



INSTITUTE FOR PRISON MINISTRIES



CM101: Dimensions of Correctional Ministry

Course Instructor: Dr. Karen Swanson

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Guests Lecturers: Dr. Vince Bacote, Dr. Harold Dean Trulear, Pastor Jon Kelly

Course Description

This course introduces the two dimensions of Christian correctional ministry, by examining Christian ministry and criminal justice. Topics focus on integrating Biblical truth and criminal justice along with issues and ministry with those who are justice-involved, corrections staff, victims and their families.

Course Objectives

- A. Upon completion of the course, students should be able to do the following:
- B. Describe the dimensions and facets of Christian ministry and criminal justice.
- C. Determine a biblically based theology of mission with the incarcerated and ministry program that serve as a personal foundation for theory and praxis.
- D. Identify corrections programming principles: systems approach, criminogenic risks, needs and strengths, evidence-based practices, trauma informed care, gender-responsive strategies.
- E. Develop self-awareness through discovering your spiritual gifts and strengths, and discern your ministry calling.

Course Texts

The following textbooks are required for this course.

StrengthsFinder 2.0 by Tom Rath (**MUST PURCHASE A NEW BOOK**)

The Little Book of Restorative Justice by Howard Zehr

Arrested by Lennie Spitale (from www.cmcainternational.com)

A Pathway to Healing (This will be sent FREE with the purchase of *Arrested*. **DO NOT** order it.)

Academic Honesty

As students of the Institute for Prison Ministries of Wheaton College, we hold to high scholarly standards, a commitment to pursuing truth, a recognition that our actions affect others in the community and a desire to follow Jesus' example of integrity and truthfulness. Academic honesty is essential for establishing and maintaining the trust that is fundamental to the educational process. Examples of academic dishonesty, which will result in disciplinary action, include, but are not limited to . . .

Cheating: using unauthorized material or unauthorized help from another person in work or examination submitted for academic credit.

Fabrication: inventing information, citations, reporting participation in activities never done, or inflating the effort put in and/or the effect of various self-reported activities.

Facilitating academic dishonesty: providing unauthorized material or information to another person.

Plagiarism: representing the work of another as one's own without acknowledging the source. If the plagiarism is deemed unintentional, the student will have an opportunity to resubmit the work with a grade penalty.

Misrepresentation: giving the impression of having done more significant work than you actually did (e.g., padding references with works not consulted, doing less than your fair share of a group project, or recycling one's own work).

Disciplinary responses will be individualized to reflect the maturity of the student, the severity of the infraction and any evolving patterns.

Course Requirements

This course consists of two virtual meetings, readings, mentor meetings, lecture videos, quizzes, group discussions, and assignments. The information regarding these course components and expectations is as follows:

Virtual Meetings. The two virtual meetings are **Monday, October 4, 2021 at 6:00 pm (Central) and November 1, 2021 at 6:00 pm (Central)**. Links and information will be emailed to you.

Readings. Reading assignments should be read in the module in which they are assigned.

Mentor Meetings Report. Meet with your mentor in-person or by phone two times to share what you are learning and hearing from God. This mentor does not have to have correctional ministry experience. Submit your Mentor Meetings Report Form by **December 1, 2021**.

Lecture/Videos. Each module will include lecture/videos from the instructor or field experts. Each video has a transcript.

Quizzes. Each module includes a 25-question, multiple choice quiz over the readings and lectures for that module.

Discussion Forums. Discussion questions are provided in each module. The Discussion Forum for each week begins on Monday at 12:01 a.m. Central Standard Time (CST), and your first post is required by Wednesday each week. All posts must be submitted prior to the following Sunday at 11:59 p.m. CST. You are required **to post an initial response and respond to two other posts** (total of 24 for the course). The following rubric will be used to assess your Discussion Forum posts.

