

School of Theology and Ministry  
Seattle University

Ministerial and Theological Integration  
STMM 557 Fall Quarter 2007

**Course Syllabus**

**Location and Time**

Dates: Fridays, September 28 – December 7, 2007

No Class – November 21, 2007

Class Location: Hunthausen Hall, Room 150

Time: 9:00a.m. 11:50

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**Basic Class Information, Course Requirements and Texts:**

*Manual for Ministerial and Theological Integration, Student Course Materials* (Reference: Chapter 2) contains the course description, goals / focus for Fall Quarter, course description and requirements, texts – both required and recommended and grade distribution.

**The Approach**

As you begin your ministerial internship this quarter, you will actively explore your call to ministry by actually doing the ministry of the church – service to the people of God. Your internship will be the context of your primary work as a person doing professional ministry.

As a pastoral minister, you no longer act simply as an individual. You are a public figure, a representative of the church or organization where you are interning. You become the visible expression of the organization's mission, vision, values, customs and beliefs.

The class will afford you the opportunity to do the tough and careful work of reflecting on your contextual experience by using the tools of Theological Reflection. Ministerial and Theological Integration is a way for you to explore: professional / personal development and identity, vocation, theological insight and assumptions, ecclesiology, culture, receive peer feedback, and take action.

MTI is a fundamental link between the academy and practical ministry. As such, MTI is key to the engaging the formation process. The formation statement found in the *Formation / Field Education Student Manual* Chapter 2, and contains a succinct description of the approach used in this course.

**Some Few Details:**

- Unless otherwise discussed, you will need to bring enough copies of your work for each member of the class including the faculty.
- The Integration / Learnings Paper 1 page – (unless otherwise discussed) will be do one week after you have presented in class. The Integration / Learnings Paper should be accompanied by the papers critiqued by peers.
- Permission to keep a classmates paper must be given by the author.
- Class presentations are the occasion to invite your colleagues to participate in your learning. You need to set the tone, identifying what you want from your peers. Be specific and concrete, manage your time, and name the central issue or question you are addressing. Do not read a paper to the class, in many cases your peers have already read your paper.
- The class will create norms or principles of our common life.

*It is not how far you swim; it is how you swim far.*

### **Things That Work Best:**

- This class is built on the profound assumption that **you are a person of worth and value**, you do not need to prove yourself to the faculty, one another or even to God.
- **Participation in class** includes peer evaluation, attentiveness to the needs of the self as well as others, identification of your own learnings, prayer, faith sharing and written and oral presentations. Integrity is at the heart of ministry.
- **Questions** are almost always more important than answers. Make very visible in your MTI work the questions you are raising of your self, your work, and your theological understandings. This also includes questions about your internship, issues of justice, culture, and political events that influence your pastoral ministry.
- A due sense of accountability for your **ministerial placement**, committing to growth and development toward required competencies. Here is a chance to experience you as accountable to God and self in a sustained fashion.
- **A journal** is a helpful tool for recording your experiences, readings, peer evaluations and interactions which make up your daily journey. While journaling, you will want to be attentive to the social, cultural and political elements of the culture (newspaper / TV / books), the faith tradition and your own insights, thoughts, and feelings. You will not be asked to share your journal writings unless you so choose.
- In oral presentations and written work it is most critical to name, tag, briefly describe, or give evidence of personal / professional learnings gained from theological reflection and peer evaluations.
- All written work is expected to meet the STM writing guidelines.

*The Questions we ask shape our destiny*

Rev. Martin Luther King

## **Grades:**

Course Requirements for a “B” grade – detailed description found in Chapter 3  
Class participation and Regular attendance  
Completion of written work  
Feedback / Evaluation  
Evidence of assigned reading - Quarter focus – Chapter 2

To receive an “A” grade: “...an outstanding achievement in these areas.”

