

*Equipping Interreligious Peacemakers*  
**Unification Theological Seminary**

**MIN 5502 MARRIAGE and FAMILY MINISTRIES**

FALL 2013

FRIDAY 2:00 – 4:50 PM

(CLASS BEGINS & ENDS ONTIME)

UTS – New York Campus

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**Appointments Recommended**

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**Course Description**

**This course examines the polity of the church and community in relation to families and family life. It will not deal with counseling but with the ministerial dynamics involved between the family unit and the larger church. Utilizing case studies, the course will look at family education, family worship, the family and youth ministry, the family in small group ministry, and ways that families can buttress the work of the church. 3 Credits.**

**Course Outcomes**

Unification Theological Seminary educates people of faith for ministry and professional life by engaging them in personal spiritual formation, equipping them with resources for sound theological and intercultural understanding, and empowering them to serve communities of the Christian and diverse faiths, to the glory of God and benefit of humanity.

These areas are addressed in the Marriage and Family Ministry course. Each student will strive to have made progress by the conclusion of the semester in:

1. Clearly specify an understanding of the impact of marriage and family ministry on the family unit.

2. Develop a concise perspective on the individual within the context a dynamic family system.
3. Evaluate personal formation within the context of students' family of origin.
4. Present identified unique developmental stages, history and cultural relatedness.
4. Write out a master plan in marriage and family ministry for congregations, including suggestions of resources for a wide range of family systems;
5. Explain the principles of marriage and family ministry; methods in marriage and family ministry; implications of marriage and family ministry for the Church.

**Required Texts** (*The Holy Bible is a required text in all class sessions*):

Required textbooks may be purchased through UTS Bookstore or online. For any inquiries regarding the site, services provided or products offered, please contact the registrar.

Please note that the views expressed in the textbooks do not necessarily represent the views of the professor or of UTS. It is expected that even in places of disagreement with the textbook, one will reflect upon and think critically regarding one's own views, rather than simply dismissing views that may run counter to one's own.

Diana R. Garland. Family Ministry: A Comprehensive Guide, InterVarsity Press, 1999, ISBN: 0830815856, 9780830815852 (Not available by ebook)

Mark Yaconelli. Contemplative Youth Ministry: Practicing the Presence of Jesus, Zondervan, 2006, ISBN: 0310267773, 9780310267775

Recommended reading:

James Robert Bitter. Theory and Practice of Family Therapy and Counseling

Monica McGoldrick, Joe Giordano, John K. Pearce. Ethnicity & Family Therapy.

Robert T. Michael, John H. Gagnon, Edward O. Laumann, and Gina Kolata. SEX in America: A Definitive Survey.

Reverend Sun Myung Moon. As A Peace-Loving Global Citizen.

Allen Wilcoxon , Theodore Remley , Samuel T. Gladding. Ethical, Legal, and Professional Issues in the Practice of Marriage and Family Therapy (4th Edition)

### **Course Requirements**

1. Class attendance and participation.
2. Completion of all reading assignments.
3. Weekly one page paper with critical-reflective-analysis providing insight to the class on a crucial area of marriage and family ministry. Students are encouraged to do a one page reflective paper after each class session.
4. A major case study paper (4000 - 5000 words):
  - i. The paper is to be a delimited study on:
 

“Marriage and Family Ministry: The Art of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Companionship Compared to Family Origin Process Relations”.

### **Grading:**

1. Critical Reflective Analysis papers are 20% of the final grade.
2. Case Study Paper is 50% of the final grade.
3. Class attendance/participation is 10% of the final grade. (*Each student will grade his or her participation in the class at the end of each session.*)
4. Final exam is 20% of the final grade.

### **READING ASSIGNMENTS AND CLASS SCHEDULE:**

Fall Term August 30<sup>th</sup> – December 21<sup>st</sup> (November 21-23 Thanksgiving Break)

(A Brief Devotional will offered at the beginning of each class session)

August 3<sup>rd</sup> - 1<sup>st</sup> Class session: Page 9-80 of Family Ministry: A Comprehensive Guide

September 6<sup>th</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup> Class session: Page 81-304 of Family Ministry: A Comprehensive Guide

September 13<sup>th</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> Class session: Page 305-351 of Family Ministry: A Comprehensive Guide

September 20<sup>th</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> Class Session: Page 352-497 of Family Ministry: A Comprehensive Guide

September 27<sup>th</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> Class Session: Page 498-606 of Family Ministry: A Comprehensive Guide

October 4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> Class Session: Page 9-606 of Family Ministry: A Comprehensive Guide

October 11<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> Class Session: Page 61-76 Contemplative Youth Ministry: Practicing the Presence of Jesus

October 18<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> Class Session: Page 77-102 Contemplative Youth Ministry: Practicing the Presence of Jesus

October 25<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> Class Session: Chapter 9 Page 103-138 Contemplative Youth Ministry: Practicing the Presence of Jesus

