God chose Joshua” rather than “Joshua was chosen by God.”). Some exceptions are necessary, but limiting the use of passive voice is a good policy.
- Be sure that number and tense always agree (i.e., Do not write in one place that “Brueggemann argues . . .” and at another place “Brueggemann argued . . .”). Subject-verb agreement is imperative.
- Spellcheck! Spellcheck! Spellcheck! Grammar check works as well!
- Pronouns should have clear antecedents. Avoiding “it is” and “there is” in the paper removes much of the ambiguity of pronoun usage.
- Sentence fragments are unacceptable. Every sentence must have a subject and a predicate.