

## **Personal Formation and Development (PT 501)**

Canadian Theological Seminary

WINTERIM, February 17-21, 2004

Instructor: Dr. Peter Ralph

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### **Course Objectives**

This course will provide students with the means to assess their person formation and growth to date. It will require them to plan steps of growth that will guide them in making choices either while in seminary or while entering ministry. It will use insights from the Christian spiritual tradition, from psychology in the form of the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator. It will provide a structure for evaluating personal vocational development and sexuality as these bear on preparing for and applying ministry.

### **Textbooks and Pre-Course Reading**

Diane Schoemperlen's *Our Lady Of The Lost And Found* is required. A list of recommended books may be found in the library at CTS. Students may begin reading for the course prior to Feb. 17. Diane Schoemperlen's *Our Lady Of The Lost And Found* will prove to be quite out of the ordinary. If further reading is desired, a recommended reading list may be found in the CTS library.

### **Assignments**

Students will complete five papers of five pages length. Each paper will discuss one of the following five required topics.

*My Personal Formation and My Spirituality*

*My Personal Formation and My Temperament*

*My Personal Formation and My Sexuality*

*My Personal Formation and My Vocation*

*My Personal Formation and Future Choices*

Students will complete 1125 pages of reading including the course text and any choices from the recommended reading list. Substitute reading material may be negotiated with the instructor. Students will submit a three-page report of each book read. The report will include a brief analysis of the content of the reading, and an assessment of the relevance of the material to the student's present of future formation.

Students will write a short (8-10 pages) narrative (story), which will describe the kind of person their formation has made them in terms of the class material. It will describe a preferred or predictable future for them through the medium of narrative. In class discussion will offer guidelines as to the use of character, plot, description and device to accomplish this goal.

### **Due Dates**

All assignments are due eight weeks after the last class meeting, in this case April 16, 2004. Please note that extensions of due dates will not be granted by the instructor or by the Extension Education Office under any circumstances. **Graduating Students Please Note!** Your due date is April 2 because your grades must be in by April 16.

## Attendance Policy

Students are expected to attend all class sessions for their entire duration. A modular course demands full attention and participation.

## Evaluation

Five short papers 10% each	50%
Reading and reports	25%
Personal narrative	25%
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	100%

## Paper Format

Seminary papers are to follow the guidelines of *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses and Dissertations*, by Kate L. Turabian (6<sup>th</sup> edition) and/or *The Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (Fourth edition). The instructor will indicate where these guidelines may be waived or substituted. Students will identify, on the first or cover page of all assignments, the course name, the instructor's name and their own name (student ID numbers are optional). Students will refrain from using graphics of any kind in preparing papers. Papers will be double-spaced, no more and no less. All type will be 12 point.

## Course Outline

Tuesday: Spirituality, Theology and Personal Development

Wednesday: Personality Type and Religious Leadership

Thursday: Sexuality and Development

Friday: Vocation and Growth

Saturday: Summation and Integration

## Extension Education Policies

**Extension Requests:** Extensions are no longer granted by either the instructor or the Extension Education Office. Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise "due to circumstances beyond the student's control." Requests for course extensions must be submitted in writing to the Academic Dean two weeks prior to the due date as written in the syllabus.

**Submission of Assignments & Exams:** Students should submit their completed assignments and/or exams in hard copy form directly to the Extension Education Office and NOT to the Instructor.

## Returning Assignments to Students:

- Instructors will return graded assignments to the Extension Education office.
- Students who will be on-campus at the time that graded assignments are returned will have those assignments delivered via the on-campus mail system.
- Other students, including those who have registered only for modular courses, and those who do not plan to return the following semester, must submit a self-addressed, stamped envelope (*of sufficient size and postage*), along with their completed assignments, to the Extension Education office.
- Papers that are unclaimed and/or undeliverable will be held for one year from the due date, then destroyed.

**Extension Education Contact Information:**

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