

SP 715 Theology and Practice of Prayer

Overall Goal

To discover the major topics of the theology and practice of prayer based on insights of great people of prayer with the opportunity for students to engage in prayer practices and journaling in class.

Reading Requirements

Students are expected to read about 1000 pages from selected chapters from their required texts and assigned articles.

Writing Requirements

A paper on the life of a great person of prayer describing his or her life and model of prayer based on a chapter from Gary Neal Hansen, *Kneeling with Giants: Learning to Pray with History's Best Teachers* and additional research done by the student.

8-10 pages, double-spaced. 40% of final grade

An integration paper that will bring together insights of the student's practice of prayer and topics from the required reading. 8-10 pages. 40% of final grade

Journal and prayer meditation entries written in class that must be turned in, but they will not be graded.

Other

A matching and fill-in-the blank quiz on prayer saints and prayer terms taken from a study list. 10% of final grade

A 15-minute oral presentation on the saint on whom the student is preparing a paper. 10% of final grade

Required Texts

Patricia D. Brown. *Paths to Prayer*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2002. ISBN: 0-7879-6565-0

Richard J. Foster. *Prayer: Finding the Heart's True Home*. San Francisco: Harper, 1992. ISBN: 0-06-062846-4

Gary Neal Hansen. *Kneeling with Giants: Learning to Pray with History's Best Teachers*. Downers Grove: IVP Books, 2012. ISBN: 978 0-8308-3562-1

Georgia Harkness. *Prayer and the Common Life*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1948, 2005. ISBN: 0-687-05451-6