

DM835 D.Min. 2023 Cohort—Crisis and the Church
Syllabus for Year Three
University of Dubuque Theological Seminary
www.UDTSlearning.net

Faculty Information:

Dr. Beth McCaw
Email: BMccaw@dbq.edu
Phone 563-589-3390

Dr. Bradley Longfield
Email: blongfie@dbq.edu
Phone 563-589-3776

Course Description: Throughout its history, the church has confronted crises, both internal and external, both institutional and individual. In this Doctor of Ministry cohort, we will explore ways the church and its leadership have addressed crises in the past to develop the theological perspectives and pastoral skills necessary to equip congregations and their members in the present to witness to the hope of the gospel in times of crisis.

This is the third of three required online/resident classes for the Doctor of Ministry. We will be reading historical and theological texts addressing Christian responses to racism in Germany, the United States, and South Africa in the 20th century and other crises related to divides, discrimination, and “otherness.” We will also spend considerable time refining D.Min. proposals in order to build a firm foundation for projects/theses that will contribute to church renewal.

Course Objectives:

By participating fully in this intensive class, students will:

1. Be able to articulate and critically analyze key theological and ecclesiological responses to crises in the twentieth century.
2. Begin to articulate one’s own theological understanding of crisis in conversation with the readings and others in the seminar.
3. Develop key ministry practices to address personal, ecclesial, and cultural crises in light of their understanding of the church and their ministry setting.

D.Min. Curricular Goals:

This course will work toward accomplishment of the following goals of the curriculum for students:

1. Define not only “congregational revitalization,” but also show evidence of renewal in their ministry.
2. Think theologically by integrating learning from the classical disciplines (Bible, history, theology, and ministry) in the life of local congregations [or other ministry setting].
3. Identify significant theological and social issues in their congregation as well as within the church catholic.
4. Develop lay congregational leaders by identifying leadership gifts and skills within the congregation and by demonstrating the function of these lay gifts/skills in congregational revitalization [and personal formation].

Schedule

The D.Min. cohort will meet online from January – March and in residence from May 17-24. The online section will include occasional lectures, discussion sections, and two video conferences per month scheduled at a time agreeable to all. The residential class day will run from 8:00 to 5:00, with breaks dividing the time into at least two morning and two afternoon sessions.

The day will be structured by prayer and worship including the use of the Divine Office. In addition to the resources in the bibliography, all students should have with them the *Book of Common Worship* (Louisville: Westminster/John Knox Press, 2018).

ASSESSMENT

Course Requirements:

1. Read the assigned books before they are discussed for the online section and the entire assigned bibliography *prior to* the May intensive.
2. For most of the assignments you will be required to submit a one-page (typed, single spaced) summary and analysis of a chapter or section of each assigned work. So, for example, for King, *A Testament of Hope*, pick a chapter from the assignment and summarize and analyze it in one page. For some of the assignments, where indicated in the syllabus or on the course site, these assignments will be in response to a more specific prompt. These will be graded pass/fail. These are due by the end of the week(s) assigned in the online component and on the day the particular work is scheduled for class discussion for the residential section. **It is important to complete all of these before the intensive.**
3. Attend and participate in all sessions, including participation in online discussion forums and shared leadership of sessions as assigned. For each discussion forum you are required to post at least twice. In your first post respond to the prompt. In your second post ask and answer a question, draw a connection, or explore a theme of interest to you. You may certainly continue the conversation beyond two posts.
4. Two 5,000-5,500 word essays (typed, double spaced):
 - 1) The first paper should investigate a particular issue/crisis confronted by an individual or community considered in the readings and, using the readings in the course, analyze and

evaluate the theological perspective and method or methods this individual/community used to address this issue/crisis.

2) The second paper should examine an impactful societal dynamic related to “otherness” (e.g. partisanship; prejudice; unity; reconciliation) in a particular local context. Use various relevant lenses (e.g. theological, sociological, missional...), and describe a practical response that a congregation/Christian community can (or does) offer in gospel witness. The paper should be written in the third person. The texts from the course should be included among bibliographic references.

