PTP1602 Introduction to Pastoral Care  
PC707GBTS (for Husson University M.S. in Pastoral Counseling) 
Instructor: Professor Ron Baard, Bangor Theological Seminary
3 credits  Fall, 2012  Tuesdays  1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Bangor Campus of BTS (in Peabody Hall at Husson University)
Office Hours by Appointment  
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Introduction:
This course will introduce students to the ministry of caring, which is the work of a community of faith. Mutual openness to one another and to the presence and will of God are central features of caring communities. Particular attention will be given to listening and communication skills and a life span approach to issues of care and counseling. Connections between theology and practice will be developed through film and discussion, verbatims and theological reflection, and in class role-plays.

Course Outcomes: In this course participants will:
1. Deepen their understanding of the role of the pastor in the ministries of pastoral care.
2. Understand and articulate the importance of a faith community approach to issues of pastoral care.
3. Understand and articulate the importance of a lifespan approach to pastoral care and counseling.
4. Present one verbatim with theological reflection to colleagues in the class.
5. Engage others of differing views with honesty and respect, while demonstrating excellence in class preparation and participation.

BTS M.Div. Program Goals addressed by this course
Knowledge of:
• The cultural, social, and ethical realities in which the churches live and respond both globally and locally.
• The arts of ministry
Ability to:
• Develop and express mature personal faith, and with sensitivity and skill, teach the traditions of the church, lead worship and preach, and engage in pastoral care.
• Integrate the elements of the Christian tradition in a theology and practice of ministry; act with moral sensitivity and in accord with professional ethics, and advocate for compassion and justice in personal, congregational, and community settings.
Opportunities for:
• Developing one’s own ecclesiastical identity within an ecumenical ethos, identifying one’s strengths and limits, and learning how to engage in ongoing professional development.
Course Requirements:
Please note: points will be deducted for required work that is turned in late.

1. A five-page (double space) critical book review of any book of your choice from the recommended reading list. Due at beginning of class on Week VI. (20%)
2. Verbatim and Theological Reflection for Class Presentation due at class X or XI (as assigned). (20%)
3. On or before the beginning of Week VIII, a one-page outline of your final paper or project for the class is due. (10%)
4. Final Paper or Project. (30%) (See options #1 and #2 below) Due one week from last class.
5. Active engagement with all readings and full participation with discussions in class. (20%)

Options for Final Paper or Project
Option #1: A research paper on any aspect of pastoral care ministry that you wish to pursue at a deeper level. Length: 15-20 pages (double spaced) with proper footnotes or endnotes and bibliography (absolutely no more than 20 pages). Your research should include significant reading beyond the requirements of the course syllabus. Your topic must be approved by the instructor and should be defined in such a way that it is manageable for the time you have to research and write and still remain within the 15-20-page limit.

Option #2: Instead of a paper, submit a Final Project expressing key pastoral care theme(s) of the class which is a creative work of art of some type: Poetry/Painting/Song/Drama. This work of art must be submitted along with an “artist’s statement” (5-7 pages) which interprets your creative work to a wider audience e.g. peers in the classroom, and/or other interested persons in the wider BTS community.

PLAGIARISM: You are reminded that using others’ words or ideas without attribution and citation constitutes plagiarism, an act of intellectual dishonesty that may result in failing the course. See the Student Guide for a complete description of plagiarism.

Required Readings - (In order of use across the semester)
1) In Living Color: An Intercultural Approach to Pastoral Care and Counseling by Emmanuel Lartey. (Jessica Kingsley, 2003) ISBN 978-1843107507 $22.03


**Grading for the Course:**
*Please note: points will be deducted for required work that is turned in late.*

- Class Participation: 20%
- Book Review: 20%
- Outline of Final Paper/Project: 10%
- Verbatim and Theological Reflection: 20%
- Final Paper or Project: 30%

A grade of Incomplete will be given only in unusual circumstances, e.g., illness, death in the family, change in job responsibilities. Procedures outlined in the BTS Student Guide must be followed in order to request an Incomplete Contract. Completion of the course requirements does not assure you of an A in the course. The quality of your work will determine the quality of your grade.

