

DOCTOR OF MINISTRY
SEMINAR: MINISTRY TO DIVERSE LIFESTYLES
SYLLABUS - 2022
MIN 8501

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Seminar Description

In any ministry setting, an average pastor faces the challenge of aiding his or her congregation to develop a lifestyle and worldview that is consistent with being a disciple of Jesus. However, the world has changed drastically, and lifestyle has become very complex. Human relationships have undergone drastic changes. In this postmodern world, new definitions and meanings have caused complications and confusion in relationships. The term postmodern signals the end of a familiar pattern of activity and the emergence of new areas of endeavor whose activities are unclear and whose meanings and implications are not yet well understood. Thus, the postmodern is characterized by uncertainty, insecurity, and doubt. The postmodern world is shaped by pluralism, democracy, religious freedom, consumerism, mobility and increasing access to news and entertainment. The residents of this postmodern world are able to see that there are many beliefs, multiple realities, an exhilarating but daunting profusion of world views- a society that has lost its faith in absolute truth and in which people have to choose what to believe. The modern and post-modern periods have given birth to diverse lifestyles. Many pastors who hold the traditional biblical view of relationships are facing extreme difficulty in ministering to the developing styles of relationships. What are these diverse lifestyles?

This seminar will also address questions related to facing conflicting situations in biology and medicine and at the same time being faithful to their belief system.

Setting the Stage

In the forties and fifties, the "*traditional family*" consisted of a husband, a wife, a boy, a girl, a dog and/or a cat, a car, a house, and a mortgage. Dad went to work, Mom stayed home and took care of all the household duties, the kids went to school, grew up, went to college, graduated, went to work, and married the men and women whose characteristics most resembled their fathers' and mothers'.

Sigmund Freud would have been proud. It is the culmination of the *Oedipal and Electra Complexes!*

Many would argue whether every single "*traditional family*" was even like the prototype described above; but, for the sake of argument, let's say that it was just like that at the time.

Well, forty to fifty years later, it's not like that anymore. Society has evolved in many different ways and families, as we knew them have also developed into many different prototypes based on a number of variables including, but not limited to:

- Children born and raised out of wedlock

- A diversity of cultural and ethnic backgrounds
- Divorce
- Domestic Violence
- Bio-ethics
- Educational level of the parents
- Foster care
- Political affiliation
- Religious beliefs
- Sexual orientation
- Socioeconomic factors
- Substance abuse
- Other factors

How have all of these variables impacted the dynamics of today's churches and how can pastors, and other church leaders recognize and minister to the many new and different family settings. How can they foster tolerance and extend adequate support to children and parents alike, ministering to them regardless of the types of families they represent?

Student Learning Outcomes

At the conclusion of the course students will

1. Distinguish between "Modern" and "Postmodern" and understand the implications of individual and family life during these periods.
2. Develop an understanding of the present/traditional pastoral ministry of the church in the light of emerging diverse lifestyles.
3. Be able to articulate the ways in which culture shapes the agenda, felt needs and aspirations of contemporary adults and so defines the issues with which people struggle.
4. Acquire a deeper understanding of the nature of spiritual journey in the midst of diversity to assist people to grow.
5. Be able to deal with cases of dysfunctional families: divorces, domestic violence, sexual orientation, living together before marriage, same sex unions, foster care, children born out of wedlock etc.
6. Understand family lives in terms the following: *Authentic Relationships, Thinking Discipleship, Relentless Compassion and Sensitive Spirituality.*

Grading Rubric:

In calculating the final grade for the course, letter grades for assignments are converted into the following numerical equivalents, and the total is then converted back to a letter grade:

A	97	A-	91.5	B+	87
B	82	B-	77	C+	72.5
C	67.5	C-	62.5	D+	57.5

D 53 D- 50 F 0

This scale severely penalizes Fs. Therefore, it is better to hand in a poorly done assignment than not to hand one in at all.

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

Incompletes are given only when there are compelling medical or personal reasons.

*See UTS catalog for a detailed grading policy.