**Papers:** Unless otherwise noted papers are to be distributed electronically to peers and faculty 3 days prior to presentation. Tuesday night 11:59 p.m.

## **Overview of Fall Assignments:**

1. Personal and Professional Goals, revised as needed to focus on this first quarter.
2. Internship job description, including any revisions since you set it up.
3. Three writing assignments (using models in your Manual, Pages 76 and 78).
  - A. Critical Incident One (2pages), plus integration learning paper (1page)
  - B. Critical Incident Two (2 pages) plus integration learning paper (1page)
  - C. Verbatim (4-6 pages) plus integration learning paper (1 page)
4. Marginal comments and feedback on all peer papers, written on your e-mailed copy of the paper, and given to the writer on the day of the presentation.
5. One meeting with faculty in November.
6. End of the quarter feedback papers (all due at last class session on December 1).
  - A. Self-reflection paper (2-3 pages) to include:
    - Key learning’s so far
    - What theological reflection means
    - Review of your personal and professional goals
    - Self-assessment based on pages 25-26 of the manual
  - B. On-site Supervisor Feedback Form (Manual p.87) signed.
  - C. Brief feedback statement for each class member and instructor (half page max)
  - D. Half page feedback on internship site so far
  - E. Seattle University faculty evaluation form (completed in class last day)

## **Mechanics of papers, presentations, and feedback**

- You are responsible for delivering a copy of your paper to your classmates and instructor via e-mail, no later than 11:59 P. M. on the Tuesday preceding your Friday presentation.
- Classmates read your paper, write marginal comments on it before class, and bring it to class.
- You present your paper in class. Name central issues/questions, and identify what you want from your peers. Be specific, and manage your time. Listen carefully and non-defensively to the feedback you have requested.
- Collect the annotated copies at the end of your presentation. (Anyone who wants to keep your paper must ask your permission, and make a separate copy. Otherwise they are deleted from all students’ computers.)
- Using the oral and written feedback you have received, write a one page Integration/Learning paper to capture your learning.

- Turn in the Integration/Learning paper and all the annotated copies at the next class session after your presentation.

**Leadership -**

- Prayer, Time Keeper
- Last class session Closing Ritual
- Book Conversation – read and select 1 for presentation  
*Gula, Ethics in Pastoral Ministry; Ch1,2 and 4.*  
*Graham, Walton, & Ward Theological Reflection: Methods [selected Chapters]*  
*Robinson. Gilead*  
*Parker: Let Your Life Speak*

***MTI Fall Quarter Class Outlines and Assignments***

*The following outlines give you most of the information you will need to plan your work for the quarter. The assignments listed are only those that apply to everybody. When you have signed up for leadership roles (prayer, book report snack etc.) please add them to your schedule You will also need to add your verbatim presentation date to your schedule.*

**Course Outline and Assignments**

**Session 1: Friday, September 28, 2007**

Class Agenda:

Prayer:     March     Time Keeper: \_\_\_\_\_ Snack:     March    

- Prayer and Welcome
- Getting Acquainted
- Questions about the Class
- Faculty Approach to class
- Role of On-site Supervisor
- Identifying group guidelines and principles of our common work
- Review Syllabus
- Journal writing as a tool for reflection
- Sign up for assignments – prayer, presentation dates
- The Manual – review contents
- Next week’s assignments – Goals etc.
- Exchange of Information Form - Distributed
- Prayer - Closure

For next week

- Prepare a ten minute presentation on your internship including time for questions
- Bring the latest version of your job description to turn in
- Read first three chapters of the Manual
- Find out what kind of e-mail attachments you can receive and open
- Get exchange of information signed, and bring it back.

## **Session 2: Friday, October 5, 2007**

### Class Agenda:

Prayer/Check-in/Closure: \_\_\_\_\_ Time Keeper: \_\_\_\_\_ Snack: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Prayer & Check-in**

Revisit group covenant from last week, and revise if needed.

Questions on reading, syllabus, etc?

