

School of Theology and Ministry  
Seattle University

Ministerial and Theological Integration  
STMM 557 - 01

**Course Syllabus**

**Course Information and Schedule**

Fall Quarter  
3 credits  
Dates: Friday, September 25- December 4, 2009  
Class Location: Hunthausen Hall, Room [check SU On-Line]  
Time: 9:00 am – 12:00 Noon

**March Gunderson Adjunct Faculty**

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

*Text for Ministerial and Theological Integration, Student Course Materials. Chapter 3 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 for your primary work as a person doing public or professional ministry.

As a pastoral minister, you no longer act simply as an individual. You are a public figure, a representative of an agency, 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 thoughtful, 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, contains a succinct description of the approach used in this course.

*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 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 yourself as accountable to ultimate values 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 - [See Chapter 3 of the Text for MTI]  
 Class participation and Regular attendance –  
 Competencies / Outcomes and Goals  
 Papers / Assignments / Evidence of assigned reading  
 Feedback / Evaluation

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

**Papers:** Unless otherwise noted all papers are to be distributed electronically to peers and faculty 3 days prior to class presentation.

*what is it that you plan to do with your one wild and precious  
 life? Mary Oliver*

## Overview of Fall Assignments:

1. Internship Job Description - can be revised at the beginning of each quarter.
2. Personal and Professional Goals – presented or revised
3. Papers 3 primary papers
  - **2-Critical Incident p73** – (2 pages) & **Integration/ Learning paper p84**(1 page)  
*your experience in ministry as it relates to your internship and your vocation*  
*your experience of professionalism and growth as a pastoral person*
  - **1-Verbatim p77** (4 to 6 pages) – **and Integration/ Learning paper p84** (1 page)  
A significant event, which is focused on your internship
4. Reading
  - **Required Reading:** as described on pages page 30 of the Student Manual. Catholic students are required to read two additional documents.
5. Leadership -
  - a. Prayer, Time Keeper
  - b. Last class session Closing Ritual
  - c. Book Conversation – read and select 1 for presentation  
*Gula, Ethics in Pastoral Ministry chapters 1,2&4*  
*Graham, Walton, & Ward Theological Reflection: Methods [selected Chapters]*  
*Robinson. Gilead*  
*Parker: Let Your Life Speak*
6. Comments and peer feedback (providing affirmations and challenges for growth) on all peer papers. Comments to be written on your copy of the presenter paper and returned to presenters.
7. Feedback – all due the last day of class - [A full description will be distributed in week 8]
  - a. Self Reflection paper to include:
    - i. Key learnings,
    - ii. At this point in the class, what does Theological Reflection Mean to you,
    - iii. Goals – personal and professional,
    - iv. Competencies assessed student text Chapter 3
  - b. Peer feedback - as described in handout
  - c. On-site Supervisor feedback form – see text p.93
  - d. ½ page feedback on instructor
  - e. ½ page feedback on internship site
  - f. STM course evaluation – distributed last 15 minutes of last session of class.
8. Meet for 1 hr with Faculty the week of October 26th for a conversation which focus on:[student responsible for scheduling]
  - a. Identify core learnings – name affirmations and challenges for yourself.
  - b. Name learnings from the course thus far.....
  - c. What you do not understand.....
  - d. Demonstrate elementary understanding of Theological Reflection.

# Course Outline and Assignments

## Session 1: Friday, September 25, 2009

### Class Agenda:

Prayer: \_\_\_\_\_ Dick \_\_\_\_\_ Time Keeper: \_\_\_\_\_ Snack: \_\_\_\_\_ Dick \_\_\_\_\_

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, timekeeper (snack is optional)  
The MTI Textbook – review contents  
Next week’s assignments – Goals etc.  
Exchange of Information Form - Distributed  
Prayer - Closure

Note: 1. Give each other address/e-mail/ phone as you choose.  
2. Arrange any changes in the assignments with each other and notify everyone in the class and faculty of those changes.

