Course Profile

Course # and Title: SF/CC 503 Contemplative Spiritualities in Context
Instructor: Eric Kyle
Semester/Year: Fall 2020
Max. # of Students Allowed: 18

Course Rationale and Description
(Why do we offer this course? Which of LSTC’s degree program learning outcomes does it address?):

In this course, we will explore western Christian contemplative ways of being and becoming. By engaging with historical and contemporary texts and contemplative practices, we will seek to better understand how these approaches to Christian spirituality transform individuals. In addition, a focus will be given to how these contemplative spiritualities are both influenced by and have an impact on their local contexts and cultures. This course will include a required 6-day retreat to St. Augustine’s House Lutheran Monastery in Oxford, MI during Reading Week (departing Tuesday, October 20th, and returning Sunday, October 25th). This course is designed to help students further develop their Personal Spiritual Formation and Cultural Context competencies.

Course Learning Outcomes (Learners will be able to):
(What difference will this course make to students’ knowledge, skills, attitudes, and practices?)

By the end of this course, students will be able to demonstrate their abilities to:

1) Articulate the impact that course readings and contemplative practices are having on their daily life.
2) Apply the Formation Framework to analyze specific contemplative spiritual formation systems.
3) Design a contemplative spiritual formation system for a specific cultural context.

Strategies for Learning:
(How shall we go about achieving these outcomes?)

Course Readings: Knowledge checking activities (e.g., online quizzes, in class activities, etc.); Class Discussions; Case Study Group Work; Contemplative Practices; Journaling; 6-day Retreat at St. Augustine’s House; Designing a Contemplative Spiritual Formation System; Lectures & Guest Speakers; Spiritual Companioning;

Assessment:
(How shall we know if we—students and instructors—have been successful in achieving the outcomes?)

Student’s progress towards the learning outcomes will be assessed via one or more of the following: Knowledge checking activities (e.g., online quizzes, in class activities, etc.); Class Discussions; Case Study Group Work; Reflections on Engagement with Contemplative Practices; Student Journals; Contemplative Spiritual Formation System Final Project; One-on-One Spiritual Companion Reflections During the Retreat;

Bibliography:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Text Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>ISBN# (Required)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Joy Unspeakable: Contemplative Practices of the Black Church</td>
<td>Barbara A. Holmes</td>
<td>978-1506421612</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monk in the World: Cultivating a Spiritual Life</td>
<td>Wayne Teasdale</td>
<td>978-1577314370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Benedict's Toolbox: The Nuts and Bolts of Everyday Benedictine Living</td>
<td>Jane Tomaine</td>
<td>978-0819231987</td>
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Additional information:

All expenses while we are at St. Augustine’s House are already covered. However, there may be some minor costs ($20-$50) to help cover transportation to/from St. Augustine’s.