

DM815 D.Min. 2021 Cohort—Crisis and the Church
REVISED Syllabus for Year One
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 first of three required online/resident classes for the Doctor of Ministry. We will be looking at ways the early and early medieval church and its key theologians and leaders confronted the collapse of the Roman Empire, war, famine, plagues, refugees, and schism, and consider how we, in facing contemporary crises, can implement effective methods for addressing Self Care and Resilience; Care for Caregivers and First Responders; and Medical, Mental Health, Public Health, and End of Life Crises.

Course Objectives:

By participating fully in this intensive class students will:

1. Be able to articulate and critically analyze key ecclesiological responses to crises in the early and early/medieval church.
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 – April and (if the pandemic allows) in residence from May 12-19. 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 purchase *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 and October intensives.
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 Brown, *Augustine of Hippo*, pick a chapter from the week’s assignment and summarize and analyze it in one page. For smaller books (e.g. Augustine, *On the Predestination of the Saints*) a one page summary and analysis of the entire work would be more appropriate. For some of the assignments, where indicated in the syllabus or on the course site, these assignments will take another form, e.g. taking an online inventory or reflecting on personal Christian practices. 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 would be well to complete all of these before the appropriate intensive.
3. Attendance and participation including participation in online discussion forum and shared leadership of sessions as appropriate. 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 either Augustine or Gregory and, using the readings in the course, analyze and evaluate the theological perspective and method or methods this individual used to address this issue/crisis.

2) The second paper will be an exploration of a corporate crisis within which you have ministered, tracing the dynamics of crisis theory, examining how your self-care and personal devotional practices shaped your response, and exploring mental health needs represented in the experiences of all.

The specific shape of each student's essays will be determined in conversation with the instructors prior to the end of the intensive. These are due Nov. 1, 2021. 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 12-April 19

Jan 12-18 Introductions

In two or three paragraphs in the discussion forum introduce yourself to the cohort. Be sure to include your current ministry setting and what interested you in this D.Min. topic.

Jan. 19-25 Year 1 syllabus and Introduction to projects

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

Jan. 26-Feb. 8 The Collapse of the Roman Empire: One Response

Read Cahill, *How the Irish Saved Civilization*, and respond to discussion questions.

Zoom discussion: Friday, Feb. 5, 12:00 Noon CT. Link will be posted on the course site.

For background on the Roman Empire see:

<https://www.vox.com/world/2018/6/19/17469176/roman-empire-maps-history-explained>

Feb. 9-22 Self Care and Resilience

Read Bloom, Matt. *Flourishing in Ministry: How to Cultivate Clergy Wellbeing*.

Complete the Workwell inventory and be prepared to discuss your results in light of the text.

Begin a 90 day devotional journal, writing one line (only) daily, six days a week, each based on a daily lectionary text. The line may be a quote, question, insight, conviction, prayer.

Zoom Discussion: Friday, Feb 19, 12:00 Noon CT. Link will be posted on the course site.

Feb. 23-March 8 Discussion of Crisis Theory and Trauma Dynamics

View lecture: Crisis Theory and Trauma Dynamics.

Read Stone, Howard W. *Crisis Counseling*. 3rd ed.

Read Vander Der Kolk, Bessel. *The Body Keeps the Score*.

Respond to discussion questions.

Zoom Discussion: Friday, March 5, 12:00 Noon CT. Link will be posted on the course site.

March 9-22 Introduction to Augustine of Hippo

Watch lectures and begin reading assigned chapters in Peter Brown, *Augustine of Hippo*

March 23-March 29 Augustine and Crisis: Donatism, the Sack of Rome, Pelagianism

Read Peter Brown, *Augustine*, Chapters 19, 25-31

Respond to discussion questions

March 30- April 5 Easter Break

April 6-12 Augustine and Crisis: Donatism, the Sack of Rome, Pelagianism

Read Brown, *Augustine*, Chapters 33, 35, 36

Respond to Discussion Questions

Zoom Discussion: Friday, April 9, 12:00 Noon CT. Link will be posted on the course site.

April 13-26 Augustine: Predestination and the End of Roman Africa

Read Brown, *Augustine*, Chapters 33, 35, 36

Respond to Discussion Questions

Zoom Discussion: Friday, April 23, 12:00 Noon CT. Link will be posted on the course site.

