

**Integration of Theology and Psychology:
Ministering to heart, soul and mind.
MS 3XI3; TH 3XI3
McMaster Divinity College
June 2-6, 2014**

**E. Janet Warren
e_janet_warren@yahoo.ca**

Course Description:

Christians are called to love God and others with all their heart, mind and soul. But what does this mean on a practical level? This course explores areas of integration between theology and psychology, with an emphasis on applications to pastoral counselling. Using a biblical framework of creation, fall and redemption, we will discuss issues such as human nature, self-esteem, sexuality, sin, guilt, forgiveness, reconciliation and grief, and address questions such as: What is the relationship between mind and soul? What is inner healing? How do we show grace to the sinner? How do we help people die with dignity? How do we discern spiritual problems? How do we walk alongside those who suffer? How do we minister in community?

Specializations:

Pastoral Care and Counselling
Pastoral Studies
Christian Worldview

Course Objectives:

Knowing

- To learn how theology and psychology can be well integrated
- To learn how a Christian worldview informs counselling
- To increase theological knowledge (anthropology, hamartiology, soteriology, ecclesiology)
- To increase psychological knowledge (development, sexuality, psychopathology, neuroscience, guilt, shame, grief, relationships)

Being

- To mature in personal spirituality and discernment
- To develop and grow in confidence as a pastoral counselor

Doing

- To learn pastoral counselling skills
- To develop research, critical thinking and evaluation skills

Required Texts:

Cortez, Marc. *Theological Anthropology: A Guide for the Perplexed*. London: T&T Clark, 2010.
Johnson, Eric (ed.) *Psychology and Christianity: Five Views*. Downers Grove: IVP, 2010.
Payne, Leanne. *The Healing Presence: Curing the Soul through Union with Christ*. Grand Rapids: Hamewith/Baker, 1995.

Recommended Text:

McMinn, Mark. *Sin and Grace in Christian Counseling*. Grand Rapids: IVP, 2008.

** Given the time constraints of a one-week class, it is strongly recommended that you read these texts prior to the beginning of the course.

Evaluation:

Class participation (attendance and role playing exercise): 10%
Book Review: 20% Psychology Reflection Paper: 15%
Theology Reflection Paper: 15% Research Paper: 40%

Description of Assignments (more information will be given in class):

Book Review: 2000 words

Due: July 4

Choose a popular level book (one your congregants might read) related to one of the course topics. Evaluate and critique this book with respect to whether it may help or harm the average church goer.

Psychology Reflection Paper: 1000 words

Due: June 13

Write a personal reflection on your experience in class, especially your role-playing participation. How has it contributed to your spiritual growth? How may it influence your ministry? What might you do differently?

Theology Reflection Paper: 1000 words

Due: June 20

Write a personal reflection on a topic discussed in class that has challenged your theological views. What are points of agreement/disagreement/confusion? How may this affect your ministry?

Research paper: 4000 words

Due: July 4

Choose a topic related to one of the course subjects that is of interest to you given your specialization. Research it in more depth with respect to biblical, theological and psychological background, and write an academic essay on the topic. Be sure to include content from the text books as well as consider how it relates to the integration of psychology and theology.

**Final day of submission: July 4

1% per day will be deducted for late submissions

Class Schedule (tentative):

- June 2, 11:30-12: Introduction and overview
1-4: definitions, worldview, approaches to the integration of theology and psychology
- June 3, 9-12: Creation – the divine image and implications for human anthropology;
neuroscience and psychology
1-4: gender, sexuality, beginning and end of life issues
- June 4, 9-11:30: Fall – the effects of sin on the individual and the community
11:30-12: chapel
1-4: trauma, illness, evil and evil spirits, relationship issues, counselling the sinner
- June 5, 9-12: Redemption – forgiveness and grace in counselling; prayer healing
1-4: spirit-led counselling, discernment and discipleship, community relationships
- June 6, 9-12: Review, tips and tools for counselling

Course Administration:

A. Textbook Purchase

All required textbooks for this class are available from the College's book service, READ On Bookstore, Room 145, McMaster Divinity College. Texts may be purchased on the first day of class. For advance purchase, you may contact READ On Bookstore, 304 The East Mall, Suite 100, Etobicoke, ON M9C 5K1: phone 416.620.2934; fax 416.622.2308; email books@readon.ca. Other book services may also carry the texts.

B. Academic Honesty

Academic dishonesty is a serious offence that may take any number of forms, including plagiarism, the submission of work that is not one's own or for which previous credit has been obtained, and/or unauthorized collaboration with other students. Academic dishonesty can result in severe consequences, e.g., failure of the assignment, failure of the course, a notation on one's academic transcript, and/or suspension or expulsion from the College.

