

University of Dubuque Theological Seminary
MN 575 Alcohol and the People of God
J-Term Course
January 4, 2010

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course is designed to familiarize participants with the magnitude of alcohol consumption and alcohol addiction in the United States, the nature of alcohol addiction, and the role of ministers in helping those who are addicted, and their families and friends.

REQUIREMENTS

1. Attendance in all classes.
2. Attending at least one AA meeting during the course.
3. At the conclusion of the course, submitting a paper on what you have learned during the course.

TEXTBOOKS

Required

Alcoholics Anonymous ("The Big Book"), Fourth Edition, New York: Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc., 2001.

Alcohol Use and Abuse, The Social and Health Effects, Reports and Recommendations by the Presbyterian Church (USA), Louisville, 1986. (This Report will be given to each participant.)

Highly Recommended

Thirst: God and the Alcoholic Experience, James B. Nelson, Louisville, Westminster John Knox Press, 2004.

Addiction and Grace: Love and Spirituality in the Healing of Addictions, San Francisco, Harper Collins, 1988.

Of Interest

My Name is Bill: Bill Wilson –His Life and the Creation of Alcoholics Anonymous, Susan Cheever, New York, Simon and Schuster, 2004.

The Serenity Prayer, Life and Politics in Times of Peace and War, Elizabeth Sifton, New York, W.W. Norton and Company, 2003. (Elizabeth Sifton is the daughter of Reinhold Niebuhr, the author of the Serenity Prayer.)

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

- 1) Late policy – due to the interactive nature of a residential intensive course, deadlines for assigned items must be met to avoid falling behind. Exceptions to this policy may be made for serious unforeseen circumstances with *prior* permission from the instructor; Exceptions will not be made after the deadline has been missed.
- 2) Plagiarism – please consult the current UDTS Student Handbook for definitions and consequences.
- 3) Inclusive Language – every effort will be made to use non-gender specific language, as this concern influences our interpretation of the Bible.
- 4) Subject to Change Clause – this syllabus, course calendar, and other attending documents are subject to change during the semester.