Preload for May Intensive

Prior to the May intensive, you should have read all of the works in the bibliography and completed the written assignments for our May discussions.

May Intensive Schedule, May 12-16

ZOOM links will be posted on the Moodle site.

Wednesday, May 12

Morning—Updates and Augustine’s Response to Crisis

Morning Prayer

- 1) Updates on Life
- 2) The Donatist Controversy

Read Levering, *Theology of Augustine*, Ch. 3 and Augustine, *Homilies on I John*; Sermon 46, “On the Shepherds,” in Augustine, *Sermons II (20-50) on the Old Testament*. Edited by John E. Rotelle. Brooklyn: New City Press, 1990. (reserve)

11:30 Midday Prayer

Afternoon-Augustine and Crisis

- 1) The Pelagian Controversy:

Read Levering, *Theology of Augustine*, Ch. 4; Augustine, *On the Predestination of the Saints*; “Nature and Grace,” in Augustine, *Answer to the Pelagians*. Edited by John E. Rotelle. Brooklyn: New City Press.1997. (reserve)

2:30 Break

- 2) *The City of God*: Introduction

Read F. Van Der Meer, *Augustine the Bishop*, pp. 157-164 (reserve); Andrew Murphy, “Augustine and the Rhetoric of Roman Decline” (reserve); Wilken, *Spirit of Early Christian Thought*, Ch. 8 (reserve); Peter Barnes, “Augustine’s View of History in his City of God” (reserve)

Evening Prayer

Thursday, May 13

Caring for Caregivers

Morning Prayer

1) Caring for Caregivers and First Responders

Read Hunsinger, Deborah van Deusen. *Bearing the Unbearable: Trauma, Gospel, and Pastoral Care*.

Read Skovholt, Thomas and Michelle Trotter-Mathison. *The Resilient Practitioner: Burnout and Compassion, Fatigue Prevention and Self-Care Strategies for the Helping Professions*.

11:30 Midday Prayer

Afternoon- Medical Crises; Pandemic

1) Medical Crises

Read Mottram, Kenneth P. *Caring for Those in Crisis: Facing Ethical Dilemmas with Patients and Families*, Chapters 1, 3, 7, 8

2:30 Break

2) Case Study: Pandemic

Read Brueggemann, Walter. *Virus as a Summons to Faith: Biblical Reflections in a Time of Loss, Grief and Uncertainty*; Wright, N.T. *God and the Pandemic: A Christian Reflection on the Coronavirus and Its Aftermath*.

Evening Prayer

Friday, May 14

Morning- The Sack of Rome and *The City of God*

Morning Prayer

- 1) The Sack of Rome: Augustine's Response

Read Levering, *Theology of Augustine*, Ch. 6; Sermon 344, On Love of God and Love of the World," Sermon 345, "On the Contempt of Temporal Things," and Sermon 397, "On the Sack of the City of Rome," in Augustine, *Sermons III/10 (341-400) on Various Subjects*. Edited by John E. Rotelle. Brooklyn: New City Press, 1995. (reserve); Sermon 296, "On the Birthday of the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul," in Augustine, *Essential Sermons*. Edited by Boniface Ramsey. Hyde Park: New City Press, 2007. (reserve)

- 2) Read Augustine, *City of God*, Books 1 and 14

11:30 Midday Prayer

Afternoon-The City of God (Continued)

- 1) Read Augustine, *City of God*, Books 15 and 19 (Chapters 17-28)

2:30 Break

- 2) Read Augustine, *City of God*, Book 22

Evening Prayer

Saturday, May 15

Gregory the Great: Pastoral Responses to Cultural Collapse

- 1) Read Gregory, *The Book of Pastoral Rule*; Chapter 2, "Why Gregory?" in Oden, *Care of Souls in the Classic Tradition* (reserve)
- 2) Read Gregory the Great, *Commentary on Job* (reserve); Mayeski, "Early Medieval Exegesis" in Hauser and Watson, *History of Biblical Interpretation*, 86-96 (reserve); Kessler, "Gregory the Great: a Figure in Tradition and Transition in Church Exegesis, 135-47 (reserve); Gregory, *Forty Gospel Homilies*, #s 3, 5, 8, 17-20, 23-28, 30-32, 36

