

RGP3688HS
INTEGRATION FOR MINISTRY II:
PRACTICUM AND SEMINAR

Course Number: RGP3688Hs

Course Name: INTEGRATION FOR MINISTRY II: PRACTICUM AND SEMINAR

Professor: Philip Shano, S.J. Office: Rm. 206

Preferred e-mail: pshano@gmail.com. Alternatively, use pshano@jesuits.ca or philip.shano@utoronto.ca.

Phone calls: 416-922-5474, ext 250 (Note: Fr. Shano is hearing-impaired. This is especially problematic on the phone. Please use e-mail.)

Meetings: The class meets Tuesdays, from 4:30-6:30 p.m., beginning on January 12, 2016.

Prerequisites: Integration for Ministry I (RGP3687HF or equivalent)

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Through the development of the skill of theological reflection, the participants learn to reflect on their personal, ministerial, service and work experiences to discern the call of transformation and integration in the midst of the Christian tradition, specifically the Ignatian tradition, and our cultural realities. This theological reflection process takes place in a peer faith setting and involves a close reading of three recent works on Christian spirituality.

READINGS:

The primary sources for the course are:

Parker J. Palmer, *A Hidden Wholeness: The Journey Toward An Undivided Life*, 2004.

Ronald Rolheiser, *The Holy Longing: The Search for A Christian Spirituality*, 1998.

Ronald Rolheiser, *Sacred Fire: A Vision For A Deeper Human and Christian Maturity*, 2014.

Supplementary readings will be distributed on occasion.

TOPICS:

The following topics will be considered:

1. Christian Community
2. Christian Leadership

3. Basics of Christian Spirituality for the 21st Century
4. Different prayer styles: Lectio divina, contemplation, prayer of imagination, etc.
5. Personal integration

METHODOLOGY AND EVALUATION:

The following teaching methods and formats will be used: lectures, seminar discussions, and small faith sharing groups. From time to time, we may use film and guided prayer experiences.

The following written and oral assignments and exercises will demonstrate students' achievement of the intended learning outcomes:

- Four 1-2 page papers, based on the assigned reading (dates and topics for the papers are yours to decide, so long as they engage with the material from the authors)
- Spiritual conversation in small groups
- One in-class presentation (to be explained at the session on 26 January 2016)

The course grade is *pass/fail* and will be calculated on the following basis: attendance at classes, the four 1-2 page reflection papers, the in-class presentation, and participation.

Presentations:

Participants in Integration for Ministry II are required to offer one in-class presentation.

Topics: The choice of topic is up to you. It can be one of the themes in the course or any other theme you choose. Perhaps there is a favourite author that you think we could all benefit from, someone whose writings/thinking deals with the kind of material we've been covering. Whatever you choose to cover should deal in some way with theological reflection. If in doubt, check with Fr. Shano.

Length: We will devote forty or so minutes to this part of the weekly session. That includes a twenty-minute presentation from you, followed by a group conversation about your topic. It's not required, but it will be helpful if you end your presentation with a couple of questions for our time of conversation.

Method: You may use any medium you desire. The room is equipped with audiovisual equipment if you plan to use that. Or, a verbal presentation is sufficient.

Dates: Dates for the presentation will be determined once the course is underway and we know how many students are registered.

COURSE ITINERARY:

Sessions: The class will meet on Tuesday from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m., on the following Tuesdays: January 12, 19 and 26; February 2, 9 and 23 (Reading Week means there is no session on February 16); March 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29; and April 5.

COURSE OUTCOMES:

Students successfully completing this course will be able to demonstrate the following learning outcomes.

(A) IN RESPECT OF GENERAL ACADEMIC SKILLS:

- Basic ability to read content and note theological themes of assigned authors
- Competency in utilizing a contemplative theological reflection process
- Proficiency in reading theological articles
- Ability to write reflection papers and offer an in-class presentation

(B) IN RESPECT OF THE UNDERSTANDING OF THE CONTENT OF ONE OR MORE THEOLOGICAL DISCIPLINES

- Understanding of a method of contemplative theological reflection
- Capacity to do theological reflection grounded in human experience
- Ability to critique the contextual reality of experience
- Competency in seeking the presence of God in experience and contextual reality
- Discerning the spiritual integration required for faith-based decisions

(C) IN RESPECT OF PERSONAL AND SPIRITUAL FORMATION

- Increased commitment to contemplation, prayer, meditation and discernment
- Increased value for personal journaling on prayer and reflection on experiences
- Openness to learning a variety of prayer forms
- Capacity to listen contemplatively to another's experience of life and faith
- Willingness to be challenged from reflection to action
- Capacity to share faith with peers
- Openness to ongoing spiritual transformation

(D) IN RESPECT OF MINISTERIAL AND PUBLIC LEADERSHIP

- Capacity to reflect on life and ministry for call to conversion

- Discernment of call to ministry/service as a person for others
- Ability to articulate a vision of self in ministry/service for others
- Respectful participation in faith sharing in small groups
- Reverent participation in community rituals
- Leadership in small group and large group participation
- Leadership in the formation of Christian community through trust and faith