

Perkins Regional Course of Study School 2020  
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## **323 Congregational Care**

### **Course Description**

This course introduces students to practices of congregational care and the pastor's responsibility in caregiving.

### **Learning Goals**

Students will be able to:

1. Implement and oversee appropriate types of care in varieties of settings, including prisons, hospitals, nursing facilities, and homes.
2. Organize caring ministries within the congregation.
3. Discern and implement appropriate boundaries, knowing when and to whom to refer people, and when and when not to share information.
4. Reflect on and practice skills of sensitive caregiving, using role play and analysis case studies.

### **Required Texts**

1. Melissa Kelley, *Grief: Contemporary Theory and the Practice of Ministry* ISBN:9780800696610
2. Frederick Schmidt, *The Dave Test: A Raw Look at Real Faith in Hard Times* ISBN:9781426755934
3. Karen Scheib, *Pastoral Care: Telling the Stories of Our Lives* ISBN:9781426766473
4. John Wesley, *On Visiting the Sick* (Sermon 98) Available free on the web at: <https://www.umcmission.org/Find-Resources/John-Wesley-Sermons/Sermon-98-On-Visiting-the-Sick>.

All students must choose ONE of the following texts to read and be prepared to discuss in class.

1. Ed Wimberly, *African American Pastoral Care and Counseling: Oppression and Empowerment* ISBN: 9780829816815
2. Jeanne Hoeft, Shannon Jung, Joretta Marshall, *Practicing Care in Rural Congregations and Communities* ISBN:9780800699543

### **Pre-Class Assignments**

1. **Read John Wesley's Sermon on Visiting the Sick** Write a one-page paper identifying at least three key points that Wesley highlights in *On Visiting the Sick* and discuss their implications for the ministry of pastoral care.

2. **Read Frederick Schmidt's *Dave Test: A Raw Look at Real Faith in Hard Times*.** Each chapter poses a question. Choose 3 chapters to write a one-page response to each of the three chosen questions. Describe how the chapter either informed your pastoral care or challenged your thinking. This assignment should total 3 pages.
3. **Read Melissa Kelley's *Grief: Contemporary Theory and the Practice of Ministry*.** Write a three-page paper answering the following questions:  
Page 93 question 4  
Page 118 question 2  
Page 141 question 4
4. **Prepare a Resource Sheet identifying 10 professional resources** that are appropriate to your geographic area to whom you may need to refer a parishioner presently or in the future. (List can include, but not limited to: physicians, first responders, mental health professionals, support groups, homeless shelters, domestic violence shelters) For each entry include: Name of the Agency, contact Person: Address and Contact Information; Range of Services Offered; Referral Requirements; Fees, if appropriate. Establish contact with at least five of the resources. On the Resource Sheet annotate an entry with notes from your encounter (call, visit, email).

Percentage of the total of all pre-class assignments for the final grade 20 percent.

Assignments will be evaluated using the following criteria:

- a) Fulfillment of the requirements of the assignments
- b) Personal creativity and thinking
- c) Meeting the deadline established by Perkins COSS (remember that there will be sanctions against late, misplaced, or lost work)
- d) Grammar, syntax, and style where appropriate (clarity, precision and formatting)

When responding to questions from an author, questions do not have to be typed out. Simply note the author and question number.

All papers must include page numbers as well as student's last name in the header or footer.

### **Encouragement Statement**

"In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, 4 for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, 5 because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel 6 that has come to you. Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God." Colossians 1:3-6

I am looking forward to seeing you in class!

### **Standard Inclusion of Material for All Pre-Class Assignments**

Starting with COSS 2020, we will add the following policies and information to each pre-class assignments document as a standard component of each pre-class assignment document

1. Deadline for submission of pre-class assignments for Perkins 2020 Course of Study School:
  - a. **October 19, 2020**
2. Pre-class assignment completion policy  
Pre-class assignments for the first session are due October 19,2020 Instructors have discretion to lower a student’s grade for the pre-class assignments and their overall course grade for late submission of pre-class assignments. Submission of all pre-class assignments by the first day of class is required to attend the class. Students who do not have pre-class assignments completed by the first day of class will be required to withdraw from the course without a refund.
3. Students are encouraged to contact their instructor if they have any questions about the pre-class assignments for their courses. They should also contact their instructor if they expect to submit their pre-class assignments following the submission deadline.
4. All pre-class assignments will be submitted by uploading the Microsoft Word documents to Perkins Course of Study School’s learning management system (LMS), called “Canvas.” Video tutorials on how to upload documents to Canvas are available on Perkins COSS web site. Perkins COSS staff are available to assist students learn to upload their pre-class assignments to Canvas.
5. COSS Writing Style  
All Perkins Course of Study School courses use the same style of writing, known as the Chicago/Turabian style of writing. Basic examples of citations for written assignments are available for reference in the COSS Student Policies and on the COSS web site.

All students are encouraged to purchase the following book that is the basis for submitting written work using the required formats for citations/footnotes.

Turabian, Kate L. *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, Ninth Edition: Chicago Style for Students and Researchers (Chicago Guides to Writing, Editing, and Publishing) Ninth Edition

**ISBN-10:** 022643057X

**ISBN-13:** 978-0226430577