

PT602 Pastoral and Spiritual Care

Goals:

By the conclusion of this course students will have a foundational understanding of the theology and practice of Christian caring, and will have practiced in the classroom setting some basic skills of guiding, sustaining, healing and reconciling.

Reading Requirements

Students should expect to read 750 pages from the four required texts listed below. Required texts will be read in their entirety. Additionally, students will read 150-200 pages from class handouts and other assigned reading along the way. The course syllabus will state when these readings are due.

Writing Requirements

Students will be required to write a total of 18-23 double-spaced pages of papers. The papers will be distributed as follows: 2-3 pages on a time when you received good pastoral care, OR a time when you did NOT (10% of grade); 2-3 pages on your “spiritual type” (10%); 7 pages on a biblical passage that is about pastoral or spiritual care (20%); 5-7 pages on your call and theology of a caring ministry and your practices of self-care (20%); a 2-3 page review of Bonhoeffer’s Spiritual Care (10%); a 3-page list of referral resources in the community in which you serve or attend church (10%).

Other

1. Students will be expected to participate actively in class discussions and to offer oral presentations of some of their written work for the course. Participation in class discussion will constitute 10% of the course grade.
2. The practice component of the course involves participating in a small group in which there will be role play of some of the skill areas covered in the class. Small group work will constitute 10% of the grade for the course.

Required Texts:

Aleshire, Daniel. *Faithcare*. Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1988. ISBN 0-664-24054-2

Bonhoeffer, Dietrich. *Spiritual Care*. Augsburg Press, 1985. ISBN 0-8006-1874-2

Stone, Howard. *Strategies for Brief Pastoral Care*. Minneapolis: Augsburg Press, 2001. ISBN 0-8006-3299-0

Ware, Corinne. *Discover Your Spiritual Type*. Alban Institute, 1995. ISBN 1-56699-149-8