

CS-323 Congregational Care

Summer 2020: Online June 22 to July 3; Face to face, July 13-17, 2020

Instructor: Michael Koppel, M.Div., Ph.D.

Pastoral Theology and Congregational Care

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Objectives:

This course introduces participants to practices of congregational care and the pastor's responsibility in caregiving.

Participants will be able to:

- Implement and oversee appropriate types of care in varieties of settings, including homes, hospitals, and nursing facilities.
- Organize and support caring ministries within the congregation.
- Discern and implement appropriate boundaries, including the practices of confidentiality and referral.
- Reflect on and practice caregiving skills, using role plays and case studies.

Required Texts:

Jeanne Hoeft, Shannon Jung, Joretta Marshall, *Practicing Care in Rural Congregations and Communities* (Fortress, 2013). ISBN#978-0800699543.

Larry Webb, *Crises Counseling in the Congregation* (Abingdon, 2011). ISBN#978-1426726989.

Ed Wimberly, *African American Pastoral Care and Counseling: Oppression and Empowerment* (Pilgrim, 2006). ISBN#978-0829816815.

Reading and Writing Assignment:

- 1) Please **read and reflect** on assigned course texts.
- 2) Complete the writing assignment described below. **Submit** your paper electronically to **Blackboard by Monday, June 22, 2020**. Please use Verdana 12 point font and *.docx, *.doc, or *.rtf formats.
Write an 8 page paper and upload to Blackboard as **one document**.
The paper should be divided as follows:

- Write a one page reflection on each of the assigned books. Do not summarize the book. Instead, reflect and write about ideas and practices you will use in your ministry. (approx **3 pages**)
- Write **four pages** on caregiving:
 - In two pages, describe a situation when you offered **effective** pastoral care and identify factors that contributed to it being effective care
 - In two pages, describe a situation when you offered **ineffective** pastoral care and identify factors that contributed to it being ineffective
- Write **one page** on spiritual practice:
 - Describe your primary spiritual practice for cultivating pastoral awareness and self care.

Course Schedule

June/July Online Modules

The class will begin **online** on Monday, June 22, 2020.

Please note: The online component of the class is asynchronous which means we are not all online at the same time. For each of the two weeks online you can anticipate spending no more than four hours engaging material in the modules. This includes time reading module information, watching videos, responding to colleagues in the discussion, and engaging in the spiritual practice for the week. The learning is meant to support your ministry.

Module 1: Hospitality and Care Presence

Opens on **June 22**

Module 2: Using Ourselves Well in Systems of Care

Opens on **June 29**

Face-to-Face Classes in July

July 13: Listening and Responding Practices

July 14: Congregational Care Organization

July 15: Boundaries, Confidentiality, and Referral

July 16: Care through Pain, Grief, and Suffering

July 17: Self Care and Spiritual Care Practices

Evaluation

- Pre Class Writing Assignment 50%
- Online Module and In Class Participation, including role plays and case study analysis 50%

Grade Schema

93 – 100 = A (Excellent/Outstanding)

90 – 92 = A- (Excellent/Outstanding)

88 – 89 = B+ (Very Good)

83 – 87 = B (Good)

80 – 82 = B- (Adequate)

78 – 79 = C+ (Adequate)

73 – 77 = C (Adequate)

70 – 72 = C- (Substandard)

The instructor assumes that everyone in the class is capable of receiving at minimum a "B" grade for the course.

Final course grades are mailed to the student, GBHEM in Nashville and the student's conference representative. Grades are not posted on-line.

Class Policies

Attendance: Please contact the instructor regarding late assignments and anticipated absence from online modules or face to face class time.

Inclusive Language: In oral and written contributions to the course, students are expected to use inclusive language for God and human persons.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is regarded as a serious offense and will result in substantial penalties, including the possibility of academic dismissal. The faculty regards the following as form of plagiarism or dishonesty: Copying from another students paper; giving or receiving unauthorized assistance to or from another student during an examination; using unauthorized material during an examination; borrowing or presenting as one's own (i.e. without proper attribution) the composition or ideas of another.

Please refer to your Wesley Student Handbook (on-line) for more information about Wesley's academic policies or contact the Course of Study office 202-885-8688.