

SYLLABUS for THEO 333 THEOLOGY, SPIRITUALITY and HEALTH CARE
Fall 2008, J. Schaefer, Instructor
Mondays 3:30-6:15, Raynor 320A
Office Hours MW 2-3:15 and by appointment
115 Coughlin Hall, 83742, schaeferj@
ARES Password = Theo-Health 333
www.marquette.edu/theology/interfacing

DESCRIPTION: Can theology, spirituality, and health care be related constructively to facilitate patient healing? How are researchers conceptualizing and measuring the religiosity and spirituality of patients? What is the theological and spiritual content of positive coping strategies that patients and care-givers use? Are there negative strategies that must be avoided in order to facilitate patient healing? When health care providers incorporate the religiosity and spirituality of their patients into the treatment regime, what ethical issues surface and how can they be addressed from a theological perspective?

Participants in this seminar will strive to answer these questions by probing the relationship of theology, spirituality and health care, identifying their contributions to patient care with emphasis on theology and spirituality, and evaluating methods through which the religiosity and spirituality of patients can be factored into the healing process. Key to this endeavor is discerning how religiosity and spirituality are conceptualized in the theological literature, determining the extent to which these conceptualizations are measured in relation to patient care by researchers, and identifying research strategies that measure patient religiosity and spirituality more adequately. Bolstered by these insights, students will collaborate in developing a model for measuring the religiosity and spirituality of patients, test the model on members of their families, and revise the model accordingly. Integral to this interdisciplinary endeavor is the identification of positive and negative religious coping strategies with emphasis on the content of theological reflection. Also to be probed are ethical questions that surface for health care providers when the patient's religiosity or spirituality is factored into the treatment plan and ways of answering these questions that are grounded in theological reflection and Catholic social teachings.

Open to graduate students who are seeking degrees in Religious Studies and other disciplines relevant to the topic, this course was commissioned by the College of Nursing as part of a federal grant to provide an interdisciplinary perspective for doctoral students. Students seeking graduate degrees at the Medical College of Wisconsin may also enroll. Prior to the first session, all students are required to read an assigned theology text that will begin to prepare them to engage in theological discourse and research.

LEARNING OUTCOMES: Three sets of learning outcomes are prescribed for this course. The Department of Theology Program Learning Outcomes require this course to enable students to make scholarly contributions within a specialized field of theology, to demonstrate ability to teach theology or religious studies at a post-secondary level, and to comprehend theological resources in historically significant languages. According to the federal grant received by the College of Nursing for including this course in its doctoral program, students should be able to analyze concepts and theories of spirituality, critique instruments that measure spirituality, review research related to spirituality and health with attention to vulnerable populations and groups that are spiritually vulnerable, and identify gaps in knowledge and need for future research.

Bringing these outcomes together in this course, students will aim to achieve the following:

(1) Make scholarly contributions to the emerging interdisciplinary field of theology, spirituality, and health care through researching, writing, and presenting a seminar paper that advances an approved topic;

(2) Demonstrate ability to identify and lead academic discussions on sources pertaining to the subject of this course that might be fruitful for teaching at the undergraduate or graduate level;

- (3) Distinguish and analyze concepts of theology and spirituality that contribute to and detract from coping by patients and care-givers, especially those in vulnerable populations and groups;
- (4) Review, critique, and identify gaps in research relating religion, spirituality and health with considerable attention to vulnerable populations and groups;
- (5) Critically examine instruments that strive to measure patient religiosity and/or spirituality, identify and develop components that should be measured, and test the instrument;
- (6) Prepare a book review according to a requirements specified by an academic journal from a provided bibliography; and,
- (7) For students seeking a doctoral degree in Religious Studies, demonstrate in a research paper an ability to comprehend theological resources on relating theology, spirituality, and health care in historically significant languages.

BASIS for EVALUATION: Outcome #1 will be evaluated on the basis of a draft (15%) and a final (20%) seminar papers (within which Religious Studies students will use pertinent languages); #2-4 by preparing and posting on D2L overviews of and questions pertaining to assigned readings and leading seminar discussions on those readings (45%); #5 by collaborating with other students in designing and testing an instrument for discerning patient religiosity and/or spirituality (10%); and, #6 on the basis of one book review to be submitted on the designated date (10%).

ATTENDANCE POLICY: Presence in each seminar session is mandatory. A second absence will lower your participation grade by one letter grade, and three absences will warrant your withdrawal from the course.

ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY: Each student is expected to represent his/her own efforts in all assignments and examinations. Penalties for academic dishonesty will be rigorously administered pursuant to the Marquette University Academic Honesty Policy that is applicable to all students and faculty.