11:30 Midday Prayer

Afternoon: Early Middle Ages: Monasticism and Pope Gregory

- 1) Read Madigan, *Medieval Christianity*, Ch. 3 (reserve); Lawrence, *Medieval Monasticism*, Ch. 2 (reserve); Lowrie Daly, *Benedictine Monasticism*, Chs. 1, 5-7 (reserve); Meisel and del Mastro, *Rule of St. Benedict*

2:30 Break

- 2) Read Demacopoulous- *Gregory the Great*; “Gregory the Great,” Chapter 3, in Duffy, *Ten Popes Who Shook the World* (reserve)

Evening Prayer

Sunday, May 16

Morning- The Gift of Sabbath

Morning Prayer

- 1) Read Heschel, Abraham. *The Sabbath*.
- 2) Read Bonhoeffer, Dietrich. *Life Together*, Chapter 3: The Day Alone.

11:30-Midday Prayer

Afternoon- Stewarding Life

- 1) Read Nouwen, Henri. *Life of the Beloved: Spiritual Living in a Secular World*.

2:30 Break

- 2) Read Lowry, Lois. *The Giver*.

Evening Prayer and Goodbyes

September/October Residential Intensive, Sept. 29-Oct. 1

Residential Preload

Prior to arriving for the residency, you should have read all of the works in the bibliography and completed the written assignments for the intensive.

Wednesday, September 29

Morning- Updates and Crisis Training

Updates and Morning Prayer

- 1) Crisis Intervention Case Studies
Review Stone, Howard W. *Crisis Counseling*, chapter 5: "Portraits in Crisis."
- 2) Crisis Intervention Practice

11:30 Midday Prayer

Afternoon—Mental Health Training

- 1) Mental Health First Aid Training, Part I

2:30 Break

- 2) Mental Health First Aid Training, Part II

Evening Prayer

Thursday, September 30

Morning- Grief and Loss, End of Life Crises

Morning Prayer

- 1) Grief and Loss

Read Mitchell, Kenneth R., and Herbert Anderson. *All Our Losses, All Our Grievs: Resources for Pastoral Care*.
- 2) End of Life Crises

Read Evans, Abigail Rian. *Is God Still at the Bedside? The Medical, Ethical, and Pastoral Issues of Death and Dying* and Mottram, Kenneth P. *Caring for Those in Crisis: Facing Ethical Dilemmas with Patients and Families*, Chapter 10

11:30 Midday Prayer

Afternoon- Gregory the Great: Pastoral and Missional Responses to Crisis

- 1) Read Gregory the Great, *Dialogues*, Introduction (v-viii), Book I (6-53), Book III (111-87); Matthew Dal Santo, "The Shadow of Doubt," *Journal of Ecclesiastical History* (reserve)
- 2) Read Mackintosh, *Augustine of Canterbury*, Read chs. 1-2, 8-Afterward; Skim chs. 3-7.

Evening Prayer

Friday, October 1

Morning- Projects

- 1) Discuss papers/ Theological Research Seminar with Christopher Doll
- 2) Discuss papers/ Theological Research Seminar with Christopher Doll

11:30 Midday Prayer

Afternoon

- 1) Self-Care

Read Reserve articles.

- 2) Resilience

Review Skovholt, Thomas and Michelle Trotter-Mathison. *The Resilient Practitioner: Burnout and Compassion, Fatigue Prevention and Self-Care Strategies for the Helping Professions*.

Evening Prayer and Goodbyes

Required Texts:

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

Augustine, *City of God* ISBN: 978-0-140-44894-8

Augustine, *Homilies on the First Epistle of John* ISBN: 978-1-56548-289-0

Augustine, *On the Predestination of the Saints* ISBN: 9781514267387

Bloom, Matt. *Flourishing in Ministry: How to Cultivate Clergy Wellbeing*. New York: Rowman & Littlefield, 2019.

Bonhoeffer, Dietrich. *Life Together*. Any edition. Chapter 3.

Peter Brown, *Augustine of Hippo: A Biography*, New Edition ISBN: 978-0-520-28041-0

Brueggemann, Walter. *Virus as a Summons to Faith: Biblical Reflections in a Time of Loss, Grief and Uncertainty*. Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, 2020.