Netiquette

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Academic Integrity

Plagiarism is a form of dishonesty that occurs when a student passes off someone else's work as their own. This can range from failing to cite an author for ideas incorporated into a student's paper, to cutting and pasting paragraphs from different websites, to handing in a paper downloaded from the Internet. This includes buying or submitting a paper written by a third party. All are considered forms of "plagiarism" and a violation of the Seminary's academic integrity policy. Instances of plagiarism may be reported to Director of the DMin. Program for disciplinary action. Possible disciplinary actions include probation, suspension or withdrawal.

The first instance of plagiarism in this course, the student must repeat the assignment. If the student plagiarizes again, the student will receive an "F" for the course.

Required reading

The Practice of Pastoral Care: A Postmodern Approach

Carrie Doehring. 2006 Westminster John Knox Press, Louisville, KY.
ISBN-13: 978-0664226848 \$16.82

The Social Context of Pastoral Care: Defining the Life Situation

George M. Furniss. 1994 Westminster John Knox Press, Louisville, KY.
ISBN-13: 978-0664254360 \$21.49

Pastoral Care and Counseling in Sexual Diversity

H. Newton Malony 2001 The Haworth Pastoral Press, Binghamton, NY.
ISBN-13: 978-0789014375 \$43.16

No Place for Abuse: Biblical & Practical Resources to Counteract Domestic Violence

Catherine Clark Kroeger, Nancy Nason-Clark 1989 Intervarsity Press, WI.
ISBN-13: 978-0830838387 \$12.61

Setting the Captives Free: A Christian Theology for Domestic Violence

Ron Clark, 2005 Wipf and Storch, Eugene, OR. ISBN-13: 978-1597524247 \$26.10

Bioethics and the Christian Life: A Guide to Making Difficult Decisions.

Vandrunen, David, Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2009. (ISBN 1-4335-0144-9) 18.49

Rediscovering Values:

Wallis Wallace, Jim, Howard Books, NY. ISBN 978-4391-8312-0, 26:98

Love is the Way

Curry, Michael Avery, Penguin Random House, 2020. ISBN978 052 5543046, 15:99

Recommended Readings:

Buechner, Frederick. *Telling Secrets*, San Francisco, CA Harper Collins, 1991 ISBN-13: 978-0060609368 \$12:60

Allen, Diogenes. *Christian Belief in a Post Modern World*, Louisville, KY, Westminster. 1989 ISBN-13: 978-0804206259 \$24.21

Duff, Nancy J. *Making Faithful Decisions at the End of Life*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2018. (ISBN 978-0-664-26319-5)

Hill, Wesley. *Washed and Waiting: Reflections On Christian Faithfulness and Homosexuality*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Zondervan, 2010.(ISBN 978-0-3103-3003-5)

Hollinger, Dennis P. *The Meaning of Sex: Christian Ethics and the Moral Life*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2009.(ISBN 978-0-8010-3571-5)

Meilaender, Gilbert. *Bioethics: A Primer for Christians*. 3rd edition. Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 2013. (ISBN 978-0-8028-2909-2)

Sprinkle, Preston et. al. *Two Views on Homosexuality, the Bible and the Church*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2016. (ISBN 9780310528630)

Evaluation

Book reviews and reflections	25%
Attendance and participation	10%
Case study presentations	15%
Written Assignments	50%

Pre-intensive

The students should have read all the required books before the seminar. Reflections and comments and brief review of the following books should be brought to the class on the first day of seminar.

1. The Practice of Pastoral Care: A Postmodern Approach

Carrie Doehring, 2006 Westminster John Knox Press, Louisville, KY

2. Pastoral Care and Counseling in Sexual Diversity

H. Newton Malony 2001 The Haworth Pastoral Press, Binghamton, NY.

3. Setting the Captives Free: A Christian Theology for Domestic Violence

Ron Clark, 2005 Wipf and Storch, Eugene, OR.

