

Syllabus for *DMIN 150, PART 2*

TO: D.Min. 150 Participants

FROM: Instructor: Jean Morris Trumbauer, United Theological Seminary,
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ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Date: Tuesday, January 25 – Thursday, January 27, 2011

Time: Begin 1 pm on the 25th; otherwise 9:00 a.m. each morning; close on
Thursday, January 27 at Noon.

Place: United Theological Seminary, Small Dining Room
3000 – 5th St. NW
New Brighton, MN 55112

Focus of Module 1:

Module 1, Part 1 in October focuses on each student's analysis of his/her ministry and its context within the larger framework of the changing face of ministry in North America. Part 2 in January, 2011, focuses on reading and personal discernment regarding vocation, spirituality and gifts culminating in the student's development of a Professional Ministry Development Plan.



Students at the conclusion of Module 1 and DM150 will be able to:

1. Share a basic understanding of the D.Min. Program at United Seminary and know where to find appropriate information on its policies and processes;
2. Participate actively in a thriving community of learners in order to promote their own learning and that of other students in the group;
3. Demonstrate a beginner's knowledge of the writing practices of conceptualization, analysis, and integration;
4. Articulate an understanding of their own tradition and ministry within the broader contemporary Christian context and pluralistic world;
5. Verbalize and write about expanded perspectives on pastoral leadership, especially in relationship to major social and cultural issues facing the churches in America;
6. Analyze their own context of ministry from the perspectives of theology, changing social and ecclesial dimensions, and types of congregational responses to change;
7. Assess their current ministry and leadership skills in a particular setting.
8. Discern, develop, and share a professional ministry development plan based on the emerging challenges in ministry today, a self-assessment of their own ministerial leadership, work with North Central Ministry Development Center, and their growing perspectives on vocation, discernment, and spiritual practice.

Expectations for Seminar DM150: Part 2:

1. Read and reflect, compare and contrast the content of the books that are assigned for Seminar DM150, Part 2.
2. Write reflections, as assigned, that integrate the assigned texts with the context and practice of your ministry.
3. Engage in discernment and develop a Professional Ministry Development Plan.
4. Organize your writing in a clear, integrated and relevant manner. Avoid generalities; be specific in your analysis. Use correct format for footnote and bibliographic citations. Aim for depth of reflection and analysis within the page limitations.
5. Engage actively in theological reflection and conversation with D.Min. colleagues to refine your reflections on the readings and your ministry. Submit all written assignments to your D.Min. colleagues and the instructor not later than one week before the seminar group meets.

All D.Min. students receive letter grades for the seminars and electives. For DM150, the components that influence final grading are as follows:



- 30% Written papers (other than Professional Ministry Development Plan)
- 30% Oral participation in conversations and presentations during campus on-site sessions
- 25% Professional Ministry Development Plan (as written and presented in class)
- 15% On-line postings

A copy of your professional ministry development plan will be kept on file in the Registrar's Office for a period of up to four years for possible use in the seminary's cyclic assessment of the effectiveness of Doctor of Ministry Program. If your professional ministry development plan is among those selected for this assessment, your name will be removed from them before they are read by the team from the Educational Planning and Evaluation Committee. Once the assessment is complete all copies of retained ministry plan will be shredded.

Required Readings for Seminar 1, part 2:

Books are available through the Cokesbury (UTS) Bookstore on campus. To have books mailed to you, call: Cokesbury (651-638-1960). Cokesbury usually offers a 20% discount and students are **not** required to pay MN Sales Tax on purchases of required books. These books are also on reserve in Spencer Library.

1. Schuurman, Douglas J. *Vocation: Discerning Our Callings in Life*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: William B. Eerdmans Publishing, 2003.
2. Palmer, Parker J. *Let Your Life Speak: Listening to the Voice of Vocation*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2000. (Short book.)
3. Placher, William C. *Callings: Twenty Centuries of Christian Wisdom on Vocation*. Grand Rapids,

Mich.: Eerdman's Publishing, 2005. [Sign up for w/ Jean / read **one** of the following sections of the book.]