The specific shape of each student’s essays and D.Min projects/theses will be determined in conversation with the instructors prior to the end of the intensive. The essay is due Nov. 1, 2023, but “check-in” dates before then will be assigned. All citations should follow the Chicago Style as found in the 9th edition of Kate L. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2018).

Online Schedule January 17-March 27

Jan. 17-23 Year 3 syllabus and reminders concerning D.Min. Projects

Watch the lectures from the instructors and Dr. Slemmons, Director of the D.Min. Program.

Jan. 24-30 Checking In

In two or three paragraphs reflect on changes/challenges in your ministry since last we met and summarize your projects from year 2 noting how these have influenced, or might influence, your ministry.

Jan. 31-Feb. 6 Crises in the 20th Century: Nazism

Read Elie Wiesel, *Night* and respond to discussion questions

Zoom discussion: Friday, Feb. 3, 12:00 Noon CT. Link will be posted on the course site.

Feb. 7-13 Introduction of Lenses and Language, Crises Regarding “Otherness”

Begin reading Isabel Wilkerson, *Caste*.

Feb. 14-20 Reading Week

Conclude reading Isabel Wilkerson, *Caste*.

Watch parts 1 and 2 of *Trouble the Waters*:

“Why Us, Why Now” and “Whiteness.”

Feb. 21-27 Continued – Lenses and Language, Crises Regarding “Otherness”

Read Austin Channing Brown, *I’m Still Here*.

Watch parts 3 and 4 of Trouble the Waters:

“Racial Identity” and “Intersectionality and Disruption”

Zoom discussion: Friday, Feb 24, 12:00 Noon CT. Link will be posted on the course site.

Feb. 28-March 6 Continued – Lenses and Language, Crises Regarding “Otherness”

Read Miroslav Volf, *Exclusion and Embrace*, revised edition.

March 7-13 Crises in the 20th Century: Nazism

Read Eric Metaxas, *Bonhoeffer Abridged* and Tietz, *Theologian of Resistance*. Write a review of one or the other and respond to discussion questions

March 14-20 Crises in the 20th Century: Nazism

Read Cochrane, *The Church’s Confession Under Hitler*, chs. 1-8. Write a review and respond to discussion questions

March 21-27 Crises in the 20th Century: Nazism

Read Busch, *Barmen Theses Then and Now*, and Forstman, *Christian Faith in Dark Times*, chs 12 & 13 (reserve). Write a review and respond to discussion questions

Zoom Discussion: Friday, March 24, 12:00 Noon CT. Link will be posted on the course site.

Residential Preload: March 28-May 16

Prior to arriving for the residency, you should have read all of the remaining works assigned, and complete the written assignments. You will have also completed the Intercultural Development Inventory and reviewed your profile.

Residential Schedule

Wednesday, May 17

Morning—Catching Up and The Civil Rights Movement

Morning Prayer

- 1) Catching Up
- 2) The Civil Rights Movement

Read Lischer, *The Preacher King*

11:30 Midday Prayer

Afternoon- Civil Rights Movement

- 1) The Civil Rights Movement:

Read Chappell, *A Stone of Hope*

2:30 Break

- 2) The Civil Rights Movement

Read King, *A Testament of Hope*, Editor's Introduction, Part II: Famous Sermons and Addresses, Part III: Historic Essays, chs. 46, 47, 48

Evening Prayer

Thursday, May 18

Morning

DMin Project Presentations (12 minutes each)

Morning Prayer

- 1) DMin Project Presentations
- 2) DMin Project Presentations

11:30 Midday Prayer

Afternoon

1) Meetings with McCaw and Longfield

2:30 Break

2) Meetings with McCaw and Longfield

Evening Prayer

Friday, May 19

Morning

Morning Prayer

1) Moving from Theology and Theory to Practice

Read John M. Perkins, *One Blood*

11:30 Midday Prayer

Afternoon

1) Moving from Theology and Theory to Practice

Be prepared to discuss ministry implications from
Isabel Wilkerson, *Caste*, and Miroslav Volf, *Exclusion and Embrace*

Evening Prayer

Saturday, May 20

Morning

Morning Prayer

- 1) Moving from Theology and Theory to Practice

Read Allen Hilton, *House United*.

