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## INSTITUTE FOR PRISON MINISTRIES



### CM412: Clinical Pastoral Presence

**Course Instructor:** Chaplain Nic Higgins  
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#### Course Description

This course develops pastoral formation, competence and reflection of individuals providing spiritual care for the incarcerated. Learners engage in weekly pastoral care experiences, journaling, reflection and peer feedback. Class size is limited to eight.

#### Course Objectives

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to do the following:

- A. Articulate the central themes and theological understandings that inform one's ministry, as well as the pastoral role consistent with one's personal and cultural values, basic assumptions and personhood.
- B. Identify and discuss major life events, relationships, cultural contexts, and social realities that impact personal identity as expressed in pastoral functioning, and then demonstrate competent use of self in ministry and administrative function (which includes: emotional availability, cultural humility, appropriate self-disclosure, positive use of power and authority, a non-anxious and non-judgmental presence, and clear and responsible boundaries)
- C. Identify which forms of Christian spiritual practices (prayer, Scripture) should be used with which individuals and under which circumstances.
- D. Demonstrate a range of pastoral skills (including listening/attending, empathic reflection, conflict resolution/transformation, confrontation, and crisis management) to diverse people.
- E. Offer appropriate and timely critique with peers and supervisor, while receiving the same from others about one's own ministry practice.

#### Course Text

*Course handouts.*

**Recommended Text:** *The Road Back to You* by Ian Cron and Suzanne Stabile

## **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 a pastoral care experiences, journaling, readings and lecture videos, and Zoom group listening/critique. The information regarding these course components and expectations is as follows:

**Pastoral Care Experience.** Engage in 3-4 hours a week of pastoral care experiences with the incarcerated and/or corrections staff.

**Journal.** Write two verbatims of pastoral care experiences that occur during the timeframe of this course. Weekly reflection papers – 1 page each.

**Readings and Videos.** Readings and videos should be read/viewed in the context of the module in which they are assigned.

**Virtual Group Meeting.** Attend the weekly 1.5 hour zoom meeting to share, listen and critique the pastoral care experiences of your classmates.

**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 assignments are due at 11:59 p.m. CST

on the Sunday of the week in which the assignment is due. It is at your online professor's discretion to penalize late work.

**Course Grading.** All coursework must be completed and turned in to your online professor within five days of the end of Week 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:

Pastoral Care Experience	30% of Course Grade
Journal	30% of Course Grade
Virtual Group Meeting	30% of Course Grade
Readings/Videos	10% of Course Grade

Grading scale will be as follows:

A	92-100	A-	90-91	B+	87-89
B	84-86	B-	80-83	C+	77-79
C	74-76	C-	70-73	D+	67-69
D	64-66	D-	60-63	F	0-59

## Weekly Topics and Assignments

***Enter when your verbatims are due. These dates will be assigned the first night of class.***

### Module 1: Clinical Method of Learning

### WEEK 1: Oct 4-10

VIRTUAL MEETING	<b>Monday, 7-8:30pm (Central)</b>
READ	Syllabus Clinical Method of Learning
PASTORAL CARE EXPERIENCE	Engage in 3-4 hours a week of pastoral care experiences with the incarcerated and/or corrections staff.
JOURNAL/VERBATIM	1-page reflection paper

**Module 2: Spiritual Assessment****WEEK 2: Oct 11-17**

VIRTUAL MEETING	<b>Monday, 7-8:30pm (Central)</b>
READ	Spiritual Assessment
PASTORAL CARE EXPERIENCE	Engage in 3-4 hours a week of pastoral care experiences
JOURNAL/VERBATIM	1-page reflection paper

**Module 3: Imbedded vs. Deliberative Theology****WEEK 3: Oct 18-24**

VIRTUAL MEETING	<b>Monday, 7-8:30pm (Central)</b>
READ	Imbedded vs. Deliberative Theology
PASTORAL CARE EXPERIENCE	Engage in 3-4 hours a week of pastoral care experiences
JOURNAL/VERBATIM	1-page reflection paper

**Module 4: Self-Discovery****WEEK 4: Oct 25-31**

VIRTUAL MEETING	<b>Monday, 7-8:30pm (Central)</b>
READ	Self-Discovery/Enneagram
PASTORAL CARE EXPERIENCE	Engage in 3-4 hours a week of pastoral care experiences
JOURNAL/VERBATIM	1-page reflection paper

**Module 5: Precision Listening****WEEK 5: Nov 1-7**

VIRTUAL MEETING	<b>Monday, 7-8:30pm (Central)</b>
READ	Precision Listening
PASTORAL CARE EXPERIENCE	Engage in 3-4 hours a week of pastoral care experiences
JOURNAL/VERBATIM	1-page reflection paper

**Module 6: Empathy vs. Sympathy****WEEK 6: Nov 8-14**

VIRTUAL MEETING	<b>Monday, 7-8:30pm (Central)</b>
READ	Empathy vs. Sympathy
PASTORAL CARE EXPERIENCE	Engage in 3-4 hours a week of pastoral care experiences
JOURNAL/VERBATIM	1-page reflection paper

**Module 7: Adverse Childhood Experiences****WEEK 7: Nov 15-21**

VIRTUAL MEETING	<b>Monday, 7-8:30pm (Central)</b>
READ	Adverse Childhood Experiences
PASTORAL CARE EXPERIENCE	Engage in 3-4 hours a week of pastoral care experiences
JOURNAL/VERBATIM	1-page reflection paper

**Module 8: Emotional Vocabulary****WEEK 8: Nov 22-28**

VIRTUAL MEETING	<b>Monday, 7-8:30pm (Central)</b>
READ	Emotional Vocabulary
PASTORAL CARE EXPERIENCE	Engage in 3-4 hours a week of pastoral care experiences with the incarcerated and/or corrections staff.
JOURNAL/VERBATIM	1-page reflection paper