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Course Objectives:  
This course introduces students to practices of congregational care and the pastor’s responsibility in caregiving. 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 Reading:
1. Melissa Kelley, *Grief: Contemporary Theory and the Practice of Ministry*  
2. Frederick Schmidt, *The Dave Test: A Raw Look at Real Faith in Hard Times*  
4. John Wesley, *On Visiting the Sick* (Sermon 98) Available free on the web at:  

Student Choice  
All students must choose ONE of the following texts and be prepared to discuss in class.  
1. Ed Wimberly, *African American Pastoral Care and Counseling: Oppression and Empowerment*  
2. Jeanne Hoeft, Shannon Jung, Joretta Marshall, *Practicing Care in Rural Congregations and Communities*

Supplementary Textbooks:  
1. Howard Clinebell, *Basic Types of Pastoral Care and Counseling*  
2. Larry Webb, *Crisis Counseling in the Congregation*  
3. Simon Wiesenthal, *The Sunflower: On the Possibilities and Limits of Forgiveness*
Pre-Class Assignments

1. **Read John Wesley’s Sermon on Visiting the Sick** Write a 1-page paper identifying at least 3 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 2 chapters to write a one page response to both of the 2 chosen questions. Describe how the chapter either informed your pastoral care or challenged your thinking. This assignment should total 2 pages.

3. **Student Choice Assignment**
   Each class participant is asked to read either Ed Wimberly’s *African American Pastoral Care and Counseling* or Jeanne Hoeft’s *Practicing Care in Rural Congregations and Communities*.

   For the book that you have selected, write a 2-page paper answering these questions:
   1) Identify one highlight, quote, or concept from the book that offer insights helpful for pastors.
   2) What quote or concept does the author present that is challenging or that you struggle with?
   3) What does the author contribute to the ministry of pastoral care that is applicable across ministry settings?

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).

Written Assignments

Pre-class assignments should be uploaded to Canvas by **October 19, 2019**. All assignments are in paragraph/essay form unless otherwise noted.

Assignment will count for 20% of your overall course grade and will be evaluated on the following criteria:

a) fulfillment of the requirements of the assignment;

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); and
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 and well as student’s last name in the header or footer.
All work must be properly cited.
Use 12 point, Times New Roman font.