

**PT501-E Personal Formation & Development  
Winter 2006**

Instructor:  
Peter Ralph, ThM, DMin

February 2 – 4  
March 2 – 4  
2006

Weekend #1		Weekend #2	
Thursday, February 2	7 – 10pm	Thursday, March 2	7 – 10pm
Friday, February 3	7 – 10pm	Friday, March 3	7 – 10pm
Saturday, February 4	9 – 4pm	Saturday, March 4	9 – 4pm

Taste of Seminary Students attend Weekend #1.

**Class Location:**  
CTS – Toronto  
30 Carrier Drive  
Suite 204  
Toronto, Ontario

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course provides the opportunity to explore students' self-understanding in the areas of vocation, spirituality, sexuality, and personality. Attention will be given both to traditions of Christian faith and practice and to contemporary analytical instruments.

**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 and theological tradition, and 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.

## ASSIGNMENTS

1. Students will complete four papers of five pages length. Each paper will discuss one of the following 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*

2. Students will complete 900 pages of reading from the recommended reading list. These selections will correspond to the main topics of the course as reflected in the paper topics above. Substitute reading material may be negotiated with the instructor. Students requesting alternate reading will demonstrate that the reading is consistent with course topics and intent. Students will submit a 3 – 5 page report of each book read. The report will include a brief analysis of the content of the reading, and will contain a significant section describing the student's assessment of the impact of the material on the student's present and future formation.
3. Students will write a ten page integration paper describing their own formation for ministry to date. This paper will express a comprehensive view of the student's present identity as person, Christian and minister. Students will use insights gained through reading, class instruction, previous and subsequent learning about themselves, God, the church, ministry and the world. The paper will include concrete proposals for action to enhance students' personal formation and development. We'll use lunch time on Saturday to discuss this assignment.

## NEW ASSIGNMENTS 2006

1. In keeping with the recommendations of the accrediting bodies for CTS – Toronto in Ontario this course will include a web-based interaction between students and with the instructor. The methodology for this interaction will be presented in class. Students will plan 6 -10 hours of time between the weekends of the course in order to complete this assignment. Students require an account with AUC in order to access the site for this assignment. CTS – Toronto staff can assist in this process.

Beginning February 5 through February 22, students will post their short paper on vocation on the website, will read various postings of their classmates on the same topic, will write a one-paragraph response to these papers and post the response to the site. The instructor will also participate by reading and responding in similar fashion.

2. Students will receive by e-mail an electronic version of the **Myers-Briggs Type Indicator** instrument following the first class weekend. It is imperative that each student completes the instrument before February 13, 2006. A detailed interpretation of the student's response to the MBTI will be professionally prepared and delivered in hard copy to each student in the second class weekend. Following the course, students will receive their MBTI profile in PDF format.

## DUE DATES

Short paper assignments on spirituality, vocation, and sexuality are due at the beginning of class on March 2, 2006. Short paper assignments on temperament are due on April 4, 2006. All other assignments (book reports, integration paper) are due 8 weeks after the last class meeting, in this case March, 4, 2006. Please note that extension of due dates will not be granted by the instructor or by CTS – Toronto, except in serious medical problems or family tragedy.

## ATTENDANCE POLICY

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

## EVALUATION

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Four Short Papers @ 10% each	40%
Website Interaction	10%
Reading & Reports	25%
Integrative Paper	25%

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## SUBMISSION/RETURN OF ASSIGNMENTS

Students will submit completed assignments in hard copy form to the instructor at:

Peter Ralph  
Canadian Theological Seminary  
630, 833-4<sup>th</sup> Avenue SW  
Calgary, AB  
T2P 3T5

Or electronically at:

[pralph@auc-nuc.ca](mailto:pralph@auc-nuc.ca)

Students are responsible to retain both an electronic and paper copy of all their assignments sent to the instructor. The instructor will return all assignments after grading to the Administrative Assistant for CTS – Toronto who then will contact students for the return of their papers. Assignments that are unclaimed and/or undeliverable will be held for one year from the due date, and then destroyed.

## 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 (4<sup>th</sup> 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).

Please note:

Papers should be double-spaced (no more, no less) with no more than double-spacing between paragraphs, using 12-point text only. Please avoid the use of graphics or embellishments of any kind.

#### **PROTECTION OF PERSONAL INFORMATION**

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@auc-nuc.ca](mailto:privacy@auc-nuc.ca).