



Caring in the Christian Community
MIN 332
Southwestern College Professional Studies

COURSE SYLLABUS

I. **Course Catalog Description**

This course will help learners become better informed as caring ministers and more effective in developing care ministries in their local settings. Learners will learn to use a method of critical reflection in praxis, through which they can identify where suffering is occurring, analyze the causes of suffering, and imagine responses by which suffering can be alleviated with caring. This course is suitable for the pastoral and youth ministry tracks. Prerequisites Recommended: *THEO200 Bible Survey*, *THEO215 Understanding the Old Testament*, and *THEO216 Understanding the New Testament*.

II. **Required and Supplementary Instructional Materials**

Lartey, Emmanuel. (2003). *In living color: An intercultural approach to pastoral care and counseling* (2nd ed.). New York, NY: Jessica Kingsley Publishers. ISBN 978-1843107507

Lewis, C.S. (1961). *A grief observed*. New York, NY: HarperCollins Publishers.
Print ISBN: 9780571066247, 0571066240 eText ISBN: 9780571265794, 0571265790

Lewis, C.S. (1940). *The problem with pain*. New York, NY: HarperCollins Publishers. ISBN 978-0060652968

Lingenfelter, Sherwood G. and Mayers, Marvin K. (2003). *Ministering cross-culturally: An incarnational model for personal relationships* (2nd ed.). Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Publishing Group. ISBN 978-0801026478

Van Deusen Hunsinger, Deborah. (2006). *Pray without ceasing: Revitalizing pastoral care*. Grand Rapids, MI: W.B. Eerdmans Publishing Company. ISBN 978-0802847591

Note: Learners will also need access to a Bible and Deets Library.

III. **Course Learning Outcomes**

Course learning outcomes describe the knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes that learners gain as the result of a particular learning experience. Southwestern College Professional Studies has learning outcomes specific to each program of study that are in line with the institutional outcomes of critical thinking, ethical reasoning, leadership, communication, and career preparation. Course outcomes support program outcomes and are listed below.

Upon successfully completing this course, the learner will be able to:

1. Identify healthy formal and informal roles of caring within a Christian community.
2. Examine the biblical roots of caring in a faith community.
3. Examine how cultural perspective influences responses to suffering.
4. Formulate a vision for healthy caring within a Christian community for clergy, lay leaders, and laity.

Unit	Objectives	Topics Covered	Course Outcomes Supported
1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Examine the history and meaning of pastoral care. Assess ways to provide pastoral care in a cross-cultural setting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Background of Pastoral Care Pastoral Care in Cross-cultural Settings 	1:1,2 2:3
2	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Examine what it means to be a Christian community. Evaluate the role of prayer in caring ministries. Assess the roles of clergy and laity in caring ministries. Create a plan for a ministry training program for laity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is Christian Community? Prayer Roles within Ministry Training Programs 	1:1 2:1,2,4 3:2,4 4:1,4
3	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze the issue of suffering and how the Christian community can respond appropriately. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Kinds of Suffering and Our Response 	1:3,4
4	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Examine models for ministering within cultural diversities. Assess ways of establishing effective boundaries in ministry. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry in Diverse Cultures Boundaries in Ministry 	1:3 2:1,4
5	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Assess our own response to other people's hurts. Examine resources regarding grief. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Personal Journeys Grief Resources 	1:1 2:3
6	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Identify insights from the Book of Job on how to care, and not care, for the hurting. Develop a comprehensive theology of pastoral care for ministry. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Job Personal Theology of Pastoral Care 	1:1,2,3,4 2:1,2,3,4

At the end of the course, learners may vary in their ability to achieve these outcomes and unit objectives. You are more likely to achieve these only if you attend class and/or online activities as required by the syllabus, complete the requirements for all assignments to the best of your ability, participate actively in class activities and group work as directed, and study diligently for exams.

IV. Course Policies

Students are expected to read and abide by the course policies found in the instructor-specific syllabus located in the Blackboard course.

V. Course Requirements

Requirements	Number of Assignments	Points Possible	Percent of Grade
Discussions	6	240	24%
Writing Assignments (Units 1-5)	5	500	50%
Final Mastery Assignment	1	260	26%
Total Points		1000	100%

VI. Course at a Glance

Unit	Graded Work Due	Relevant Reading/Viewing Prep	Unit Learning Objectives Supported
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 1 Discussion (see course site for due dates for all discussions) Unit 1 Writing Assignment: Pastoral Care Plan (due Sunday 11:59 pm CT) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Corinthians 13 Lartey 	1,2 1,2
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 2 Discussion Unit 2 Writing Assignment: Caring Ministry Training Program (due Sunday 11:59 pm CT) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Van Deusen Hunsinger, Ephesians, Romans & 1 Corinthians Van Deusen Hunsinger 	1,2,3 1,2,3,4
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 3 Discussion Unit 3 Writing Assignment: Theology of Serving the Suffering (due Sunday 11:59 pm CT) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Luke 10 Lewis (<i>Problem with Pain</i>) & all other unit articles and video 	1 1
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 4 Discussion Unit 4 Writing Assignment: Metaphor for Ministry (due Sunday 11:59 pm CT) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lingenfelter & Badawi article Lingenfelter 	1,2 1,2
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 5 Discussion Unit 5 Writing Assignment: Personal Journeys (due Sunday 11:59 pm CT) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit videos Lewis (<i>A Greif Observed</i>) 	1,2 1
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 6 Discussion Unit 6 Final Mastery Assignment: Theology of Pastoral Care (due Sunday 11:59 pm CT) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Job Various course materials 	1 2

VII. Other Policies and Requirements

Follow this link to the Southwestern College Professional Studies [Standard Syllabus](#) in Blackboard. You may be required to log in.