MN579 Christian Caregiving II: Ministering Wholeness in Christ University of Dubuque Theological Seminary August, 2025

Instructor:

Beth McCaw Van Vliet 326-C BMcCaw@dbq.edu 563-589-3390

Letter Grade

Prerequisite: MN 572 1 Credit

Aug. 4-6, 12-15: 3:15-5:15 Blades 101

This "lab" course builds upon Christian Caregiving I to provide practice in the application of theory and theology in Christian caregiving. Attached to it is training for certification in Mental Health First Aid. Students will engage in review of caregiving skills for acute situations, role plays, case studies, analyses of personal caregiving skills.

M.Div. Curricular Goals

This course helps fulfill the following M.Div. curricular goals:

- 1. Nurture habits and disciplines of study, prayer and reflection that increase love of God and neighbor and shape personal and professional life
- 2. Be formed by, live in, and minister out of scripture, and the historical and theological tradition of the church
- 3. Provide pastoral care for individuals and congregations in daily life and moments of transition and crisis
- 4. Integrate theology and practice in all areas of life and ministry

M.A.M.D. Curricular Goal

This course helps fulfill the following M.A.M.C. curricular goal:

1. Develop skills and capacities for faithful and competent Christian witness.

M.A.M. Curricular Goal

1. 4) Construct a biblically, theologically, and contextually coherent expression of Christian pastoral identity and practice in life and ministry.

Class Objectives:

- 1. to provide practice in caregiving ministry
- 2. to understand and articulate biblical, theological and psychological foundations of care
- 3. to encourage the development of a healthy and faithful ministerial identity (lay or ordained)
- 4. to examine primary contexts and particular areas of need in caregiving
- 5. to strengthen essential communication skills

Evaluation:

- 1. Preparation for lab by review of Caregiving I concepts, and a 2 page, double spaced verbatim to bring to campus for examination in lab. 15%
- 2.Completion of Mental Health First Aid Training class lab—40%. Registration link will be send by July 1; register as p reload begins July 21 to complete the preload module.
- 3. Submission of two in-class worksheets providing feedback for classmates or reflection on personal skills -15%. These are interactive assignments and missing class will yield no credit; plan to stay through the conclusion of class Friday 5:15.
- 5. Case Study Paper per instructions, not identical to Caregiving I case study; 6 pp. 30%

Bibliography

NO NEW READING IS ASSIGNED FOR CAREGIVING II, but review of the themes from Caregiving I will be beneficial. Rather that new reading, you will register for certified Mental Health First Aid training and complete 2-3 hours of self-guided pre-training online. This MUST be completed before arriving on campus in order to be admitted to the in-person/in-class portion of the training.

Required Reading; please note that portions of these texts will be used for Caregiving II:

- Dykstra, Robert, *Images of Pastoral Care: Classic Readings*. St. Louis, MO: Chalice Press, 2005. Sample chapters: Part 1: Chapter 6 and one other chapter of your choice. Part 2: Chapter 11 and one other chapter of your choice. Part 3: Chapters 15 and 17, and one other chapter of your choice.
- Hunsinger, Deborah VanDeusen, *Pray Without Ceasing*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2006. Selections.
- Jones, Serene, *Trauma and Grace: Theology in a Ruptured World.* 2nd ed. Louisville: John Knox Press, 2019. Selections.
- Martin, William, *The Art of Pastoring: Contemplative Reflections* (Vital Faith Resources). Selections.
- Purves, Andrew, *The Crucifixion of Ministry*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2007. Chapters 1-3, though full text is recommended.

E-reserve selections available as pdf's or links on the course site, including:

- Brous, Sharon. *The Amen Effect: Ancient Wisdom to Mend our Broken Hearts and World.* New York: Avery, 2024.
- McMinn, Mark, and Timothy Phillips, *Care for the Soul*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2001. Selections from essays by Hunsinger, Seibold, Kimball.
- Van der Kolk, Bessel. *The Body Keeps the Score: Brain, Mind and Body in the Healing of Trauma*. New York: Penguin Books, 2014.