

## Taylor Seminary

*Our Mission: To develop Christ-minded leaders who make a difference in the world.*

### Spiritual Formation TS 603 Spiritual Project 3

Fall Semester 2018

**INSTRUCTOR:** Allan Effa, PhD.  
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**CREDITS:** One credit [40 hours of work]

#### DESCRIPTION

At the successful completion of this course, working with a faculty mentor, the student will develop a project that demonstrates a commitment to developing and living out spiritual practices for lifelong transformation.

The purpose of this assessment project is to allow the student an opportunity to demonstrate that they can perform *objective three* of the MTS program objectives. The student should demonstrate to the faculty (three assigned faculty members) that they have a commitment to developing and living out spiritual practices for life transformation. This is designed for MTS students only and is graded as a Pass or Fail.

#### OBJECTIVES

Successful demonstration of this objective must include at least:

1. An appropriate level of relationship with God and with spiritual friends.
2. An awareness of the value of receiving spiritual direction.
3. Ability to articulate one's personal sense of calling.
4. The construction of a rule of life that demonstrates the incorporation of specific spiritual practices.

## REQUIREMENTS

A work load of approximately 40 hours should be expected for this project. The student may demonstrate the successful completion of this objective in a variety of ways, including (but not limited to):

1. The completion of the *Attachment to God* Inventory (AGI) followed up with discussion with the supervising faculty member.
2. The completion of six spiritual directions sessions with a Spiritual Director assigned by Urban Sanctuary.
3. A portfolio of written projects including:
  - a. A 2 to 4 page (double spaced) reflection on the student's primary spiritual friendships and the roles they play in the student's life.
  - b. A reflection paper of 4 – 6 pages (double spaced) on major insights gained through the experience of spiritual direction.
  - c. A 3 – 5 (double spaced) statement of the student's understanding of life mission and call.
  - d. An articulation of a rule of life accompanied by a reflective journal reporting on how well the student was able to observe these practices in at least a 2 month period of time. It is not necessary to have daily entries in the journal, but there should be a minimum of two per week, or 16 entries of at least one paragraph. The entries should not be purely descriptive of how well the student fulfilled the practice but also reflective of the struggles, joys, strategies, lessons learned, insights into self, etc., along the way. Total length of paper should be 10 – 16 pages double spaced.

## EVALUATION

The instructor and one other member of the faculty will assess the material based on a rubric developed for this project. The rubric will be given to the student at the first meeting. The course is graded on a pass/fail basis. A Pass consists of a minimal score of 7 out of 12 points as long as not more than one objective is scored in the "Beginning" category.

Coursework that is not completed to the satisfaction of the supervising faculty member will need to be re-submitted. If the course is not satisfactorily completed by the end of the semester the student will receive an automatic "Incomplete" and be given additional time to fulfill the requirements.

## **SCHEDULE**

**Week one (1) of the semester:** Initial meeting between student and supervising faculty member to review the project requirements and establish a plan for the learning covenant. The faculty member will contact students to set this up.

**Do Attachment to God Inventory and Draft a Learning Covenant. Submit the Draft Learning Covenant by the end of the second week of classes** (September 14)

**Week three (3) of the semester:** Second meeting to review the attachment to God Inventory and receive feedback on the learning covenant. (September 17-21)

**Week ten (10) of the semester:** Student will submit all course work to their supervising faculty member. (First Drafts due November 9). The professor will review the submission and present it to the faculty review committee. In some cases a re-write will be recommended. A grade (pass/fail) will be issued within two (2) weeks of submission of the final versions of the papers.