November 1<sup>st</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> Class Session: Page 139-156 Contemplative Youth Ministry: Practicing the Presence of Jesus

November 8<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> Class Session: Page 157-176 Contemplative Youth Ministry: Practicing the Presence of Jesus

November 15<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> Class Session: Page 177-200 Contemplative Youth Ministry: Practicing the Presence of Jesus

THANKSGIVING BREAK – NOVEMBER 21-23, 2013

November 29<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> Class Session: Page 201-232 Contemplative Youth Ministry: Practicing the Presence of Jesus

December 6<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> Class Session: Page 233-END Contemplative Youth Ministry: Practicing the Presence of Jesus  
**Project Paper Due – 4000 to 5000 words**

December 13<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> Class Session: **Final Review** (Adobe Connection)

Final Exam – December 20<sup>th</sup> (Adobe Connection)

## **Attendance**

Student attendance and participation in all class sessions is factored into final grade. Each student is expected to arrive on time and to attend all class sessions for their duration. In the event that an absence is necessary—for whatever reason, including pastoral duties, work, or family responsibilities—the student is responsible for all assignments and all work done in class. Absences in excess of three (3) hours may reduce one's final grade. Absences in excess of seven (7) hours will affect course credit hours. Students who miss more than six hours of class may be required to do extra work and are expected to take the initiative to secure the additional assignments from the professor. Failure to complete extra work by the final day of class or the exam date will result in the reduction of one's final course grade by one full letter grade. Any student who misses seven or more cumulative hours of class should talk with the professor first and then contact the registrar in writing before withdrawal from the course or course failure.

## **Assignments –**

All work submitted **MUST** be fresh, new work produced in the current semester, not re-cycled work or work submitted for another class or produced in whole or in part by another person. All assignments are due on the designated date. An absence does not negate this requirement unless prior arrangements have been made. Late work will be accepted after the assignment is due but will receive a minimum penalty of one letter grade per week. All make-up work is due by the last day of class or by the exam date (if an exam is scheduled). Written work should conform to Kate L. Turabian, *A Guide for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*. Essential guidelines to assist in formatting papers are available from the professor. Do **NOT** submit work in folders; simply supply a cover/title sheet (include your name!) and staple pages (numbered!) together. While the content of a paper is most important, do give careful attention to spelling, grammar, syntax, style, and form; these items are considered in grading. Proofread all papers before submission!! At the professor's invitation alone, permission may be granted for one below average paper (D+ or below) to be re-done one time to improve one's grade (final assignment grade determined by averaging the two assignment grades). This option does not exist for any papers turned in the final day of class.

## **Seminary Policies –**

Students should familiarize themselves with, and abide by, the current Catalog & the Student Handbook. Grading is a professor's attempt to

evaluate objectively a student's achievement in relation to the stated aim of a course. Evaluation is based on papers, examinations, class participation, and completion of other stated assignments or course objectives.

Grades are recorded by letter, and are understood as follows:

A Excellent

B Good

C Acceptable

D Acceptable, but below expectations

F Failure

In computing the cumulative grade point average (G.P.A.) the following quality point scale is used:

A 4.00 A- 3.67 B+ 3.33

B 3.00 B- 2.67 C+ 2.33

C 2.00 C- 1.67 D+ 1.33

D 1.00 D- 0.67 F 0.00

Other symbols used on the transcript are:

W - Withdrawal.

I - Incomplete. Not computed into the G.P.A.

IP - In Progress. Assigned only for Thesis, Field Education and Distance Learning courses.

P - Pass. Assigned only in selected courses (e.g. Field Education).

Instructors may, at their discretion, grade Independent

Study on a pass/no pass basis. Not computed into the G.P.A.

NP - No Pass. Not computed into the G.P.A.

NC - No Credit.

The Divinity Thesis is graded Pass/No

Pass. An exceptional thesis may receive Honors.

The Doctor of Ministry Dissertation is not graded, but leads to a Dissertation Defense.

Incompletes

Students who have not completed coursework on time are assigned an Incomplete. Students then have one term to make up the course work. At the end of the following term, if the Incomplete has not been resolved, the student is assigned a grade of "F," which is irrevocable. If the course is a core requirement, the student will be required to retake the course. Students with more than 12 credits of incompletes cannot register for another term.

### **Burning Issues:**

- FORMS OF MARRIAGE

- REGULATION OF MARRIAGE
- THEOLOGY AND MARRIAGE
- MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE
- COMMUNICATION
- CONFLICT RESOLUTION
- DIVORCE
- EXTRA-MARITAL AFFAIRS
- PRE-MARITAL SEX
- PREGNANCIES

### **Important Tools for MARRIAGE AND FAMILY MINISTRY**

- 1) Leveling Messages
- 2) Listening Skills
- 3) Caring Attitudes
- 4) Empathic Approaches
- 5) Mutual Respectful Exchanges
- 6) Self-disclosure
- 7) Group Dynamics
- 8) Boundaries
- 9) Problem-solving Skills