

School of Theology and Ministry  
Seattle University  
901 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue, PO Box 222000  
Seattle, WA 98122-1090

Spring Quarter 2009

**STMC 572 Pastoral Diagnosis**  
Hunthausen 160  
Mondays: 9:00AM-11:50AM

**Rev. Rod Landes, PhD**  
503.248.2189  
[rodlandes@qwestoffice.net](mailto:rodlandes@qwestoffice.net)

### **Required Texts:**

American Psychiatric Association. *Diagnosis and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fourth Edition, Text Revision (DSM-IV-TR)*. Washington, D.C. 2000.

Wiger, Donald E. and Debra Huntley. *Essentials of Interviewing*. New York: John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 2002.

Ramsay, Nancy J. *Pastoral Diagnosis: A Resource for Ministers of Care and Counseling*. Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress Publishers, 2003.

**Recommended:** This course will also make use of texts from the Psychopathology course and the Practicum book list, especially *Where to Start and What to Ask* (Susan Lukas) and *A Minister's Handbook of Mental Disorders* (Joseph W. Ciarrocchi).

**Course Description:** This course will cover the basics of mental health assessment, diagnosis, and treatment planning, including the pastoral counseling specialty. Students will learn to conduct a basic initial interview, thinking diagnostically and psychodynamically regarding possible treatment. They will learn to write a Comprehensive Pastoral-Clinical Assessment. The context will be a wholistic, inclusive, multi-cultural and theological understanding of the person.

### **Course Requirements:**

*Attendance & Participation:* While outside reading and preparation is essential, much of the learning of this course will be class presentations and dialogue. Therefore, class attendance and participation is required. If you miss more than one session of this course, successful completion will be endangered.

*Paper:* You will prepare and hand in a Comprehensive Pastoral-Clinical Assessment, following the STMC format used in the Practicum Manual. After handing in this paper you will role-play the interviewed client, with another student conducting an initial interview. The interviewer will discuss her/his diagnostic "hunches" which would

be followed up in subsequent interviews. During the following class discussion, you will explain your own diagnostic and treatment plan decisions.

**Grading:** grades will be based 40% on your Paper and that client presentation plus your role-play as interviewer, and 60% on class participation.

### **Course Schedule:**

Session 1/March 30: Intro to course and syllabus, expectations. Diagnosis: why and how? “Pastoral” Diagnosis? (Ramsay). Overview of Comprehensive Pastoral-Clinical Assessment (CPCA), elements.

Session 2/April 6: Review of DSM; diagnosis by categories. Other ways to “assess”: by dimension rather than category, by story vs symptoms. (DSM, Ramsay, Ciarrocchi).

Session 3/April 13: Return to elements of CPCA: mental status, family history, social/cultural, psychological/medical: the patient’s experience, the “story”/narrative. Spiritual/religious assessment.

Sessions 4 & 5/April 20 & 27: The Interview: attitude, context, “sacred space”, questions. (Wiger/Huntley and Lukas).

Session 6/May 4: **Papers Due**

Sessions 6-9/May 4, 11, 18, June 1: Role plays of interviewing, discussion.

Session 10: Wrap-up, review, loose ends, evaluations and feedback.