

COURSE OF STUDY SCHOOL
GARRETT-EVANGELICAL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
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YEAR ONE
CS 123 E Formation & Discipleship

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I am delighted to answer any questions or help you in any way.

Course Goals

This course provides a framework for theologically grounding practices of personal and congregational spiritual formation and discipleship.

You will:

- Explore the practices of spiritual formation for implementation in your life and in the life of your congregation.
- Reflect theologically upon the practices of spiritual formation with a Wesleyan understanding of the means of grace.
- Formulate a Rule of Life to support your ministry and your growth as a member of the body of Christ.
- Discern your call to the ministry in your current context.
- Determine ways in which you will assist your congregation to discern their gifts and graces for ministry.
- Develop a system for implementing small groups in your congregation in a Wesleyan context.

Required Texts and Readings

Heath, Elaine A. *Five Means of Grace: Experience God's Love the Wesleyan Way*. (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2017).

Heath, Elaine A. & Scott T. Kisker, *Longing for Spring: A New Vision for Wesleyan Community* (Eugene,OR: Cascade Books, 2011).

Seymour, Jack. *Teaching the Way of Jesus*. (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2014).

Wolpert, Daniel. *Leading a Life with God: The Practice of Spiritual Leadership*. (Nashville: Upper Room Books, 2006).

The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church. (Nashville, Abingdon Press, 2012.)
Read paragraphs 102,103,104,105.

Supplementary Texts

Stone, Howard W. and Duke, James O. *How to Think Theologically*. (Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, 2013).

Thompson, Marjorie. *Soul Feast: An Invitation to the Christian Spiritual Life*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2014.

Wimberly, Anne and Evelyn Park. *In Search of Wisdom: Faith Formation in the Black Church*. (Nashville: Abingdon, 2002).

Guidelines for Written Assignments

Format and Procedure: All papers are to have **1” margins** and are to be **double-spaced** in **Times New Roman, 12pt font**.

Written and Class Presentation assignments will be graded based on the following criteria:

- You accomplish what the assignment asks of you.
- Your papers offers demonstrate clarity and focus. They will demonstrate careful preparation and will be free of grammatical and spelling errors.
- You demonstrate clarity of expression, evidence of self-knowledge and a depth of understanding of the theological framework you incorporate.

Written Assignments are DUE on JUNE 15, 2019.

Copies of assignments are to be sent to **bjavore@yahoo.com** with copy to **coshomework@garrett.edu**

Grading

This course incorporates experience and reflection so your contributions to your group at GETS will be a vital part of our time together. It is my hope that you will find our work to be of great benefit to your ministry and that will be inspired and renewed through this course.

You must complete each assignment for this course to achieve a grade of C or above.

A Each assignment is written and/or presented with careful attention to the parameters provided.

All assignments demonstrate theological reflection, attention to detail and are informed by the texts required for the course.

B Work is done with good effort but but requires more attention to the above criteria.

C Work is adequately completed but did not demonstrate careful attention to the parameters provided and was lacking in theological reflection and incorporation of required texts.

D Work was barely adequate in all regards and did not meet course requirements.

F Work was inadequate and presented no attention to the course requirements.

Grades will be determined for Formation and Discipleship:

50% Coursework submitted by **June 15, 2019.**

Coursework at GETS

15% Scripture Text Presentation

- 15% Spiritual Practice Presentation
- 10% Rule of Life
- 10% Class Participation

Moodle Assignments for CS 123

Each course at COS requires 20 contact hours. Fifteen of those contact hours take place on campus in Evanston. Five Contact hours are completed in on-line electronic sessions prior to arriving in Evanston. The assignments in this section are designed to satisfy the five contact hours.

1.1. Course Required Readings

Read each of the assigned texts prior to your arrival on campus. Provide a **single page response** for each text.

For the selections from the Book of Discipline, select the reading that **most inspires** your practice of ministry.

These response papers are designed to enhance spiritual formation and discipleship in your ministry. **For each text** highlight one or several of the most significant sections from the reading that have impacted you and that you may wish to incorporate in your ministry. Include your reflections in your response.

1.2 Who Is Jesus in Your Life? [Paper - 3 pages in length.]

This theological reflection incorporates your understanding of who Jesus is and how you have experienced Jesus in your life. Use **scriptural references, personal reflections and theological insights** that reveal your relationship with Jesus. **Incorporate materials from the assigned texts** that you have found insightful.

