

FE 601: Pastoral Leadership

Prerequisites for All Field Education (FE) Courses:

Completion of first seminary year or permission.

Course is required for Master of Divinity degree.

Assessment: Credit/No Credit

Faculty Information:

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Overview/Course Description:

This integrative practicum focuses on the essential functions of the offices of pastor, chaplain, and ministry leader. Topics covered include worship leadership, celebration of sacraments, wedding and funeral preparation, pastoral visits and observing proper etiquette. Each day of class includes reflection, discussion, and the practice of pastoral functions.

Course Objectives:

1. Practice and facilitate the preparation and leading of worship services, including public prayer and the celebration of sacraments.
2. Describe and practice the conduct of wedding rehearsals and services, funerals, memorials, and graveside services.
3. Practice and develop the art of pastoral calling in homes, hospitals, and other institutional settings.
4. Practice and facilitate the care of people and families at the end of life and in the journey of grief

M.Div Curricular Objectives addressed by this course:

1. Nurture habits and disciplines of study, prayer and reflection that increase students' love of God and neighbor and shapes their personal and professional lives.
2. Lead worship and administer the sacraments with theological integrity and to the glory of God.
3. Engage contemporary theological and ethical issues with insight and humility.
4. Provide pastoral care for individuals and congregations in daily life and moments of transition and crises.

MAAM Curricular Objectives addressed by this course:

1. Articulate and interpret key themes from the Christian scriptures in conversation with contemporary and ecclesial contexts.
2. Articulate and interpret key Christian theological affirmations for Christian discipleship and ecclesial life.
3. Develop pastoral and practical theological methods and strategies for cultivating renewed and transformative ministry contexts.

4. Construct a biblically, theologically, and contextually coherent expression of Christian pastoral identity and practice in life and ministry.
5. Apply key practices for personal, communal, and ministerial flourishing and compose a coherent plan for life and ministry.

Required Texts:

- Post, JoAnn A., *Steward of Stories: Reflecting on Tensions in Daily Discipleship* (Resources Publications, 2014).
- Your denominational Book of Worship (online/downloadable is acceptable).

Course Requirements:

1. Be present in class emotionally, spiritually, and psychically. Because of the short duration of the course, no more than **one absence will be allowed**.
2. Be prepared for class and faithfully participate in all discussions and class presentations
3. Complete all reading and written assignments and presentations on or before due date in a manner appropriate to graduate level work. Please submit written assignments through Moodle. Assignments will include selections from your denominational resources, memorized class presentations, reflections on readings, discussions in class and online, and one 2-3 page final reflection paper.