REQUIRED BOOKS:

Sydney Callahan, *Created for Joy: A Christian View of Suffering* (Crossroad 2007)
 Harold Koenig, *Spirituality in Patient Care: Why, How, When, and What* (Templeton 2007)
 Kenneth I Pargament, *The Psychology of Religious Coping: Theory, Research, Practice* (Guilford 1997)
 Siroj Sorajjakool, *When Sickness Heals: The Place of Religious Belief in Healthcare* (Templeton 2006)
 Chapters in several books and articles in journals listed in the schedule will be made available through D2L and Raynor e-Reserves.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

August 25 Introduction to the Seminar

Review and revision of syllabus; identification of data to share when leading discussions; discussion of the discipline of Theology based in part on Thomas Rausch's *Introduction to Theology* (Liturgical 1993) and handouts of selections from Ian Barbour's *Religion and Science* (HarperSanFrancisco 1997); bibliography of books for book review.

September 8 Theological Anthropology

Sydney Callahan, *Created for Joy* (Crossroad 2007).
 Margaret E. Mohrmann, "Someone is Always Playing Job," in *Pain Seeking Understanding: Suffering, Medicine, and Faith*, ed. Margaret E. Mohrmann and Mark J. Hanson, 62-79 (Pilgrim 1999).
 Declare book to review.

September 15 Theological Responses to Life, Suffering, and Death

Siroj Sorajjakool, *When Sickness Heals: The Place of Religious Belief in Healthcare* (Templeton 2006).

M. Therese Lysaught, "Patient Suffering and the Anointing of the Sick," in *On Moral Medicine: Theological Perspectives in Medical Ethics*, 2nd ed., eds. Stephen E. Lammers and Allen Verhey, 356-64 (Eerdmans 1998).

Chap. 3 of Edmund D. Pellegrino and David C. Thomasma, *Helping and Healing: Religious Commitment in Health Care* (Georgetown 1997).

Discussion with Dr. Lysaught

September 22 Spirituality

Chaps 2 and 8, Philip Sheldrake, *Spirituality & History: Questions of Interpretation and Method* (Crossroad 1992).

Chap 7, Lawrence S. Cunningham and Keith J. Egan, *Christian Spirituality: Themes from the Tradition* (Paulist 1996).

Sandra M. Schneiders, "Religion vs. Spirituality: A Contemporary Conundrum," *Spiritus* 3 (2003): 163-85.

David Perrin, "The Uneasy Relationship Between Christian Spirituality and the Human Sciences: Psychology as a Test Case," *Spiritus* 7 (Fall 2007): 154-59.

Recommended:

George A. Lane, S.J., *Christian Spirituality—An Historical Sketch* (Loyola UP 1984)

E. J. Taylor, *What Do I Say? Talking with Patients about Spirituality* (Templeton 2007).

Puchalski, *A Time for Listening and Caring: Spirituality and the Care of the Chronically Ill and Dying* (Oxford 2006).

September 29 Research on Religion/Spirituality and Health Care

Christina Puchalski, "Touching the Spirit: The Essence of Healing in Spiritual Life" *Spiritual Life* 45 (Fall 1999) 154-59. Harold G. Koenig, Michael E. McCullough, David B. Larson, *The Handbook of Religion and Health* (Oxford 2001) as assigned.

Kenneth Pargament, "Appendices" in *The Psychology of Religion and Coping* (Gulford 1997), pp. 407-64.

Submit book review (following Theological Studies guidelines at www.ts.mu.edu).

October 6 Religious Coping

Pargament, *The Psychology of Religion and Coping* as assigned.

October 13 Religious Coping

Pargament, *The Psychology of Religion and Coping* as assigned.

Videoconference with Dr. Pargament

Identification of research paper focus.

October 20 Measuring Religiosity and Spirituality

Harold Koenig, *Spirituality and Patient Care: Why, How, When, and What* (Templeton 2007).

National Institute on Aging Working Group Multidimensional Measurement of Religiosity/Spirituality for Use in Health Research, The Feltzer Institute (1999).

October 27 Measuring Religiosity and Spirituality

Brief Teleconference with Dr. Koenig

Christina Puchalski and Anna L. Romer, "Taking a Spirituality History Allows Clinicians to Understand Patients More Fully," *Journal of Palliative Medicine* 3.1 (2000): 129-37.

Developing a measurement instrument and planning to test.

Abstract and list of sources due on D2L for discussion.

November 3 Measuring Religiosity and Spirituality

Results of testing measurement, critical evaluation, revision of instrument.

November 10 and 17 Research Presentations from Outlines

Handout of outlines and sources for presentation as assigned.

November 24 Ethical Issues

Chapters selected from Michael R. Panicola, David M. Belde, John Paul Slosar, and Mark F. Repenshek, *An Introduction to Health Care Ethics: Theological Foundations, Contemporary Issues, and Controversial Cases* (St. Mary's 2007).

Optional submission of draft seminar paper for instructor's input.

December 1 Ethical Issues and Seminar Wrap-up

Chapters selected from Panicola et al. and chap 5, "Personal Responsibility for Health," from Ashley & O'Rourke's *Ethics of Health Care* (Georgetown UP 2001).

December 10 Submit Seminar Paper