The sections are:

Calling to a Christian Life: Vocation in the Early Church, 100-500 _____

Called to Religious Life: Vocation in the Middle Ages, 500-1500 _____

Every Work a Calling: Vocations After the Reformation, 1500-1800 _____

Christian Callings in a Post-Christian World, 1800-1990 _____

4. Liebert, Elizabeth. *The Way of Discernment: Spiritual Practices for Decision-Making*. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2008.
5. Trumbauer, Jean Morris. *Created and Called: Discovering Our Gifts for Abundant Living*. Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, 1998. Read pages 56-58 on discernment. (Handout in packet)

Choose from Lists Required Readings for Seminar 1, Part 2:

6. Choose **ONE** of the thirteen books on the topic of spirituality which are listed below: (Please choose a book you have not previously read.)

Albanese, Catherine L., ed. *American Spiritualities: A Reader*. Bloomington, Indiana: Indiana University Press, 2001.

Bridges, Flora Wilson. *Resurrection Song: African-American Spirituality*. Maryknoll, New York: Orbis Press, 2001.

Brown, Patricia. *Paths to Prayer: Finding Your Own Way to the Presence of God*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2003.

Brussat, Frederic and Mary Ann Brussat. *Spiritual Literacy: Reading the Sacred in Everyday Life*. New York: NY: Simon and Schuster, 1996.

Easwaran, Eknath. *Passage Meditation: Bringing the Deep Wisdom of the Heart Into Daily Life.. 3rd ed.* Tomales, CA: Nilgiri Press, 2008. (available from Amazon or borrow from Jean)

Heschel, Abraham. *Sabbath*. New York: Farrar, Straus, and Giroux, 1951, 1979, & 2005. (Based on Jewish spirituality.)

Kushner, Lawrence. *Jewish Spirituality: A Brief Introduction for Christians*. Woodstock, VT., Jewish Lights Publishing, 2001.

Matlins, Stuart M. *The Jewish Lights Spirituality Handbook: A Guide to Understanding, Exploring, and Living a Spiritual Life*. Woodstock, VT: Jewish Lights Publishing, 2001.

Muller, Wayne. *Sabbath: Finding Rest, Renewal, and Delight in our Busy Lives*. New York: Bantam Books, 1999.

Neafsey, John. *A Sacred Voice is Calling: Personal Vocation and Social Conscience*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 2006.



Ochs, Carol and Kerry M. Olitzky. *Jewish Spiritual Guidance: Finding Our Way to God*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 1997.

Silf, Margaret. *Close to the Heart: A Guide to Personal Prayer*. Chicago: Loyola Press, 1999.

Silf, Margaret. *Sacred Spaces: Stations on a Celtic Way*. Brewster, MA: Paraclete Press, 2001. (Based on Celtic spirituality.)

Thompson, Marjorie J. *Soul Feast: An Invitation to the Christian Spiritual Life*. Louisville, Kentucky: Westminster John Knox Press, 1995.

Tirabassi, Maren C. and Joan Jordan Grant. *An Improbable Gift of Blessing: Prayers and Affirmations to Nurture the Spirit*. Cleveland, Ohio: United Church Press, 1998.

Tomaine, Jane. *St. Benedict's Toolbox: The Nuts and Bolts of Everyday Benedictine Living*. Philadelphia and New York: Morehouse Publishing, 2005. (Based on Benedictine spirituality.)

Thurman, Howard. *Disciplines of the Spirit*. Richmond, Ind.: Friends United Press, 1963.

Vennard, Jane E. *Praying with Body and Soul: A Way to Intimacy with God*. Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress Publishers, 1998.

Ware, Corinne. *Discover Your Spiritual Type: A Guide to Individual and Congregational Growth*. Bethesda, MD, 1995.

Ware, Corinne. *Saint Benedict on the Freeway: A Rule of Life for the 21st Century*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2001. (Based on Benedictine Spirituality)

7. Choose **ONE** of the eight books listed below on the topic of **discernment**: (Please choose a book you have not previously read.)

