

FE600D – Essential Functions of the Pastor

Wednesday, 10:40-12:15 pm.

Spring 2010

Faculty Information

Rev. Karen Nelson

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New Horizons UMC

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Overview/Description

This is a practicum that focuses on the essential functions of the pastoral office including: worship leadership, officiating the sacraments, conducting funerals, making visits and observing proper etiquette. Each week we will reflect on, discuss and practice various pastoral practices.

MDiv. Curriculum Goals:

This course fulfills the following objectives of the stated M. Div curricular goals:

- To nurture habits and disciplines of study and prayer that increase student's love of God.
- To lead worship and administer the sacraments with theological integrity.
- To prepare students to conduct and preside over wedding rehearsals and services, the sacraments of baptisms and the Lords Supper, funerals, memorials and graveside services.
- To engage contemporary ethical issues with insight and humility.
- To provide pastoral care to individuals and congregations in the midst of daily life, transitions and crises.

Course Objectives:

By the completion of the course the student will have obtained knowledge and practice in:

- The preparation and leading of worship services.
- The administration of the sacraments of the church.
- The conduct of wedding rehearsals and services, funerals, memorials, and graveside services.
- The art of pastoral calling in homes, hospital, and other institutional setting.
- The care of people and families at the end of life and in the journey of grief.
- The carrying of an appropriate pastoral presence through proper dress and etiquette.

Required Text

Peterson, Eugene H., *The Contemplative Pastor*

Course Requirements

- Weekly attendance and participation in class discussions and practicum assignments including memorization work as assigned.
- Completion of assigned reading.
- Submission of one reflection paper. Reflect on class discussions, practice and readings. You might include changes you will make in your ministry because of things we have done in class. What are your passions for the vocation of ministry? What are your concerns?
- Those auditing must complete all assignments for the course.

Grading

Credit/No Credit only. More than two (2) unexcused absences will result in a 'No Credit' for the course.

Assessment

Students will be assessed by their participation in class discussions, completion of the practicum assignments and their written work.

Course Administrative Information (House Rules)

- If you must miss a class session, you are to call the instructor before the class begins, otherwise you will be counted as absent. Two (2) absences will result in 'No Credit' for the course.
- Plagiarism is not allowed (see Student Handbook).
- The Inclusive Language Policy will be observed in class and in the assignments (see the UDTS Catalog).
- The syllabus is subject to change during the semester.
- The Academic Support Center is located in the library. The staff there is equipped to provide academic assistance. It is the student's responsibility to seek their help as it is needed.
- ADA Statement: A student who has a disability that might affect his or her performance in this course should consult with the instructor and the campus ADA compliance office, (in confidence) by the second class session. UD's ADA compliance committee is co-chaired by **Susanna Robey**, Academic Support Center (ext. 3218).