CS-323 Congregational Care

Online Modules, **October 2023**: self-paced with flexible posting deadlines
Zoom Class, Friday, **Nov 3: 1-3 pm** and Saturday, **Nov 4, 10a-12 pm**
Instructor: Michael Koppel, M.Div., Ph.D.
Professor of Pastoral Theology and Congregational Care
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October **Online Blackboard Learning** Modules: Our class will have Blackboard online learning modules during the month of October.
November **Zoom** Sessions: Our class meets Fri, Nov 3 from 1-3 pm and Sat from 10am-12 pm. There will also be Blackboard module material available on Friday and Saturday for professional learning.

Join Zoom Meeting for November 3 and 4 Zoom Sessions:

https://wesleyseminary.zoom.us/j/94331022357?pwd=ZXhrYzIwUFd3NVJFU1c0bnJOM0g5QT09

Meeting ID: 943 3102 2357
Passcode: 227576

Objectives:
This course introduces participants to practices of congregational care and the pastor's responsibility in caregiving. Participants will be able to:

- Implement and oversee appropriate types of care in varieties of settings, including homes, hospitals, and nursing facilities.
- Organize and support caring ministries within the congregation.
- Discern and implement appropriate boundaries, including the practices of confidentiality and referral.
- Reflect on and practice care giving skills, using role plays and case studies.

Required Texts:

Justes, Emma, *Hearing Beyond the Words*: How to Become a Listening Pastor (Abingdon, 2002); ISBN #: 978-0-6874-9499-6.

Koppel, Michael S., *Body Connections: Body-Based Spiritual Care* (Abingdon, 2021); ISBN #: 978-1-7910-1341-7.

Supplemental Text:
Wimberly, Edward, *Recalling Our Own Stories: Spiritual Renewal for Religious Caregivers* (Fortress, 2019); ISBN #: 978-1506454771.

Reading and Writing Assignment:

1) Please **read and reflect** on assigned course texts.
2) Complete the writing assignment described below. **Submit** your paper electronically to **Blackboard by Wednesday, Nov 1 at 11:59 pm EDT.** Please use 12 point font, double-space, and *.docx, *.doc, or *.rtf formats.

Write a 5 page paper and upload to Blackboard as **one document.** The paper should be divided as follows and draw on course readings as applicable:

- In **4 pages** reflect on effective and ineffective care giving:
    - In two pages, describe a situation when you offered effective pastoral care and identify factors that contributed to it being effective care.
    - In two pages, describe a situation when you offered ineffective pastoral care and identify factors that contributed to it being ineffective.
- In **1 page**, describe your primary spiritual practice for cultivating pastoral awareness and self care.

Course Schedule

The course schedule and anticipated topics follows for our online modules and Zoom class sessions. The schedule may be adjusted as needed.

October Online: Hospitality and Care Presence; Pastoral Listening Skills; Congregations as Systems of Care; Self-Care and Spiritual Practice

Please check Blackboard to access the modules and posting expectations.

November Virtual Sessions: Friday, Nov 3 from 1-3 pm EDT; **Saturday, Nov 4** from 10am-12 pm EDT. There will also be online learning for

professional development. Topics to be covered: Positive and Negative Care Experiences; Care through Pain, Grief, Suffering; Care Teams and Referrals

Evaluation

Class Writing Assignment	40%
Online Module Postings and Zoom Participation	60%

Grade Schema
93 – 100 = A (Excellent/Outstanding)
90 – 92 = A- (Excellent/Outstanding)
88 – 89 = B+ (Very Good)
83 – 87 = B (Good)
80 – 82 = B- (Adequate)
78 – 79 = C+ (Adequate)
73 – 77 = C (Adequate)
70 – 72 = C- (Substandard)

The instructor assumes that everyone in the class is capable of receiving at minimum a "B" grade for the course.

Final course grades are mailed to the student, GBHEM in Nashville and the participant's conference representative. Grades are not posted online.

Class Policies

Attendance: Please contact the instructor regarding late assignments and anticipated absence from online modules or face to face class time.

Inclusive Language: In oral and written contributions to the course, students are expected to use inclusive language for God and human persons.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is regarded as a serious offense and will result in substantial penalties, including the possibility of academic dismissal. The faculty regards the following as form of plagiarism or dishonesty: Copying from another student's paper; giving or receiving unauthorized assistance to or from another student during an examination; using unauthorized material during an examination; borrowing or presenting as one's own (i.e. without proper attribution) the composition or ideas of another.

Please refer to your Wesley Student Handbook (online) for more information about Wesley's academic policies or contact the Course of Study office 202-885-8688.