Farnham, Suzanne G. et al. *Listening Hearts: Discerning Call in Community*. Harrisburg, Penn.: Morehouse Publishers, 1991.

Job, Reuben. *A Guide to Spiritual Discernment*. Nashville: Upper Room Books, 1996.

Johnson, Ben Campbell. *Hearing God's Call: Ways of Discernment for Laity and Clergy*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 2002.

Kiechle, Stefan. *The Art of Discernment: Making Good Decisions in Your World of Choices*. Notre Dame: Ave Maria Press, 2005. (Based on Ignatian Spirituality)

Rupnik, Marko Ivan. *Discernment: Acquiring the Heart of God*. Boston: Pauline Books and Media, English version, 2006. (Based on Ignatian Spirituality)

Silf, Margaret. *Inner Compass: An Invitation to Ignatian Spirituality*. Chicago: Jesuit Way, 1999. (Based on Ignatian Spirituality)

Smith, Gordon T. *Listening to God in Times of Choice: The Art of Discerning God's Will*. Downers Grove, Illinois: InterVarsity Press, 1997.

Wolff, Pierre. *Discernment: The Art of Choosing Well*. Liguori, Missouri: Triumph Books, 2003 rev. ed. (Based on Ignatian Spirituality).

8. Read carefully the *Professional Ministry Development Plan* materials provided by the North Central Ministry Development Center. [Other copies are on the website for D.Min. Seminars]

Go to <http://mercury.unitedseminary.edu>. Log in using your assigned password and then click on “my courses” followed by clicking on DM150. There you will find a number of things you will need for this course. These include the following which you are asked to read:

Course syllabus

- Participant’s list
- Course syllabus
- Schedule for the on-campus portion of the seminar [by late November]
- Discussion group where you should do your assigned postings
- Instructions for access to and use of this online DM150 site
- Other resources may be posted at a later date



Access to this DM150 site is limited to students currently enrolled in DM150 and Jean Morris Trumbauer, the instructor.

On-Line Assignments:

Students are asked to post on the Discussion Forum every two weeks from the week of November 7, 2010 through January 15, 2011 prior to the on-campus portion of this seminar according to the following schedule:

Week of November 7 through November 13, 2010: Please share your current working understanding of each of the following: 1) Spirituality; 2) Discernment; 3) Call and/or Vocation.

Week of November 14 through November 20, 2010: Visit your National or Judicatory website to discover what is available there on the topics of spirituality, vocation, and discernment. Discuss 1) strengths and weaknesses of the content and what was helpful to you about the site. If you find that another student in the class reviewed the same web site, you can check out your similar or differing perspectives by responding to that student on the discussion board late in the week. Or comment on another post that caught your attention.

Week of November 21 through November 27, 2011: Share online your experiences with the discernment you are engaged in and the type or types of discernment processes you are using. Comment on another student’s post.

Week of November 28 through December 4, 2010: Visit **one** of the following websites:

<http://www.spiritualityandpractice.com>

<http://www.spirithome.com/discrnm.html#whatitis> Move to discernment!!

<http://www.listeninghearts.org/>

<http://www.sfts.edu/faculty/liebert/welcome/index.asp> decide whether to keep

(See next page for posting topic)

Review and critique the website you choose in terms of 1) its helpfulness to your personal spirituality and 2) its helpfulness to your ministry in your setting. Then comment on another student's posting.

Week of December 5 through December 11, 2010: Choose one of the following websites on discernment and review and critique it in terms of its helpfulness to your personal spirituality and discernment practice and 2) its probable helpfulness to your ministry in your setting. Then comment on another student's posting.

<http://www.baylor.edu/content/services/document.php/79883.pdf>

http://www.uuharvard.org/sermons/20090222_The_Spiritual_Practice_of_Discernment.pdf

http://www.quakerinfo.com/junker_discernment.pdf

www.cofchrist.org/discernment/whatIs.asp

www.Ignatianspirituality.com

Weeks of December 12, 2010 – January 1, 2011: Christmas and New Year's Break from On-Line Postings! May your Christmas be wonder-filled and the New Year full of many blessings!