Competency	Criteria Met	Criteria Not Met
Substantive Thoughts Expressed	Ideas and positions explained clearly. Refers back to course content when appropriate. Reply posts extends discussion.	Ideas are not clearly expressed. No reference to course content. Reply post (Yes, I agree) does not provide support for responses.
Length	Initial post is 100-150 words Reply posts are 50-60 words	Initial post less than 100 words Reply post less than 50 words
Completeness	Answers the question completely.	Some parts of the question are not addressed.

Assignments.

- **Scavenger Hunt.** Complete the Scavenger Hunt by matching websites and descriptions. Email completed assignment to karen.swanson@wheaton.edu **DUE: October 10, 2021**
- **Self-Awareness.** Take the Spiritual Gifts Inventory <http://www.buildingchurch.net/g2s.htm> OR use [3.2a Spiritual Gifts Survey](#) Take the *StrengthsFinder 2.0* assessment (website and ID code are located at the back of your book and can only be used by one person). Share your spiritual gifts, signature themes (strengths) with your mentor or someone to confirm findings. DUE:
- **Christian Correctional Ministry Philosophy.** Use the template provided. Do not quote full Scriptures but include references that support your point. Written work is expected to be college-level quality, spell checked, and proofread. Failure to do so will affect the assignment grade. Put your name and Assignment # at the top right of the first page – no title page needed. **DUE: December 1, 2021**

Due Dates. Each week of the course begins on Monday at 12:01 a.m. CST and ends on Sunday at 11:59 p.m. CST. Unless noted otherwise, all quizzes and assignments are due at 11:59 p.m. CST on the Sunday of the week in which the assignment is due. For example, if an assignment is due during Module 2, you must complete and submit it by 11:59 p.m. CST on Sunday, the last day of Week 2. It is at your professor's discretion to penalize late work. *Contact the professor prior to the deadline if there is a problem.*

Course Grading

All coursework must be completed and turned in to your online professor within five days of the end of Week Eight (8). Please note that it is at your online professor's discretion to penalize late work. Grades will be issued within two weeks of the end of the course.

Your grade for the course will be determined as follows:

Discussion Forum and Virtual Meetings	30% of Course Grade
Assignments	30% of Course Grade
Quizzes	30% of Course Grade
Mentor Meetings	10% of Course Grade

Grading scale will be as follows:

A	92-100	A-	90-91	B+	87-89
B	84-86	B-	80-81	C+	77-79
C	72-76	C-	70-71	D+	67-69
D	62-66	D-	60-61	F	0-59

Weekly Topics and Assignments

Module 1: Foundations of Christian Correctional Ministry

DUE: October 10

VIRTUAL MEETING	Monday, October 4th at 6:00 pm Central 1.1 Welcome and Syllabus, Mentor Report Form, Christian Correctional Ministry Philosophy Template
LISTEN	1.2 Christian Correctional Ministry 1.3 Mass Incarceration

	1.4 Restorative Justice: Overview
READ	1.1 Syllabus 1.2 Christian Correctional Ministry 1.3 Mass Incarceration Restorative Justice Ch. 1
DISCUSS	<i>What are your thoughts (reflection) on the Christian Correctional Ministry lecture/reading? OR How should Christians respond to mass incarceration?</i>
QUIZ	Quiz 1 on readings and lectures (open notes) (20 points)
ASSIGNMENT	<i>Scavenger Hunt (15 points).</i> Complete the Scavenger Hunt assignment and email it to karen.swanson@wheaton.edu by October 10th

Module 2: Christian View

DUE: OCTOBER 17

LISTEN	2.1 Biblical View 2.2 Pastor Views of Prison Ministry 2.3 Pastor John Kelly Testimony (video) 2.4 The Role of the Church, Dr. Dean Trulear (video)
READ	2.1 Biblical View 2.2 Pastor Views of Prison Ministry 2.3 Kelly Testimony Transcript 2.4 The Role of the Church, Dr. Dean Trulear 2.5 GC2 Call to Action
DISCUSS	<i>Respond or critique the Pastor Views of Prison Ministry, Kelly or Trulear's talk</i>
QUIZ	Quiz 2 on readings and lectures (open notes) (25 points)