1.3 Reflection on Living Out Your Call to the Ministry [Paper 5 pages in length.]

Provide a theological reflection on your call to ministry. How were you called? How are you living out your call in your current ministry? Where is your passion for ministry centered? What gifts and graces do you discern in yourself that grounds your ministry? What are the most significant joys and challenges in your ministry setting? How does your personal life engage with your ministry?

Written Assignment Due on June 15, 2019

1.4 Creative Scripture Lesson Presentation. Each Local Pastor will present a twenty minute Bible Study Lesson on Discipleship to the class. You are to present the study directly to the class. Carefully read each text and discern the one that allows you to effectively express its theological theme or emphasis. You may choose to incorporate film clips, storytelling, poetry, art, music, drama, cooking, or any other creative means that you wish to use to illustrate your study. Consider how this text informs you and how this text, through your teaching can lead to the possibility of transformation with the group.

Prepare a Single Page Framework for this Presentation prior to your arrival on campus.

The Framework will include the text selected, an opening and closing section for your presentation and how you will teach this text to the group.

The Calling of Matthew:

Matthew 9:9-13

The Great Commission	Matthew 28: 18-20
Salt, Light and Fulfillment	Matthew 5:13-20
The Canaanite Woman	Matthew 15: 21-28
The Call of the Disciples	Mark 1:14-20
The Rich Young Ruler	Mark 10:17-31
The Call of the Disciples	Mark 3:13-19
The Wise and Foolish Builders	Luke 6:46-49
The Cost of Following Jesus	Luke 9: 57-62
Baptism and Genealogy	Luke 3:23-37
Temptations of Jesus	Luke 4:1-13
Searching for the Lost	Luke 15:8-10
The Anointing of Jesus	John 12:1-11
Jesus Washes Disciples Feet	John 13:1-17
The Vine and the Branches	John 15:1-17
Equipping the Church	Ephesians 4:1-16
Paul's Longing for the Church	Romans 1:8-17
Service as Sacrificial Love	Romans 12:1-8
Sons and Daughters of God	Galatians 3:26-4:7
Gifts of the Spirit	I Corinthians 12:1-11
God's Love for Us	I John 4:7-21

Campus Assignments

*I am happy to help you with any questions you might have regarding your assignments.
Contact me at bjavore@yahoo.com or meet with me following our group meetings.*

I. Spiritual Practice Presentation

After the completion of your readings, you will notice the rich variety of spiritual practices that are presented in the texts. Select one that has inspired you to explore and incorporate it in your life. Prepare to share it with the group. Provide a **single page framework** to serve as a guide for group members to include in their spiritual practices.

II. Creative Scripture Lesson Presentation

On the first day of class you will select a time for your presentation which should be about twenty minutes in length. Using the Guidelines provided in C.1.4 design your lesson with a clear beginning that establishes your theological theme. Incorporate your creative expression of the text and conclude with a time for input from the group. This input can be a creative activity, a journaling exercise or a discussion. Use the most effective means you can to provide this lesson.

III. Rule of Life

Design a Rule of Life using the spiritual disciplines and practices you have encountered through your readings and through class experiences. Include missional and outreach experiences that you are currently engaged with or plan to incorporate in your rule. You may begin your work prior to our time together but at every group meeting you will encounter additional materials that you may wish to include. Remember to integrate activities that promote your physical well-being in the Rule. We will dedicate our Rules of Life on the final day of our time together so

have it completed for the final class period. It is best to keep the Rule of Life at no more than two pages in length to make it accessible for your daily use.

Our Time Together

Day I

Welcome

Opening Prayer and Spiritual Practice

Establishing a Sacred Space for Small Group Exploration

Introduction to Spiritual Formation and the Rule of Life

Sharing Call Stories and Discerning Ways in which God continues to call us.

Closing Prayer and Spiritual Practice

Day II

Opening Prayer and Spiritual Practice

Continue Sharing Call Stories

Creatively Seeking God

Exploring the Wesleyan Understanding of Grace through Creativity

Closing Prayer and Spiritual Practice

Day III

Opening Prayer and Spiritual Practice

Bible Study Presentations

Discipleship and the Group Experience

Closing Prayer and Spiritual Practice

Day IV

Opening Prayer and Spiritual Practice

Bible Study Presentations

Rule of Life Explorations

Closing Prayer and Spiritual Practice

Day V

Opening Prayer and Spiritual Practice

Dedication of the Rule of Life

The Love Feast ~ A Methodist Experience

Closing Prayer and Spiritual Practice

Sending Forth