

## **CS-323 Congregational Care**

Weekend Course of Study, Winter 2022

**Dates: January 21-22; February 18-19**

Instructor: Rev. Dr. Michael Koppel, M.Div., Ph.D.  
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To accommodate our class to the reality of the pandemic, we will meet on Zoom and have online learning modules using Blackboard.

Our schedule (all EST):

### **Zoom Sessions:**

Friday, January 21: Zoom meeting, 1-3 pm

Saturday, January 22: Zoom meeting, 10 am-12 pm

Friday, February 18: Zoom meeting, 1-3 pm

Saturday, February 19: Zoom meeting, 10 am-12 pm

Below is the link for all the Zoom sessions:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://wesleyseminary.zoom.us/j/98631225412?pwd=Q1JkZ1pIRUZBbWJO TUJSc1c2aThzZz09>

Meeting ID: 986 3122 5412

Passcode: 878305

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,98631225412#,,,,\*878305# US (Washington DC)

+13126266799,,98631225412#,,,,\*878305# US (Chicago)

### **Blackboard Learning Modules:**

Required modules on Blackboard will be completed during the weekend timeframe.

### **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 care giving skills, using role plays and case studies.

**Required Texts:**

Justes, Emma, *Hearing Beyond the Words: How to Become a Listening Pastor* (Abingdon, 2002); ISBN #: 978-0-6874-9499-6.

Koppel, Michael S., *Body Connections: Body-Based Spiritual Care* (Abingdon, 2021); ISBN #: 978-1-7910-1341-7.

**Supplemental Text:**

Wimberly, Edward, *Recalling Our Own Stories: Spiritual Renewal for Religious Caregivers* (Fortress, 2019); ISBN #: 978-1506454771.

**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 January 21 at noon EDT** . Please use 12 point font, double-space, and \*.docx, \*.doc, or \*.rtf formats.

**Write a 5 page paper** and upload to Blackboard as **one document**. The paper should be divided as follows and draw on course readings as applicable:

- In **4 pages** reflect on effective and ineffective care giving:  
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.
- In **1 page**, describe your primary spiritual practice for cultivating pastoral awareness and self care.

## Course Schedule

Here is the plan and anticipated topics for our online modules and Zoom class sessions (subject to modification based on class needs):

**January Weekend Topics** include: Qualities of Care; Hospitality and Care Presence; Using Ourselves Well; Congregations as Systems of Care; Positive Care Experiences.

**February Weekend Topics** include: Care through Pain, Grief, Suffering; Care Teams and Referrals; Self Care and Spiritual Practice; Negative Care Experiences.

### Evaluation

Class Writing Assignment	40%
Online Module Postings and Zoom Participation	60%

### 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 participant’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 (online) for more information about Wesley's academic policies or contact the Course of Study office 202-885-8688.