Practice of Courageous Conversations

11:30 Midday Prayer

Afternoon

Free time

Sunday, May 21

Morning- Worship at a church of your choice

Afternoon

- 1) Moving from Theology and Theory to Practice

Read Marshall Rosenberg, *Nonviolent Communication*

Review Deborah van Deusen Hunsinger, *Bearing the Unbearable* Chs. 6, 7

Read Jones, Gregory. "Healing the Wounds of Memory"

Read Seibold, Myrla, "When the Wounding Runs Deep:

Encouragement for Those on the Road to Forgiveness."

Break 2:30

- 2) Read Fanie du Toit (ed), *Learning to Live Together: Practices of Social Reconciliation*

- 3) Explore a Restoration Circle Model

Evening Prayer

Monday, May 22

Morning

Morning Prayer

The Crisis of Apartheid

- 1) Read deGruchy, *The Church Struggle in South Africa*, pp. ix-100
- 2) Read deGruchy, *The Church Struggle in South Africa*, pp. 101-222

11:30- Midday Prayer

Afternoon

- 1) Read Boesak, *Farewell to Innocence*

2:30 Break

- 2) Read Tutu, *No Future Without Forgiveness*

Evening Prayer

Tuesday, May 23

Morning

Morning Prayer

- 1) Leading Justice, Healing, Reconciliation in Times of Conflict and Crisis

Review Edwin Frieman, *A Failure of Nerve*, 10th Anniversary Edition

Jones, Gregory. "Healing the Wounds of Memory"

Seibold, Myrla, "When the Wounding Runs Deep:

Encouragement for Those on the Road to Forgiveness."

11:30 Midday Prayer

Afternoon- Projects

- 1) Discuss annual projects with McCaw and Longfield

2:30 Break

- 2) Discuss annual projects with McCaw and Longfield

Evening Prayer

Wednesday, May 24

Morning

Morning Prayer

- 1) Discuss DMin projects
- 2) Discuss DMin projects

11:30 Midday Prayer

Afternoon

- 3) Discuss DMin Projects

2:30 Break

- 4) Discuss DMin Projects

Closing Dinner and Evening Prayer

Required Texts:

Where an ISBN number is noted, you must have the edition noted by ISBN

Busch, Eberhard. *The Barmen Theses Then and Now*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans Publishers, 2019. 9780802866172

Boesak, Allan Aubrey. *Farewell to Innocence: A Socio-Ethical Study on Black Theology and Power*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1977. 978-0883441305

Brown, Austin Channing. *I'm Still Here: Black Dignity in a World Made for Whiteness*. Colorado Springs: Convergent Books, 2018.

- Chappell, David L. *A Stone of Hope: Prophetic Religion and the Death of Jim Crow*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2004. 9780807856604
- Cochrane, Arthur C. *The Church's Confession Under Hitler*. Eugene, Oregon: Pickwick Press, 1976. 9780915138289
- deGruchy, John W. and Steve de Gruchy. *The Church Struggle in South Africa, 25th Anniversary Edition* Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2004. 9780800637552
- Friedman, Edwin H. *A Failure of Nerve: Leadership in the Age of the Quick Fix, 10th Anniversary Edition*. New York: Church Publishing, 2017. 9781596272804
- Hilton, Allen. *House United: How the Church Can Save the World*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2018.
- Hunsinger, Deborah van Deusen. *Bearing the Unbearable: Trauma, Gospel and Pastoral Care*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2015. Chapters 6, "Practicing Koinonia," and chapter 7, "Members of One Another: Building a Restorative Church."
- Jones, Gregory. "Healing the Wounds of Memory: Theology and Psychology on Salvation and Sin." *Care for the Soul*, edited by Mark R. McMinn and Timothy R. Phillips, 241-253. Downers Grove Illinois: InterVarsity Press, 2001. Provided as pdf.
- Lischer, Richard. *The Preacher King: Martin Luther King Jr. and the Word that Moved America*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1995. 9780195111323
- Metaxas, Eric. *Bonhoeffer Abridged: Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy*. Nashville, TN: Nelson Press, 2014. 9780718016166
- Perkins, John M. *One Blood: Parting Words to the Church on Race and Love*. Chicago: Moody Press, 2018.
- Rosenberg, Marshall. *Nonviolent Communication: A Language for Life, Life-Changing Tools for Healthy Relationships, 3rd ed.* Encinitas, California: Puddledancer Press, 2015.
- Seibold, Myrla, "When the Wounding Runs Deep: Encouragement for Those on the Road to Forgiveness." *Care for the Soul*, edited by Mark R. McMinn and Timothy R. Phillips, 294-308. Downers Grove Illinois: InterVarsity Press, 2001. Provided as pdf.
- Tietz, Christiane. *Theologian of Resistance: The Life and Thought of Dietrich Bonhoeffer*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2016. 9781506408446
- Tutu, Desmond. *No Future Without Forgiveness*. New York: Doubleday, 1999. 9780385496902