Intensive

Session 1	Introduction & Word study on Modernism, Postmodernism. Reviewing the first two chapters of Carrie Doering's book on <u>The practice a of Pastoral Care</u>
Session 2	Discussion biblical and theological understanding of diverse life styles focusing on family life. Discussions on <u>The Social Context of Pastoral Care: Defining the Life Situation</u> George M. Furniss
Session 3	Christianity and health care in a fallen world. <u>Bio-ethics and the Christian Life Vandrunen, David, Chapter 1 and 2</u>
Session 4	Case study Presentations and theological reflections: discussion on the book <u>Setting the Captives Free: A Christian Theology for Domestic Violence. Ron Clark</u>

- Session 5 The Bible and our Value systems. Read Rediscovering Values by Jim Wallace. Part I and 2.
- Session Case Study Presentations and Theological Reflections. Discussion on **No Place for Abuse: Biblical & Practical Resources to Counteract Domestic Violence**
- Session 6 Case Study Presentations: Discussion on **Love is the way by Bishop Curry**
- Session 7 Ministry in the Nursing Homes: **The Places to Go**, Urias Beverly
- Session 8 Cross Cultural Ministry: **Social Context of Pastoral Care.**
- Session 9 Ministry with people subjected to Injustice and racism: James cone: **God of the Oppressed.**
- Session 10 Discussion on Final Paper.

Post Course Assignment: Reading of all the materials required and a 20-page paper on Ministry in the Context to People of Diverse Life Styles. The topic may be selected in consultation with the professor.

Dr. Jacob David 2019 SEMINAR: MINISTRY TO DIVERSE LIFE STYLES

Grading Rubric This explains how papers are evaluated, points for different levels of proficiency. To earn a good grade, study this rubric. Make sure that your paper includes all its elements and meets all the criteria.

	Outstanding	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Not evident	Value
Main Elements					60 total
1.Theological content	Theology of Pastoral Care	Biblical understanding	Unclear discussion	Coherent flow of thought	15
2. Challenges of Ecumenical and interreligious studies	Description of the context (Diversity)	The understanding of post-modern societal changes	Description of common ground	No understanding of "Spirituality"	15
3. Application of theological principles in Ministry	Challenges in creating a context to teaching/practicing pastoral care	Problems are discussed but analysis is weak	Practical, innovative ways of creating awareness of crisis	Analysis of your willingness to deal with diverse Groups	20
4. Your personal analysis	Your opinion backed by your theological and scriptural understanding.	Rationale behind your understanding	Your view is weakly argued	Lack of documentation for your opinion.	10
General Criteria					40 total
Critical thinking	Insightful analysis and conclusions supported with evidence	Logical analysis but evidence is thin.	No coherent flow of defense with evidence	No evidence presented	15
Research and citations	Six or more different scholarly sources used and correctly cited.	Six or more different scholarly sources but deficient citations.	Fewer than six sources. Deficient citations	No evidence of research	15
Writing	Grammar, spelling, and use of quotations are satisfactory	Weakness in grammar, spelling, paragraphing or quotations	Weakness in two areas	Weakness in three or more areas	10
Total					100

Other Issues affecting the grade: If the paper is too short, less than 2500 words: up to 10 points can be deducted. If the paper is late, up to 10 points can be deducted.

Assessment Map of Assignments to Course Objectives:

Diverse Lifestyles	Assignments			
Course Outcomes	Class Presentations and reports	Group Presentations	Written Assignments	Final Exam
Distinguish between Modern and Post Modern and understand the implications of individual and family life during these periods				
Understanding of present traditional pastoral ministry in light of emerging diverse lifestyles				
How the culture shapes the agenda, felt needs and aspirations of contemporary adults and defines issues with which people struggle				
Acquire a deeper understanding of the nature of spiritual journey in the midst of diversity to assist people to grow				
Be able to deal with cases of dysfunctional families: divorces, domestic violence, sexual orientation, living together before marriage, same sex unions, foster care, children born out of wedlock, etc.				
Understand family lives in terms of: authentic relationships, thinking discipleship, relentless compassion and sensitive spirituality				