PT551 Pastoral Identity and Practice
Spring 2017

Instructor: Rev. Dr. Dale W. Johnson Course Location: Room 202
Course Time: Jan. 27-28; Feb. 24-25; March 24-25 6-9 PM Fridays, 9 AM-4PM Saturdays

Purpose:

- To facilitate the development of pastoral identity, including what it means to begin to function as a pastoral professional.
- To begin to develop competence and confidence in initiating and developing pastoral relationships.
- To increase knowledge about and understanding of pastoral care.
- To develop the skills necessary to provide effective pastoral care.

Competencies

In successfully completing this course, the student will have the following pastoral competencies:

- **Demonstrate the development of Pastoral Identity**
    - Develop a clear sense of one's scope of practice as a pastoral professional, including the limitations of the professional role
    - Develop the ability to appropriately and authentically integrate one's unique personality into one's professional practice
    - Develop the ability to integrate knowledge from behavioral sciences, psychology and theology into the practice of pastoral care, including within the process of pastoral assessment
- **Demonstrate the ability to effectively initiate and develop pastoral relationships**
- **Demonstrate an introductory knowledge of professional ethics and the ability to integrate this knowledge into one's professional practice**
    - Develop comprehension of and sensitivity to personal and professional boundaries
    - Develop awareness of and sensitivity to the dynamics of power and authority within a pastoral relationship

Format and Evaluation:

This course is designed on an action/reflection learning model. Each student will provide pastoral care for approximately one hour each week. This will take place in the student's parish setting, or in a place that is negotiated with the instructor. There will be nine three-hour class periods divided between three weekends focused on expanding our understanding of pastoral identity, practice and care, and reflecting on our pastoral practice.

Required Text:

The Practice of Pastoral Care: A Postmodern Approach by Carrie Doehring, Louisville, KY: Westminister-John Knox, 2006.