Week of January 2 – January 8, 2011: Share how your understandings of spirituality, discernment, and call and/or vocation have changed or expanded as a result of your reading and discernment practices for part 2 of DM150

Writing and Teaching/Presentation Assignments:

1. Write a one-page, single-spaced "book description and critique" for **each** of the **two** books you choose from reading categories # 6 and 7 above. The "report" should have a full **bibliographical** notation and then a brief **description** and **critique** of the book. Also make **recommendations** as to how your colleagues might find this book useful personally and/or in congregational life.
2. Write a one-page list of the strengths and weaknesses of each of the following books: A) Douglas Schuurman's book, B) Parker Palmer's book, C) Placher's book and Liebert's book (This can be bulleted lists rather than prose.)
3. Come prepared to provide teaching leadership for your assigned section of the *Callings* book for a 30-minute teaching time. You will need to pair with one other student. Remember that each of us has differing learning styles so try to do more than just lecture. It is desired that you design a learning activity that all can participate in as part of the 30-minute period. Please prepare a handout to summarize the writings of your section of *Callings*. (A class activity handout can also be added if you wish.)
4. **PROJECT: Professional Ministry Development Plan**
 - A. Read and reflect on the six books for this session as preparation for writing your Professional Ministry Development Plan. (Other preparation will be self-assessment of your ministry, readings from Part 1 of *DM150*, feedback from the NCMDC staff, your personal discernment and so forth.)

- B. Engage the materials on Professional Development Planning from the North Central Ministry Development Center and using those guides develop your plan. Those who intend to move on to Module 2 in the D.Min. Program should then take the next step and complete a rough draft of a D.Min. Program Plan as the last step in the plan. (Both these parts will then be useable when you talk with your faculty advisor in preparation for beginning Module 2.
- C. After developing your Professional Ministry Development Plan, please describe in writing the **process** you used to integrate the readings, reflections, NCMDC testing and your discernment process with writing your Professional Ministry Development Plan materials, (and whatever other resources you may have used.) Attach this statement to the back of the plan.

Expectations of Professional Ministry Development Plan:

- 1) **Approach this assignment as an integrative project.** That is, **before** you write up your plan, engage in reading, reflection, discernment, prayer and conversation with trusted others for several weeks. Bring all the resources in parts 1 and 2 of *DM150* to bear on your discernment process and the writing of your plan.
- 2) **Try to be aware of the processes in which you are engaged** (e.g. those outlined in #1 above as well as others you add). Identify which of these are most helpful to you.
- 3) When you are presenting your plan **verbally** at the January session you may want to create a more complex adaptation of the NCMDC form or a more right brain format. (For example, you may use formats such as *mind-mapping*, some combination of words and mandalas, or some other more creative format or design for presenting the plan on paper for the rest of us to review. However, **whatever format you use must be explainable to and understandable by your other colleagues and to the facilitator of the class.**
- 4) Your plan needs to demonstrate **depth** of reflection, integration, and planning and it should emerge over a period of weeks and not in one sit-down session.



- You are to send your final plan to your colleagues together with your other assignments. (You do not need to send the two evaluation/recommendation forms to your colleagues but must send them to the instructor.
- You should be prepared to present your plan (see #3 above) as well as dialog with and receive feedback from your colleagues when we meet in January

Remember that the Inclusive Language Policy and the Extension Policies you received as part of the Syllabus in the first session of DM150 also apply to the second session as well.

Send: Copies of your assigned papers to **all** your D.Min. colleagues, including Jean Morris Trumbauer, **not later than seven days before the January 26-28 session begins.** This will allow us time to read and reflect upon your papers before we get to class. Our experience is that it is best to send the papers by e-mail attachment. If you do not have e-mail or are unable to either attach or open e-mail attachments, use the U.S. Mail.