
SYLLABUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Students will be given the opportunity both to reflect on the theology of pastoral care and to sharpen their pastoral skills in such areas as counselling, discipling, worship, family ministry, and pastoral education. (5 credits)

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. To instil in the student a biblically based theology of pastoral care which can be elucidated cogently and succinctly in words or writing.
2. To help the student focus on how a cogent theology of pastoral care shapes and determines the pastoral task.
3. To assist the student in sharpening his/her pastoral skills in the area of pastoral care and congregational counselling, especially focusing on: crisis intervention, the prevention and treatment of abuse, and grief counselling.
4. To give the student an opportunity to explore and discuss with others spirituality as a priority in pastoral care.
5. To assist the student to equip others in the basics of pastoral care and encouragement counselling through discipling, teaching, and worship.

PRE-COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

The student shall come to the module sessions having read the following books and having written a brief (3-4 pp. double-spaced) interaction paper on each, reflecting (among other things) how the book may help further his/her ministry: **Please submit these electronically.**

Spiritual Direction and The Care of Souls: A Guide to Christian Approaches and Practices Gary W. Moon and David G. Benner. IVP. Illinois, 2004

H. Norman Wright. *Crisis and Trauma Counselling: A Practical Guide for Ministers, Counsellors and Lay Counsellors*. California: Regal Books, 2003.

David G. Benner. *Surrender to Love: Discovering the Heart of Christian Spirituality*. Downers Grove Illinois: InterVarsity Press, 2003.

William R. Miller, Harold D. Delaney Editors. *Judeo-Christian perspectives on Psychology: Human Nature, Motivation, and Change*. APA, 2005

Rod Wilson. *Counseling and Community: Using Church Relationships to Reinforce Counseling*. Vancouver: Regent College Publishing, 2003.

Kenneth R Mitchell, Herbert Anderson. *All our losses, All our Griefs: Resources for Pastoral Care*. Philadelphia : Westminster Press, 1983.

Class Sessions

a.m. = 9:00-12:00; p.m. = 1:00-4:00; eve. = 6:00-8:00

Discussion Topics

Here are some **probable** topics for discussion. There is room for student's suggested topics that are relevant for ministry in areas that are of interest to you.

A Theology of Pastoral Care
Spirituality as a Priority in Pastoral Care
Pastoral Care and Counselling Across Cultures
The Congregation as Caregivers
Pastoral Care and Preaching
Mental Health in the Local Church
Counselling and Abuse
Domestic Abuse
Crisis Intervention
Pastoral Care and Lay Counselling
Pastoral Care and Sexual Identity Crisis
Pastoral Care of Seniors

A class Schedule will be drawn up and distributed in the first class once guest presenters are determined and confirmed. The class usually meets Monday to Friday from 9am-4pm and Tues, Wed and Thurs evenings 6-8 pm.

Texts should be available through Providence Bookstore on Campus or through mail order.

Post-Module Assignments

1. **Design a program** for your church for the training of lay encouragement counsellors, of twelve sessions, which will include both theory and practice. **Or** design a program for your church for the training of lay grief counsellors, of twelve sessions, which will include both theory and practice. The Lay Grief Counselling Course should include pre-death, death, and post-death treatment. Include in your submission all materials, which you would use. Books and. may be included by bibliographic entry only (but with all relevant page numbers for reading assignments); power point presentations are to be included and /or overhead transparencies may be done on white paper; audio and video tapes--if used--should be included as bibliographic, titles and sources will be sufficient.

2. **Submit three sermons** which you would preach for the purpose of congregational pastoral care in (1) a grief situation, (2) a geriatric situation, and (3) a situation of charges of sexual abuse or spouse battering within the congregation. Note that these are **general** and not specific (i.e. they are intended for Sunday morning worship service). Include a fourth, mini-sermon, for children which would be oriented towards the prevention and/or exposure of child abuse.

3. **Build a package of educational materials** from your community along with contact numbers that would be useful handouts to your congregation on the topics above. In addition, include bibliographies of reading material on each topic that would be appropriate for your congregation's Sunday school teachers and lay leadership. Please note that it is expected that each student will design this package of materials to support the context of their own ministry, therefore specific materials that will be of value to the student and the congregation's pastoral care or counselling ministries.

ALL ASSIGNMENTS MUST BE ELECTRONICALLY SUBMITTED as an attachment via e-mail. Assignments will be critiqued and returned via e-mail.

Post Module Assignments are due by **Aug. 30th 2010** Rod.Buxton@prov.ca