Thomas Cahill, *How the Irish Saved Civilization* ISBN: 978-0-385-41849-2

George Demacopoulos, *Gregory the Great* ISBN: 978-0-268-02621-9

Evans, Abigail Rian. *Is God Still at the Bedside? The Medical, Ethical, and Pastoral Issues of Death and Dying*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2011.

Gregory the Great, *The Book of Pastoral Rule* ISBN: 978-0881413182

Gregory the Great, *Dialogues* ISBN 978-1635489958

Gregory the Great, *Forty Gospel Homilies* ISBN: 978-0879077235

Heschel, Abraham. *The Sabbath*. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1979.

Hunsinger, Deborah van Deusen. *Bearing the Unbearable: Trauma, Gospel, and Pastoral Care*. Grand Rapids Michigan: William B. Eerdmans Pub. Company, 2015.

Matthew Levering, *The Theology of Augustine* ISBN: 978-0-8010-4848-7

Lowry, Lois. *The Giver*. New York: Houghton, Mifflin, Harcourt, 1993

Robin Mackintosh, *Augustine of Canterbury* ISBN: 978-1-84825-534-0

Anthony Miesel and M.L. del Mastro, *The Rule of St. Benedict* ISBN: 978-0-385-00948-5

- Mitchell, Kenneth R., and Herbert Anderson. *All Our Losses, All Our Grievs: Resources for Pastoral Care*. Philadelphia: Westminster John Knox Press, 1983.
- Mottram, Kenneth P. *Caring for Those in Crisis: Facing Ethical Dilemmas with Patients and Families*. Grand Rapids: Brazos Press, 2007.
- Nouwen, Henri. *Life of the Beloved: Spiritual Living in a Secular World*. New York: Crossroads, 1992.
- Skovholt, Thomas and Michelle Trotter-Mathison. *The Resilient Practitioner: Burnout and Compassion, Fatigue Prevention and Self-Care Strategies for the Helping Professions*. (3rd ed.) New York: Routledge, 2016.
- Stone, Howard W. *Crisis Counseling*. 3rd ed. Minneapolis, Fortress Press, 2009.
- Theology and Worship Ministry Unit (PCUSA), *Book of Common Worship*. Louisville: Westminster/John Knox Press, 2018.
- Vander Der Kolk, Bessel. *The Body Keeps the Score*. New York: Penguin Books, 2015. (Earlier edition is fine also)
- Wright, N.T. *God and the Pandemic: A Christian Reflection on the Coronavirus and Its Aftermath*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2020.

Reserve Readings (found on the course site):

- Augustine, Sermon 46 “On the Shepherds” in *Sermons II*
- Augustine, Sermon 296, “On the Birthday of the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul,” in *Essential Sermons*
- Augustine, Sermon 345, “On the Contempt of Temporal Things,” Sermon 397 “On the Sack of the City of Rome,” in *Sermons III/10*
- Peter Barnes, “Augustine’s View of History in the City of God” in *Reformed Review*
- Lowrie Daly, *Benedictine Monasticism*, chs. 1-5, 7
- Eamon Duffy, *Ten Popes Who Shook the World*, ch. 3
- Gregory the Great, “Commentary on Job,” in *Medieval Theology*
- Kessler, “Gregory the Great: a Figure in Tradition and Transition in Church Exegesis, 135-47 (reserve)
- C. H. Lawrence, *Medieval Monasticism*, ch .2
- Kevin Madigan, *Medieval Christianity*, ch. 3

Mayeski, “Early Medieval Exegesis” in Hauser and Watson, *History of Biblical Interpretation*

Andrew Murphy, “Augustine and the Rhetoric of Roman Decline”

Thomas Oden, *Care of Souls in the Classic Tradition*, ch. 2

Matthew Dal Santo, “The Shadow of Doubt,” in *Journal of Ecclesiastical History*

F. Van Der Meer, *Augustine the Bishop*, pp. 157-164

Robert Wilken, *The Spirit of Early Christian Thought*, ch. 8

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.
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 instructor and the campus ADA compliance officer, Kathleen Gansemer (563-589-3218) 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.