

MN532 DISCIPLESHIP & TEACHING 2 - FALL 2024

1 Credits: letter grade only

Dr. Susan Forshey - sforshey@dbq.edu, Van Vliet 318

Course Description

This course, **part two of a required two-course series with MN531**, explores the role and practice of the teaching and discipling ministries of the church as graced means of cultivating the character of Christ personally and corporately. An incarnational model of teaching and learning—engaging the whole person—will be emphasized. Students will reflect on their own experiences of these ministries, both as teacher and student; engage texts on teaching, evangelism, contemplative attention, spiritual formation in children and youth, virtue formation, and catechesis; and practice practical theological reflection as they build skills for teaching in various contexts.

Models for learning, recent cognitive research, and instructional design models will be dialogue partners as students select and describe a context of teaching and learning; then design, teach, and evaluate a teaching/learning experience.



Course Objectives By participating fully in this class, students will:

1. Describe and practice a method of contemplative practical theological reflection for a variety of ministry contexts.
2. Define the characteristics and describe the influence of cultural formation, with regards to formation as a disciple of Christ.
3. Describe teaching and learning models, using human development patterns and cognitive research on learning, so as to communicate Gospel truths in ways that meet people in their particular stage of developmental and learning needs;
4. Describe and assess the ways that a particular Christian community approaches the tasks of Christian teaching, discipleship and evangelism;
5. Explore discipleship needs and approaches for children, youth, emerging adults;
6. Explore models of adult catechesis and on-going mystagogy;
7. Explore best practices and develop personal skills relevant to teaching, evangelism, and discipleship.

Master of Divinity Curricular Goals Fulfilled by This Course

- Be formed by, live in, and minister out of Scripture and the historical and theological tradition of the Church.
- Educate and equip individuals and congregations to live and minister joyfully and faithfully as part of their own denomination and the ecumenical church.
- Lead and nurture congregations to promote peace and justice in the public arena and encourage the witness and service of the church in mission to the world.
- Integrate theology and practice in all areas of life and ministry.

MA in Mission & Discipleship Curricular Goals Fulfilled by This Course

- Develop, implement, and assess strategies for missional living in a specific cultural context.
- Develop skills and capacities for faithful and competent Christian witness.

MA in Ministry Goals Fulfilled by This Course

- Articulate and interpret key themes from the Christian scriptures in conversation with contemporary and ecclesial contexts.
- Articulate and interpret key Christian theological affirmations for Christian discipleship and ecclesial life.
- Develop pastoral and practical theological methods and strategies for cultivating renewed and transformative ministry contexts.
- Apply key practices for personal, communal, and ministerial flourishing and compose a coherent plan for life and ministry.

Requirements

1. Online forum posts/residential participation in the class – 20%
2. Learning Experience Planning Sheet – due October 14 – 10%
3. Create a comprehensive lesson plan first draft for teaching a 60-minute learning experience – due October 28 (or 1 week before you teach) – 40%
4. Teach and evaluate your teaching/learning experience – due December 14 -- 30%

Required Course Texts

- Lichtmann, Maria. *The Teacher's Way: Teaching and the Contemplative Life*. Paulist Press, 2005. ISBN 0-8091-4303-8
- Sousa, David A., *How the Brain Learns*, Sixth Edition, Corwin Press, 2016. ISBN-13: 978-1071855362.

Recommended Texts (for those teaching in contexts with children or youth)

- Stonehouse, Catherine. *Joining Children on the Spiritual Journey: Nurturing a Life of Faith*. ISBN 0-8010-5807-4
- Yaconelli, Mark. *Contemplative Youth Ministry: Practicing the Presence of Jesus*. ISBN 0-310-26777-3

Assignment Policy: If an assignment needs to be turned in late, please let me know the situation prior to the due date. My expectation: keep me informed and do the assignment “well enough” for the current circumstances you find yourself in.

Online Materials Policy: Lack of engagement online for three consecutive weeks may lead to failure of the course. Please let me know if an unforeseen circumstance prevents you from participating on-line.

Attendance Policy: Students are building or deepening habits of completion and good communication while in seminary. Please gift your colleagues with your consistent presence online:

- Please contact me immediately if you must be absent due to illness, emergency, and prior unchangeable commitment.
- The **first unexcused absence**--absent for 1 full week online without notifying me through email or via phone call--will receive a warning; the **second unexcused absence** will reduce the course grade by one full grade letter. The **third unexcused absence** may result in failure of the course. **In summary: Just let me know what's going on.**

Fall 2024 (additional short readings may be assigned with notice)

Week	Dates	Reading	Due
1	Sep 3- Sep 9	Sousa, <i>How the Brain Learns</i> , Chapter 1 (15-36);	
2	Sep 10-16	Sousa, Chapter 2	
3	Sep 17-23	Sousa, Chapter 3; Yaconelli & Stonehouse, as necessary.	Refine your topic proposal and post by September 23 in the Moodle forum.
4	Sep 24-30	Sousa, Chapter 7	Write feedback to your colleagues on topic proposals as assigned in the Moodle forum.
5	Oct 1-7	Study Days (No campus classes October 7; campus classes resume October 14)	
6	Oct 8-14	Sousa, Chapter 5	Email <i>Learning Experience Planning Sheet</i> to sforshey@dbq.edu by October 14.
7	Oct 15-21	Sousa, Chapter 6	
8	Oct 22-Oct 28	Sousa, Chapter 8.	Learning Experience First Draft Due (or 1 week before you teach)
9	Oct 29 -Nov 4	Lichtmann, Chapter 1	
10	Nov 5-Nov 11	Lichtmann, Chapter 2	
11	Nov 12-Nov 25	Lichtmann, Chapter 3	
12	Thanksgiving Nov 21	Thanksgiving Break (No campus classes November 18; campus classes resume November 25)	
13	Nov 26 – Dec 2	Lichtmann, Chapter 4	
14	Dec 3-Dec 9	Lichtmann, Chapter 5	Final Draft and Evaluation - December 14

ADA Compliance Statement

Reasonable accommodations are available for students who have a documented disability. Please notify Dr. Forshey during the first week of class of any accommodations needed for the course. Late notification may cause the requested accommodations to be unavailable. Confidentiality of all requests will be maintained. All requested accommodations must be approved through the Academic Success Center, 2nd floor Myers Library (563-589-3262 or ASC@dbq.edu).

Title IX and Jeanne Clery Act Policy Information:

Title IX: The University of Dubuque is committed to providing a learning, working, and living environment that promotes personal integrity, civility, and mutual respect in an environment free of discrimination on the basis of sex; which includes all forms of sexual misconduct. More information may be found at <https://www.dbq.edu/AboutUD/TitleIX/>

Jeanne Clery Act: The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act requires the distribution of an Annual Security Report and Annual Fire Safety Report to all current faculty, staff, and students and notice of its availability to prospective students, faculty, and staff no later than October 1st of each year. More information may be found at <https://www.dbq.edu/SafetySecurity/JeanneCleryAct/>