**Class Calendar:**

**Week I:**
- Opening Prayer by Professor
- Introduction to the Course – Contemporary perspectives on pastoral care
- Use of terms: pastoral care, pastoral counseling, and spiritual direction
- Overview of Syllabus; assignment of opening prayer times
- Sharing of participants concerns and interests in the course
- Building the Classroom Covenant
- Discussion of Verbatim Method/Format for verbatim presentation

**Week II:**
- Read: Lartey (entire book)
- Opening Prayer
Presentation and Discussion on the pastor's role in pastoral care

The devotional life of the pastor, self-care approaches
Small groups

**Week III:** Read: Creasy – Dean (assigned sections)
Opening Prayer
Presentation and discussion on youth ministry
Role-play and theological reflection

**Week IV:** Read: Richardson (assigned sections)
Opening Prayer
Present choice of book for book review session - see week VI
Presentation and Discussion - Pastoral ministry with couples and families – part one
Small groups: Focus on final paper/project choices

**Week V:** Read: Richardson (assigned sections)
Opening Prayer
Presentation and Discussion - Pastoral ministry with couples and families – part two
Role-play and theological reflection

**Week VI:** Read and prepare: *Book for book review*

**Due:** 5 page critical book review (see course requirements above)
Opening Prayer
Presentation of book reviews and class discussion

**Week VII:** Read: Rohr (entire book)
Opening Prayer
Presentation and discussion – Aging issues and pastoral ministry
Role-play and theological reflection

**Week VIII:** Read: Kelley (assigned sections)

**Due:** One-page outline of your final paper or project. (See course requirements above)
Opening Prayer
Film and Discussion/Theological Reflection on grief and bereavement:
“The Way” by Emilio Estevez

**Week IX:** Read: May (entire book)
Opening Prayer
Presentation and Discussion: Pastoral ministry with addiction and recovery
Small groups

**Week X:** Student Presentations – Verbatims
Read: Reuther (assigned sections)
Opening Prayer

**Due: Verbatim**
Verbatims will be processed in the small group setting in a confidential manner.

Group One: ___________________, _______________________, ________________

Group Two: ___________________, _______________________, ________________

Large Group Discussion of Verbatim Themes
Biblical and theological reflection

**Week XI:** Student Presentations - Verbatims
Read: Reuther (assigned sections)
Opening Prayer ________________

**Due: Verbatim**
Verbatims will be processed in the small group setting in a confidential manner.

Group One: ___________________, _______________________, ________________

Group Two: ___________________, _______________________, ________________

Large Group Discussion of Verbatim Themes
Biblical and theological reflection

**Week XII:**
Opening Prayer ________________
Presentation and Discussion - Ministry and mental health concerns

Review and discussion of major themes of the class.
Tying up “loose ends,” course evaluation, group closure.

**Due:** Final Papers/Projects are due one week from the last class.

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**Recommended Readings: (For the Reserve Shelf in Bangor)**

**Pastoral Care – General/Reference/Overview**


**Dictionary of Pastoral Care and Counseling: Expanded Edition with CD-Rom**  

**A Primer in Pastoral Care** by Jeanne Stevenson-Moessner. (Fortress, 2005)  
ISBN 978-0800637606 $19.00

**Created by God: Pastoral Care for All God’s People** by Peggy Way. (Chalice, 2005)  


**The Pastoral Care Case: Learning About Care in Congregations** by Donald Capps and Gene Fowler. (Chalice, 2001) ISBN 978-1608994489 $18.17

**Cultivating Wholeness: A Guide to Care and Counseling in Faith Communities** by Margaret Kornfeld. (Continuum, 2000) ISBN 978-0826412324 $63.93

**Youth Ministry**


**Couples and Families and Congregations**
Perspectives on Congregational Leadership: Applying Systems Thinking for Effective Leadership by Israel Galindo (2009, Alban Institute)
ISBN 978-09715765-7-5  $25.94


Ministry with the Aging


Grief and Bereavement


Ministry and Mental Health Concerns


(Note: All retail book prices are taken from Amazon.com)