



WINTER 2013

PT 501

Personal Formation and Development

Course Description

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.

Class Schedules

Wednesdays, January 9-April 3, excepting January 30, the Seminary Retreat.
6:30 pm – 9:30 pm. Wednesday February 13 class will begin at 6:30 pm as usual and at 7:30 pm will reconvene in the Campus Athletic Centre for the lectureship by Dr. Mark Boda, “Reason and Revelation: Sages in Debate.” Students will write a one page reflection on the implications for their formation of the lecture material and will come prepared to discuss this in class the following week.

Note: To facilitate informal interaction the professor for the course will be present at 5:30 pm for meal times on Wednesday evenings before class in the Seminary Commons.

Instructor Information

Dr. Peter Ralph pralph@ambrose.edu

Office L2079

Students wishing to speak with the professor may arrange an appointment via email.

Drop in meetings are subject to availability.

Additional Information

Students have paid a fee which enables them to take the MBTI electronically, receive a professionally generated description of their type and its application, and establish their profile in the Ministry Placement Office for future use. The MBTI profile will also be used in PT710 and will become part of the student’s eportfolio. Students’ email addresses will be collected on the first day of class in order to begin the process of completing the MBTI. Students should receive the MBTI test instrument in the first

week of class and must complete it before the end of the second week. **A significant portion of this course cannot be completed without your MBTI results.**

Advisory regarding Ambrose email addresses.

Every student is assigned an Ambrose email address at the start of the semester. The address is *first initial, last name@my.ambrose.edu*. Students must activate this address through the IT department. Correspondence relating to this course may take place through this address. Students should activate and then test the address to ensure that it is not blocked by students' software packages or servers. It is the student's responsibility to do this before the end of the first day of class. Regular checking of this address is also the student's responsibility. Students using free email such as hotmail should note that external servers regularly block traffic to and from these addresses. Relying on them while at Ambrose may be problematic.

Paper submission

Papers will be submitted and grades and comments returned electronically. Students will identify, on the first or cover page of all assignments, the course name, the instructor's name and their own name, along with their student ID number. If the submission is a book report, a precise bibliographic notation and the number of pages read must be identified on the title page.

Paper Format

Seminary papers are to follow the guidelines of *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses and Dissertations*, by Kate L. Turabian and/or *The Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*. Current editions to be used in each case. The instructor will indicate where these guidelines may be waived or substituted. Students will refrain from using graphics of any kind in preparing papers. Papers will be double-spaced, no more and no less, whether between lines or between paragraphs. All type will be 12 point.

Incomplete work

Failure to submit any one piece of required work for the course will result in an "Incomplete" grade. Such grades are automatically converted to a "Fail" at the end of the semester by the Registrar's office.

Textbooks

None

Attendance

Students are expected to attend all class sessions for their duration. Unavoidable absences must be made up by additional work.

Course Outline

Personal Formation, Spirituality and Vocation
Personal Formation and Temperament
Personal Formation and Sexuality

Expected Learning Outcomes

Students will be able to:

- evaluate their spiritual formation in light of Christian Trinitarian faith
- evaluate their spiritual formation in the light of classic spiritual cultures.
- evaluate the development of their sense of vocation to Christian ministry
- assess their sexual development in light of vocation to Christian ministry
- assess their personal formation in terms of the Myers Briggs Type Indicator

Course Requirements

Reading and Reports

Students will complete 1000 pages of reading from the recommended reading list. Relevant substitute reading material may be negotiated with the instructor. Students will submit a (minimum) three-page report of each book read. The report will include a brief (one page maximum) analysis of the content of the reading, and an assessment (at least two pages) of the relevance of the material to the student's present and future formation as discussed in class. The ability to integrate across topics will be a key to success in this report.

Students will choose readings that correspond to class topics, and will read as added learning for their assigned papers. Reports of this reading will be prepared in separate documents and submitted at the same time as the papers to which they relate are submitted.

Assigned Papers

Paper 1. Personal Formation, my Spirituality and my Vocation (will assess the student's formation, including the categories discussed in class, and their assessment of calling to God, the world and ministry: Please note, a "personal testimony" alone will not fulfill the requirements of this paper.)

Paper 2. Personal Formation and my Temperament (will assess the student's present and future development in terms of the Myers Briggs Type Indicator.)

Paper 3. Personal Formation and my Sexuality (will assess personal and ministry-related issues in sexuality according to class discussions) with an Integration (will integrate course material across the three areas of class concentration, as well as reading, previous learning and experience, and will close with short-term and long-term plans for future choices based on this integration.)

Length of Papers

Normally papers 1 and 2 extend to ten pages. More than fifteen require some editing by the student before submission. The final paper should be approximately fifteen pages long.

Due Dates

Paper and reading report #1, Spirituality and Vocation: week of Jan.28-Feb.3.

Paper and reading report #2, Type and the MBTI: week of Mar.4-10.

Paper and reading report #3, Sexuality and Integration: week of Apr.1-7.

Students will identify, on the first or cover page of all assignments, the course name, the instructor's name and their own name, along with their student ID number. If the submission is a book report, a precise bibliographic notation and the number of pages read must be identified on the title page.

Examinations:

None

Grading: The available letters for course grades are as follows:

<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Description</u>
A+	
A	Excellent
A-	
B+	
B	Good
B-	
C+	
C	Satisfactory
C-	
D+	
D	Minimal Pass
F	Failure

Important Notes/Dates:

The last day to enter a course without permission and /or voluntary withdrawal from a course without financial penalty is Friday, January 18, 2013 (winter semester)

The last day to voluntarily withdraw from a course or change to audit without academic penalty is Friday, March 15, 2013 (Winter semester)

Please note that final grades will be available on your student portal. Printed grade sheets are no longer mailed out.