Volf, Miroslav. *Exclusion and Embrace, Revised and Updated: A Theological Exploration of Identity, Otherness and Reconciliation*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2019.

Washington, James M., ed. *A Testament of Hope: The Essential Writings and Speeches of Martin Luther King, Jr.* New York: Harper Collins, 1986. 9780060646912

Wiesel, Elie. *Night*. New York: Hill and Wang, 2006.

Wilkerson, Isabel. *Caste: The Origins of our Discontents*. New York: Random House, 2020.

Other:

Trouble the Water: Conversations to Disrupt Racism and Dominance. Four-part documentary series, through the Presbyterian Church U.S.A., Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

Reserve Readings (found on the course site):

du Toit, Fanie (ed.) *Learning to Live Together: Practices of Social Reconciliation*. Cape Town: Institute for Justice and Reconciliation, 2003. Pdf selections provided.

Grading Scale:

See current seminary catalog

REQUIRED TEXTS, READINGS, AND MATERIALS

The required and recommended texts should all be available through the library, for purchase, or accessible online.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

1. All written work must be done on a word processor or typewriter. Use a standard 12-point "Times Roman" font.
2. Students will need to use internet-based bibliographic search tools and know how to request interlibrary loans.
3. Students are expected to check their UD email accounts regularly for course updates and University announcements. Instructions for forwarding email from a dbq.edu account can be found at the Technology Services link on the UD Web Page.

LIBRARY REQUIREMENTS

Some readings may be available on e-reserve through the UDTs library. Use of library databases for research is required.

PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS

1. Attend all class sessions and engage in discussion groups and other required activities.
2. Meet all deadlines.
3. Prepare adequately for each class session using appropriate study strategies.
4. Do your own work.

5. Have and use all textbooks and required materials.
6. Participate actively and carefully in discussions, including following all directions and leading class discussions as assigned.
7. Write and speak effectively and appropriately.

COURSE ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION (a.k.a. “House Rules”)

1. *Late Policy:* Work must be handed in on time. Late work will be assessed a grade penalty proportionate to the number of days the assignment is late: If an “A” is possible for an on-time paper, the same paper one day late will receive an “A-” and so forth.
2. *Cheating and Plagiarism:* You are responsible for adhering to the Seminary’s policies on plagiarism and cheating. Please see the current UDTs Student Handbook for this policy.
3. *Inclusive Language:* You are responsible for adhering to the Seminary’s policy on inclusive language. Please see the current UDTs Catalog for this policy.
4. *Academic Support Center:* The University provides a free Academic Success Center on the second floor of Myers Library. Writing tutors are available to help with writing issues and other problems with assignments in this or other courses. Please make use of this service by contacting the Academic Success Center (563-589-3570).
5. *Americans with Disability Act (ADA) Statement:* A student who has a disability that might affect his/her performance in this course should consult with the instructors and the campus ADA compliance office (589-3262 or ASC@dbq.edu) by the second class session.
6. *Subject to Change Clause:* This syllabus, course calendar, and other attending documents are subject to change during the semester.