

Fall 2011
Pastoral Ministries – SPIR 250
Spirituality, Ministry, & Leadership
Tuesday, 6:00-9:00 PM

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Office Hours: By Appointment

Description

This course invites students to understand leadership in lay and ordained ministry as a spiritual practice that grows out of vocational commitments to serve God and the Church by enriching the lives of others. The course highlights spiritual leadership practices rooted in the celebration of personal gifts for ministry, affirmation and motivation of others, collaborative practices for ministry, and the development of a spiritual narrative for ministry leadership that invites others into active participation in Christian community. A particular focus of the course is intergenerational ministry.

Course Objectives

In this course, students will:

1. Explore contemporary understandings of the nature of spirituality and leadership in ministry through course readings.
2. Uncover and critique personal beliefs and assumptions about what it means to live and lead with spirit, through both practical exercises and reflection papers.
3. Apply reflective learning to their own spiritual journey and practice of leadership in defined ministry contexts.
4. Examine the relationship of spirituality and leadership in the context of a changing cultural context and its particular implications across generations.
5. Research an issue in contemporary spiritual leadership for ministry; and present findings to the class.

Required Texts

Margaret Benefiel, *The Soul of a Leader: Finding Your Path to Success and Fulfillment* (Crossroads, 2008). ISBN-10: 9780824524807 ISBN-13: 978-0824524807

Kendra Creasy Dean, *Almost Christian: What the Faith of Our Teenagers is Telling the American Church* (Oxford, 2010). ISBN-10: 9780195314847 ISBN-13: 978-0195314847.

Rob Salkowitz, *Generation Blend: Managing Across the Technology Gap* (Wiley, 2008). ISBN-10: 9780470193969 ISBN-13: 978-0470193969.

Graham Standish, *Humble Leadership: Being Radically Open to God's Guidance and Grace* (Alban Institute, 2007). ISBN-10: 1566993369 ISBN-13: 978-1566993364

Recommended

Elizabeth Drescher, *Tweet If You ♥ Jesus: Practicing Church in the Digital Reformation* (Morehouse, 2011). ISBN-10: 0819224235. ISBN-13: 978-0819224231.

Mary Gray-Reeves and Michael Perham, *The Hospitality of God: Emerging Worship for a Missional Church* (Seabury Books, 2011), ISBN 10: 1596271388. ISBN-13: 978-1596271388.

Requirements

Students will complete three writing assignments for the course: (1) a 4-6 page case study on a defined spiritual leadership context and challenge; (2) a 4-6 page reflection paper on spiritual gifts in leadership; and (3) a 10-12 page research paper on an approach to spiritual leadership adapted to a defined leadership context and challenge which draws on the resources introduced in the course and your own independent research.

Each student will also give a 20 minute presentation on the findings from their final research paper. Students will provide a 1-page handout the week before the presentation describing the topic and providing questions for reflection that will guide discussion. In addition, each student will provide background reading (10-25 pages) on the topic the week before the presentation.

Course Schedule

**NOTE: This schedule may be changed to accommodate the learning needs of the class.

Session	Topic	Assignment
Sept. 20	What is Spiritual Leadership Today?	Course introduction Interactive lecture
Sept. 27	The Context of Contemporary Leadership in Ministry	<i>Almost Christian</i> , 1-108. American Religious Identification Survey, 2008: http://www.americanreligionsurvey-aris.org/ Pew Religion in American Life Survey, 2008 http://www.americanreligionsurvey-aris.org/
Oct. 4	The Challenges of Contemporary Leadership in Ministry	<i>Almost Christian</i> , 109-198 Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA), Frequently Requested Church Statistics: http://cara.georgetown.edu/CARAServices/requestedchurchstats.html
Oct. 11	Leading from Spiritual Strength	Guest Lecture: Greg Troxell Reading, TBD ** Case Studies Due
Oct. 18	Bridging Leadership	<i>Generation Blend</i> , 45-155
Oct. 25	Spiritual Leadership in an Emerging Christian World	Guest Lecture: The Rt. Rev. Mary Gray-Reeves, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of El Camino Real Mary Gray-Reeves and Michael Perham, <i>The Hospitality of God: Emerging Worship for a Missional Church</i> , 1-10; 26-44 [Handout]
Nov. 1	Characteristics of Transformative	<i>Humble Leadership</i> Johnson, Jan. "Being Present to Others," <i>Weavings</i> 12 (Sept/Oct 1997),

	Leaders	27-34 [Handout]
Nov. 8	Leadership as Spiritual Practice	<i>The Soul of the Leader</i> **Reflection Paper Due
Nov. 15	Adaptive Leadership	Ronald Abadian Heifetz, et al, <i>The Practice of Adaptive Leadership: Tools and Tactics for Changing Your Organization and the World</i> (Harvard, 2009), pp. 49-101. [Handout]
Nov. 22	NO CLASS-SCU HOLIDAY	Happy Thanksgiving!
Nov. 29	Student Final Presentations	Reading defined by students [Handout to be provided on Nov. 15]
Dec. 6	Student Final Presentations	Reading defined by students [Handout to be provided on Nov. 29] **Final paper due