NOTE

It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies as stated in the Student Handbook and Academic Calendar. Personal information, that is information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual, may be collected as a requirement as part of taking this class. Any information collected will only be used and disclosed for the purpose for which the collection was intended. For further information contact the Privacy Compliance Officer at privacy@ambrose.edu.

Although extensions to coursework in the semester are at the discretion of the instructor, students may not turn in coursework for evaluation after the last day of the scheduled final examination period unless they have received permission for a "Course Extension" from the Registrar's Office. Requests for course extensions or alternative examination time must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by the appropriate deadline (as listed in the Academic Calendar <http://www.ambrose.edu/publications/academiccalendar>). Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise "due to circumstances beyond the student's control."

We are committed to fostering personal integrity and will not overlook breaches of integrity such as plagiarism and cheating. Plagiarism and cheating can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the university college. Students are expected to be familiar with the policies in the current Academic Calendar and the Student Handbook that deal with plagiarism, cheating, and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean.

Students are advised to retain this syllabus for their records.

Course changes, including adding or dropping a course, may be made during the Registration Revision period, as outlined in the Calendar of Events. All course changes must be recorded on a Registration form, available from the Office of the Registrar. Due to circumstances such as class size, prerequisites or academic policy, the submission of a Registration form does not guarantee that a course will be added or removed from a student's registration. Students may change the designation of any class from credit to audit up to the date specified in the Calendar of Events, although students are not entitled to a tuition adjustment or refund after the Registration Revision period.

Withdrawal from courses after the Registration Revision period will not be eligible for tuition refund. Students intending to withdraw from some or all of their courses must submit a completed Registration form to the Registrar's office. The dates by which students may voluntarily withdraw from a course without penalty are listed in the Calendar of Events. A grade of 'W' will be recorded on the student's transcript for any withdrawals from courses made after the end of the Registration Revision period and before the Withdrawal Deadline (also listed in the Calendar of Events). 'W' grades are not included in grade point average calculations. A limit on the number of courses from which Academic a student is permitted to withdraw may be imposed. Students wishing to withdraw from a course, but who fail to do so by the applicable date, will receive the grade earned in accordance with the course syllabus. A student obliged to withdraw from a course after the Withdrawal Deadline because of health or other reasons may apply to the Registrar for special consideration.

An appeal for change of grade on any course work must be made to the course instructor within one week of receiving notification of the grade. An appeal for change of final grade must be submitted to the Office of the Registrar in writing within 30 days of receiving notification of the final grade, providing the basis for appeal. A review fee of \$50.00 must accompany the appeal to review final grades. If the appeal is sustained, the fee will be refunded.

Academic dishonesty is taken seriously at Ambrose University College as it undermines our academic standards and affects the integrity of each member of our learning community. Any attempt to obtain credit for academic work through fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest means is academic dishonesty. Plagiarism involves presenting someone else's ideas, words, or work as one's own. Plagiarism is fraud and theft, but plagiarism can also occur by accident when a student fails or forgets to give credit to another person's ideas or words. Plagiarism and cheating can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from Ambrose. Students are expected to be familiar with the policy statements in the current academic calendar and the student handbook that deal with plagiarism, cheating, and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean and become part of the student's permanent record.

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Larson, Lyle and Walter Goltz. Clergy Families In Canada: An Initial Report.

Lee, Cameron and Jack Balswick. Life In A Glass House: The Minister's Family In Its Unique Social Context.

O'Brien, Gene. Couples Praying: A Special Intimacy.

Richardson, Ron. *Becoming a Healthier Pastor: Family Systems Theory and The Pastor's Own Family.*

Shelley, Marshall. *The Healthy Hectic Home: Raising A Family In The Midst Of Ministry.*

Desert Wisdom

Nomura, Yushi. *Desert Wisdom: Sayings From The Desert Fathers.*

Intimacy

Brennan, M. Bridget. *Claiming our Deepest Desires: the Power of an Intimate Marriage*

Brenton, Myron. *Friendship*

Burr, R. *Develop Your Secret Closet of Prayer.*

Covington, Stephanie. *Leaving the Enchanted Forest: The Path from Relationship Addiction to Intimacy*

DeMoss, Robert G. *Sex and the Single Person: Dealing Honestly with the Need for Intimacy*

Diamond, Jed. *Looking for Love in all the Wrong Places: Overcoming Romantic and Sexual Addictions*

Ferder, Fran and John Heagle. *Your Sexual Self: Pathway to Intimacy.*

Fischer, Kathleen R. *Promises to keep: Developing the Skills of Marriage*
Groom, Nancy. *Risking Intimacy.*

Harvey, Donald R. *The Spiritually Intimate Marriage*

Hershey, Terry. *Intimacy: Where Do I go to Find Love?*

Joy, Donald M. *Re-bonding: Preventing and Restoring Damaged Relationships*

Keyes, Ken. *A Conscious Person's Guide to Relationships*

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Sexuality

Allender, Dan. The Wounded Heart.

Every Man's Battle: Winning The War on Sexual Temptation.

Balswick, Jack. Men At the Crossroad

Authentic Human Sexuality.

The Family

Bell, Rob Sex God: Exploring the Endless Connections Between Sexuality and Spirituality.

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