

## **CS-323 Congregational Care**

Weekend Course of Study, Fall 2022

**Dates: October 14-15; November 11-12**

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

### **Zoom Sessions**(all EDT/EST):

Friday, October 14: Zoom meeting, 1 pm -3 pm  
Saturday, October 15: Zoom meeting, 10 am-12 pm

Friday, November 11: Zoom meeting, 1 pm-3 pm  
Saturday, November 12: Zoom meeting, 10 am-12 pm

Below is the link for all the Zoom sessions:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://wesleyseminary.zoom.us/j/92643415733?pwd=UFN4ejBNZ3Mxb0gv eVhYLzUveTI5Zz09>

Meeting ID: 926 4341 5733

Passcode: 146728

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,92643415733#,,,,\*146728# US (Washington DC)

+16465588656,,92643415733#,,,,\*146728# US (New York)

### **Blackboard Learning Modules:**

Required modules on Blackboard will be completed during the weekend timeframe. Adjustments to submission times will be made to accommodate preparation for Sunday services.

### **Course 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 November 9 at noon EST**. 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 **reference course readings**:

- 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):

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

**November 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)

Final course grades are mailed to the student, GBHEM in Nashville and the participant's conference representative. Final 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.