## Session 2: Friday, October 2, 2009

### Class Agenda:

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

#### **Prayer**

**Issues or Questions** – Group principles

#### **Questions from Manual reading**

**Didactic / Conversation:** About Feedback: What happens when giving and receiving?

**Internship** – Presentation – What? Who? Why? Where? [10 min each]

**Goals** – personal and professional, [15 min each]

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_  
3. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_

**Didactic / Discussion:** What is Theological Reflection – Where are we going?

**Debrief / Closure**

## Session 3: Friday, October 13, 2009

### Class Agenda:

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

#### **Prayer**

**Issues or Questions** – Group principles

#### **Questions from Manual reading**

**Goals** – personal and professional, [15 min each]

5. \_\_\_\_\_ 6. \_\_\_\_\_

7. \_\_\_\_\_ 8. \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Book Review and Presentation:**

*Graham, Walton, & Ward Theological Reflection: Methods—Introduction [20 minutes]*

1. \_\_\_\_\_

*Graham, Walton, & Ward Theological Reflection: Methods—Chapter 1 [20 minutes]*

2. \_\_\_\_\_

**Didactic / Discussion:** What is Theological Reflection – Where are we going?

#### **Debrief / Closure**

## Session 4: Friday, October 16, 2009

### Class Agenda:

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

#### **Questions and or issues**

#### **Book Review and Presentation / Conversation:**

*Gula, Ethics in Pastoral Ministry* – Chapter 1 [about 20 min]

3. \_\_\_\_\_

*Gula, Ethics in Pastoral Ministry* – Chapter 2 [about 20 min]

6. \_\_\_\_\_

**Discuss Assignment:** – Critical Incident

**Didactic / Discussion:** What is Theological Reflection?

**Conversation:** \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Debrief / Closure**

Note: Schedule an appointment with Faculty the week of October 26th.

## Session 5: Friday, October 23, 2009

### Class Agenda:

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

### Questions and or issues

**Discussion:** The Verbatim as a way to get to Theological Reflection.

### Critical Incident # 1 -Presentation [15 min each]

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_

**Responders - All asking one question / observation first round**

### Debrief / Closure

## Session 6: Friday, October 30, 2009

### Class Agenda:

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

### Questions and or issues

**Conversation:** How are we doing?

### Critical Incident #2 - Presentation [15 min each]

3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

### Book review and Presentation:

Gula, *Ethics in Pastoral Ministry* – Chapter 4 [15 to 20 min]

5. \_\_\_\_\_

### Book review and Presentation:

Robinson. *Gilead* — Chapter ??? [15 to 20 min]

7. \_\_\_\_\_

### Debrief / Closure

## Session 7: Friday, November 6, 2009

### Class Agenda:

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

### Questions and or issues

### Critical Incident #2 - Presentation [15 min each]

5. \_\_\_\_\_ 6. \_\_\_\_\_

7. \_\_\_\_\_ 8. \_\_\_\_\_

### Book review and Presentation:

*Robinson. Gilead* Chapter ??? [15 to 20 min]

4. \_\_\_\_\_

### Verbatim Presentation [25 min each]

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_

### Debrief / Closure

## Session 8: Friday, November 13, 2009

### Class Agenda:

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

### Questions and or issues

### Discussion: Feedback Forms

### Critical Incident #2 - Presentation [15 min each]

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_

### Verbatim Presentation [25 min each]

3. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_

### Debrief / Closure

## Session 9: Friday, November 20, 2009

### Class Agenda:

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

### Questions and or issues

### Verbatim Presentation [25 min each]

5. \_\_\_\_\_ 6. \_\_\_\_\_  
7. \_\_\_\_\_ 8. \_\_\_\_\_

### Book review and Presentation:

*Robinson. Gilead* — Chapter ??? [15 to 20 min]

8. \_\_\_\_\_

### Debrief / Closure

## Session 10: Friday, December 4, 2009

### Class Agenda:

### Peer Feedback Ritual and Closure

- Use handout as guide
- include reflection on Parker Palmer , Let Your Life Speak
- prepare ritual with break/snack

### Planning Team:

- a. \_\_\_\_\_ b. \_\_\_\_\_  
c. \_\_\_\_\_ d. \_\_\_\_\_

### Feedback Discussion

### Next Quarter

### Closure

*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 will distribute a final copy on the first day of class.

9/14/2009