Internship presentations 10 minutes each

Group theological reflection-improvised in class, no preparation allowed

Exchange e-mail addresses

Group process check-up Closing prayer

For next week

Prepare to present your Personal and Professional Goals for this quarter. One of each.

Bring 8 copies with you to class

Read chapter 4 of the Manual, and the handout on triangles.

## Session 3: Friday, October 12, 2007

### Class Agenda:

Prayer/Check-in/Closure: \_\_\_\_\_ Time Keeper: \_\_\_\_\_ Snack: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Prayer & Check-in**

Giving and receiving feedback (handout and discussion)  
Present Personal and Professional Goals (10 min) each.  
Discussion on triangles and ministerial role  
Review Significant or Critical Incident model for next week (pg 76)  
Turn in Exchange of Information forms  
Closing prayer

For next week:

Write Significant or Critical Incident One-e-mail to all by Tuesday  
Read peer papers and make feedback note. Bring printed copies to class.  
Revise your goals if needed and turn in  
Read Gilead-the whole thing

## Session 4: Friday, October 19, 2007

### Class Agenda:

#### **Prayer/Check-in**

Review of feedback process  
Present Significant/Critical Incidents (15 minutes each)  
Group process check-up  
Review Verbatim model and review scheduling of presentations (pg 78)  
Individual issues, questions? How is it going?  
Closing prayer

For Next week:

Write Integration Learning paper on your Significant/Critical Incident One  
Write Significant/Critical Incident Two- e-mail to all by Tuesday  
Read peer papers and make feedback notes. Bring printed copies to class  
Begin reading Gula, *Ethics in Pastoral Ministry*, chapters 1, 2, 4

## Session 5: Friday, October 26, 2007

### Class Agenda:

#### **Prayer/Check-in**

Present Critical Incidents (15 min. Each)  
Gula & Gilead discussion: power to help, power to hurt, boundaries and relationships  
Questions about verbatim presentations next week?  
Schedule individual meetings  
Closing prayer

For Next week:

Write Integration/Learning paper on Significant/Critical Incident Two

Read three verbatim papers and prepare feedback notes.

## **Session 6: Friday, November 2, 2007**

Class Agenda:

### **Prayer/Check-in**

Present three verbatims (30 minutes each)

Gula & Gilead discussion, continued

Closing prayer

For next week:

Read four verbatim papers and prepare feedback notes

## **Session 7: Friday, November 9, 2007**

Class Agenda:

### **Prayer/Check-in**

Present four verbatims (30 min.) each  
Discussion of lay and clergy ministry roles in our various denominations  
Closing prayer

For next week:

Read Theological Reflection: Methods (opening and closing sections of each chapter)

## **Session 8: Friday, November 16, 2007**

Class Agenda:

### **Prayer/Check-in**

*This session is Reviewing/unpacking TR: Methods*

Book discussion

Theological Reflection in practice: how does theory compare to what we're doing?

Next Class:

Read *Let Your Life Speak*

**No Class Friday -November 23<sup>rd</sup> - Thanksgiving Break**

## Session 9: Friday, November 30, 2007

### Class Agenda:

#### **Prayer/Check-in**

*Let Your Life Speak* – Sharing our own evolving sense of vocation

Finish any left over work  
Plan the last session

For next week:  
Prepare the end of quarter feedback (pg 2) of syllabus

## Session 10: Friday, December 7, 2007

### Class Agenda:

**Peer Feedback Ritual and Closure** This closing session needs to include sharing of feedback with each other as part of a ritual to end the quarter.

It may include music, poetry, food, and other creative contributions.

Hand in all written feedback and do the in-class instructor evaluation.

*To show great love for God and our neighbor  
we need not do great things.  
It is how much love we put in the doing  
that makes our offering something beautiful for God*  
Mother Teresa of Calcutta

Subject to Revision prior to class – Instructor have available copies of syllabus on the first day of class.