Students are responsible for understanding what constitutes academic dishonesty. Please refer to the Divinity College Statement on Academic Honesty ~

<http://www.mcmasterdivinity.ca/programs/rules-regulations>

C. Gender Inclusive Language

McMaster Divinity College uses inclusive language for human beings in worship services, student written materials, and all of its publications. In reference to biblical texts, the integrity of the original expressions and the names of God should be respected. The NRSV and TNIV are examples of the use of inclusive language for human beings. It is expected that inclusive language will be used in chapel services and all MDC assignments.

D. Style

All stylistic considerations (including but not limited to questions of formatting, footnotes, and bibliographic references) must conform to the McMaster Divinity College Style Guidelines for Essays and Theses

<http://www.mcmasterdivinity.ca/sites/default/files/documents/MDCStyleGuideMarch0413.pdf>

Failure to observe appropriate form will result in grade reductions.

Disclaimer

This syllabus is the property of the instructor and is prepared with currently available information. The instructor reserves the right to make changes and revisions up to and including the first day of class.

Select Bibliography:

- Anderson, Neil T., Terry E. Zuehlke and Julianne S. Zuehlke. *Christ-Centered Therapy: The Practical Integration of Theology and Psychology*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2000.
- Benner, David. *Strategic Pastoral Counselling: A Short Term Structured Approach*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2003.
- Clinebell, Howard. *Counseling for Spiritually Empowered Wholeness*. New York: Haworth Pastoral Press, 1995.
- Cooper, Terry D. *Sin, Pride and Self-Acceptance: The Problem of Identity in Psychology and Theology*. Downers Grove: IVP Academic, 2003.
- Evans, Abigail. *Is God still at the Bedside?* Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2011.
- Green, Joel B. and Stuart L. Palmer (eds.) *In Search of the Soul: Four Views of the Mind-Body Problem*. Downers Grove: IVP, 2005.
- Holeman, Virginia Todd. *Theology for Better Counseling*. Downers Grove: IVP, 2012.
- Jeeves, Malcolm and Warren S. Brown. *Neuroscience, Psychology, and Religion*. West Conshocken, PA: Templeton Foundation Press, 2009.
- Jones, Serene. *Trauma and Grace*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2009.
- Kübler-Ross, Elisabeth. *On Death and Dying*. New York: McMillan, 1969.
- Lester, Andrew D. *The Angry Christian*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2003.
- MacNutt, Francis. *Healing*. Notre Dame: Ava Maria Press, 1974.
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- Maloney, H. Newton and David W. Augsburger. *Christian Counseling: An Introduction*. Nashville: Abingdon, 2007.
- May, Gerald. *Will and Spirit*. San Francisco: Harper Collins, 1982.
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- McMinn, Mark. *Psychology, Theology and Spirituality*. Wheaton: Tyndale House Publishers, 1996.
- McMinn, Mark and Timothy Phillips. *Care for the Soul*. Downers Grove: IVP, 2001.
- McMinn, Mark and Clark Campbell. *Integrative Psychotherapy*. Downers Grove: IVP, 2007.

- Park, Andrew Sung. *From Hurt to Healing: A Theology of the Wounded*. Nashville: Abingdon, 2004.
- Payne, Leanne. *The Broken Image*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 1981.
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- Seamands, David. *Redeeming the Past*. Colorado Springs: David C. Cook, 1981, 2002.
- Seybold, Kevin S. *Explorations in Neuroscience, Psychology and Religion*. Aldershot: Ashgate, 2007.
- Shults, F. LeRon and Steven J. Sandage. *Transforming Spirituality*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2006.
- Shuster, Marguerite. *Power, Pathology, Paradox: The Dynamics of Evil and Good*. Grand Rapids: Academie, Zondervan, 1987.
- Stanford, Matthew S. *The Biology of Sin: Grace, Hope and Healing for Those who Feel Trapped*. Downers Grove: IVP Academic, 2010.
- Swetland, Kenneth. *Facing Messy Stuff in the Church*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2004.
- Tan, Siang Yang. *Counseling and Psychotherapy*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2011.
- Thompson, Curt. *Anatomy of the Soul*. Carrolton, TX: Tyndale/Saltriver, 2010.
- Van Leeuwen, Mary Stewart. *The Person in Psychology*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1985.
_____. *Gender and Grace*. Downers Grove: IVP, 1990.
- Wimberly, Edward. *Prayer In Pastoral Counseling: Suffering, Healing, and Discernment*. John Knox Press, 1990.
- Witherington, Ben. *The Rest of Life: Rest, Play, Eating, Studying, Sex from a Kingdom Perspective*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2012.
- Worthington, Everett L. *Forgiveness and Reconciling*. Downers Grove: IVP, 2003.