

Wesley Theological Seminary
Course of Study – Spring Weekend Term 2016
March 11-12 and April 22-23, 2016

CS-323 Congregational Care
Instructor: Michael Koppel
mkoppel@wesleyseminary.edu

Course Goals:

This course introduces students to practices of congregational care and the pastor's responsibility in caregiving.

Students will be able to:

1. Implement and oversee appropriate types of care in varieties of settings, including prisons, hospitals, nursing facilities, and homes.
2. Organize caring ministries within the congregation.
3. Discern and implement appropriate boundaries, knowing when and to whom to refer people, and when and when not to share information.
4. Reflect on and practice skills of sensitive caregiving, using role play and analysis case studies.

Required Texts:

Jeanne Hoeft, Shannon Jung, Joretta Marshall, *Practicing Care in Rural Congregations and Communities* (Fortress, 2013). ISBN#978-0800699543.

Larry Webb, *Crises Counseling in the Congregation* (Abingdon, 2011). ISBN#978-1426726989.

Ed Wimberly, *African American Pastoral Care and Counseling: Oppression and Empowerment* (Pilgrim, 2006). ISBN#978-0829816815.

Writing Assignment:

Complete the writing assignment described below: total of 10 double-spaced pages, Times Roman 12 point font. Please staple together in one document. Reflect intentionally on the questions and write about the most essential points.

1. Write a **two page** double-spaced summary of **each of the required texts**. In your summary, include
 - a) main points of the book, and
 - b) lessons you have learned for your own ministry.
2. **Three page** double-spaced paper on Care giving:

- a) Write one page on a situation in your ministry when you offered **effective** pastoral care.
 - b) Write one page on a situation in your ministry when you offered **ineffective** pastoral care.
 - c) In one page, **note what you think contributed** to the **effective** or **ineffective** care.
3. **One page** double-space paper on spiritual practice:
Describe your primary spiritual practice, including what you do and how often. If you do not currently have one, what can you imagine doing on a regular basis?