Module 3: Self-Awareness and Ministry Calling

DUE: OCTOBER 24

LISTEN	3.1 Self-Awareness and Calling 3.2 Spiritual Gifts 3.3 StrengthsFinder, Part I 3.4 StrengthsFinder, Part II
READ	3.1 Self-Awareness and Calling 3.2 Spiritual Gifts 3.2a Spiritual Gifts Survey 3.3 Strengths StrengthsFinder 2.0 (p. 1-33 and your signature themes)
DISCUSS	<i>Share one of your spiritual gifts and one strength theme and how you apply it to ministry.</i>
QUIZ	Quiz 3 on readings and lectures (open notes) (25 points)
ASSIGNMENT	<i>Self-Awareness (50 points).</i> Take the Spiritual Gifts Inventory http://www.buildingchurch.net/g2s.htm OR use 3.2a Spiritual Gifts Survey Take the StrengthsFinder 2.0 assessment (website and ID code are located at the back of your book and can only be used by one person). Share your results you're your mentor to confirm your findings. Email your top 5 strengths and top 3 spiritual gifts to Karen.swanson@wheaton.edu

Module 4: Criminal Justice**DUE: October 31**

LISTEN	4.1 Criminal Justice System 4.2 Juvenile Justice System 4.3 Criminal Cases
READ	4.1 Criminal Justice System 4.2 Juvenile Justice System 4.3 Criminal Cases <i>Arrested</i>
DISCUSS	<i>Critique and/or reflect on the reading Arrested. What was helpful, new, missing, or recommendations.</i>
QUIZ	Quiz 4 readings and lectures (open notes)

Module 5: Restorative Justice**DUE: November 7**

VIRTUAL MEETING	Monday, November 1st at 6:00 pm Central
LISTEN	5.1 Biblical Justice 5.2 Restorative Justice 5.3 Helping Victims of Crime
READ	Divine Justice as Restorative Justice (article) 5.2 Restorative Justice Restorative Justice Ch. 2-4 5.3 Ministry with Victims of Crime Pathways to Healing Ch. 1-4
QUIZ	Quiz 5 readings and lectures (open notes)

Module 6: Corrections and Reentry**DUE: November 14**

LISTEN	6.1 Corrections 6.2 Corrections Sensitive 6.3 Reentry
READ	6.1 Corrections 6.2 Corrections Sensitive 6.3 Reentry
DISCUSS	<i>What are challenges or issues you face serving in a correctional institution, working with volunteers or working in reentry?</i>
QUIZ	Quiz 6 readings and lectures (open notes)

Module 7: Corrections Principles**DUE: November 21**

LISTEN	7.1 Criminogenic Factors 7.2 Thinking Errors 7.3 Gender-Responsive Principles 7.4 Trauma-Informed Care 7.5 Evidence-based Principles
READ	7.1 Criminogenic Factors 7.2 Thinking Errors 7.3 Gender-Responsive Principles 7.4 Trauma-Informed Care 7.5 Evidence-based Principles Resources/Handouts: Moral Compass, Transformed Heart, Transformed Mind
DISCUSS	<i>Select one of the corrections principles and describe how you will apply it to your ministry.</i>
QUIZ	Quiz 7 readings and lectures (open notes)

Module 8: Christian Ministry**DUE: December 1**

LISTEN	8.1 Witnessing and Discipleship 8.2 Christian Formation 8.3 Ministry Principles and Skills
READ	8.1 Witnessing and Discipleship 8.2 Christian Formation 8.3 Ministry Principles and Skills
DISCUSS	<i>Describe one or two significant learning moments you experienced in the last four modules. For example, what topics were important to you and why? What reading/activities were most beneficial and why? What unanswered questions remain?</i>
QUIZ	Quiz 8 readings and lectures (open notes)
ASSIGNMENT	<i>Christian Correctional Ministry Philosophy</i> (200 points). Use the template. karen.swanson@wheaton.edu by December 1, 2021
MENTOR MEETING REPORT	Submit your mentor meeting report through the online course.