

Syllabus for
PRM 673—Introduction to Pastoral Care-ONLINE
3 Credit Hours
Summer 2023

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed to help students become more knowledgeable, effective, and sensitive when ministering to persons in need. It covers selected topics in the field of pastoral care focusing on the work of the Christian minister implementing the care of God's people.

II. COURSE GOALS

The purpose of this course is to enable the student to do the following:

- A. Learn about the history and theology of pastoral care.
- B. Develop awareness of the privileges and responsibilities of a professional, caring person through readings, lectures, written papers, class discussions, projects, and/or exams.
- C. Become aware of information concerning issues such as pastoral diagnosis, intervention and prevention, death and dying, and developing caring communities.
- D. Learn that pastoral care can only be partly comprehended in a classroom setting, though the academic format can provide valuable resources for further personal and professional growth.

III. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR THIS COURSE

As a result of a successfully completing this course, the student will be able to do the following:

- A. Integrate and discuss the biblical meaning of pastoral care with modern pastoral procedures.
- B. Discuss the importance of having an appreciation for the history of pastoral care.
- C. Explain the significance of exercising pastoral authority in caring situations.
- D. Articulate a theological rationale for pastoral care through the writing of the term paper.
- E. Present a personal philosophy and model for pastoral care.
- F. Explain the need for caring for oneself, the family, and the congregation.
- G. Present ideas, either orally or in writing, on how to function as a pastor in crisis situations and cross-cultural situations.
- H. Compare and discuss various approaches for offering pastoral guidance and comfort for the dying and for persons experiencing grief.
- I. Discuss methods for training for pastoral care and preparations for practice in ministry and community settings.
- J. Discuss the importance of discovering ways to develop professional relationships with persons from other healing disciplines.
Develop and articulate a theology and theory of ministry that is relevant to the student's background and calling.

IV. ASSOCIATED PROGRAMS

See back page(s) for associated programs and outcomes.

V. UNIVERSITY OUTCOMES

- A. Spiritual Integrity
- B. Personal Resilience
- C. Intellectual Pursuit
- D. Global Engagement
- E. Bold Vision

VI. TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER LEARNING RESOURCES

A. Required Materials

1. Textbooks:

Doehring, C. *The Practice of Pastoral Care*. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2015. ISBN: 978-0-664-23840-7

Eger, Edith E. *The Choice: Embrace the Possible*. New York, NY: Scribner, 2017. ISBN: 978-1-5011-3078-6

Mathew, Thomson K. *Ministry Between Miracles*. Kottayam, Kerala, India: Goodnews Books, 2020. ISBN: 979-8-6384-8917-5

2. Other
None

B. Optional Materials

1. Textbooks

2. Other

Note: The textbooks are:

- Not necessarily written from a Pentecostal/Charismatic or even an evangelical perspective
- Contain some illustrations that may differ from our approach to theology and ministry and need to be recognized in the different contexts in which they are written
- Chosen for all courses to make you think and interact

Use of these textbooks does not indicate approval or endorsement by the Oral Roberts University College of Theology and Ministry or the Graduate School of Theology and Ministry.

IV. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

A. University Policies and Procedures

- 1. Plagiarism statement: <https://syllabi.oru.edu?term=201910&dept=GTHE>
- 2. Disability Services: <https://oru.edu/current-students/my-services/disability-services/index.php>.

B. Graduate School of Theology and Ministry

1. **Completion of Assignments**

Assignments are due on the dates established in the course calendar, which is published in the syllabus. **Any assignments turned in after the scheduled due date are penalized five percent (5%) of the original value per day including**

weekends, breaks, and holidays. All work turned in two weeks after the assignment deadline is received but is granted a grade of zero for that assignment. **No work** is accepted after the final date of regular classes.

2. **Incompletes**

- a. On rare occasions, the grade of “I” may be given for work that is incomplete at the end of the course semester due to a catastrophic event.
- b. The student must establish with the instructor and the director of the Modular/Distance Education Program that work is incomplete for good cause and submit a Petition for Incomplete Grade, with documentation.
- c. The Petition must be submitted at least two weeks prior to the end of the semester or summer course session, not exam week.
- d. The submission of a petition does not automatically ensure the granting of an Incomplete.
- e. The petition must be approved by the academic committee of the Graduate School of Theology and Ministry.
- f. It is the responsibility of the student to initiate the petition, make up any incomplete work, and submit a completed Request for Grade Change form (which has been signed by the course professor) to the academic office.
- g. If the work is not completed by the end of the subsequent semester, the incomplete will automatically convert to an “F,” unless an extension is formally granted.

3. **Attendance**

The administration and faculty of the Graduate School of Theology and Ministry believe that class attendance is crucial in order for students to receive impartation, spiritual formation, and community experience. Therefore, the Official Attendance Policy for the GSTM is as follows:

- a. Students will receive one letter grade reduction after missing more than two weeks of classes.
- b. Students who miss more than one month of classes will fail the course.
- c. **The absences allowed prior to a grade reduction are designed to allow for emergencies and illnesses and are not designed for indiscriminate use.**
- d. Administrative excuses are granted only when a student is on official university business and has received approval in advance from the university administration.
- e. Students are expected to be prompt for classes.
- f. Students are expected to remain for the entire class session.
- g. Leaving early without permission constitutes an absence.

C. Course Policies and Procedures

1. Evaluation Procedure

- a. Grading:

Weekly Online Discussions/Reflections of Mathew, Doehring, and Cahalan texts	50%
Ministry Profile Report	30%
Reflective Paper - <i>The Choice</i> (2017)	20%
- b. Grading scale:

A=90-100%
B=80-89%
C=70-79%
D=60-69%
F=59% and below

2. Whole Person Assessment Requirements
 - a. All students, regardless of degree program, must submit The Ministry Observation Report for PRM 673 to the course professor on D2L.
 - b. Failure to correctly submit designated artifact assignments on time to the course professor in the designated D2L dropbox will result in an Incomplete (“I”) grade for the course. When a student submits the missing artifact to the professor, he or she may fill out the electronic Change of Grade Request Form found at petitions.oru.edu with all relevant information and submit it for the course professor.
3. Other Policies and/or Procedures
 - a. **(50%) Weekly Online Discussions/Reflections**
 Students will do online discussions and reflections of the content of each book. Each week’s student posts should include a list and description of three key ideas from the reading assignment and an explanation of how each idea is important in the student’s personal ministry of pastoral care. Each student will also reflect and respond to another student’s online post. Students should post their discussions and reflections to the reading assignment on or before 11:59 PM (Central Standard Time) Saturday each week. Details regarding each week’s assignments will be posted on D2L.
 - b. **(30%) Ministry Profile Report ***
 Students are to write and submit an 8 to 10-page ministry profile report based upon the purpose of observing changes related to the findings in the course and current ministry practice or an individual’s future ministry practice. Students are to include references from course literature, scripture, and other resources. Your discussion will be based on observation from review of the two profiles; *The Spiritual Gifts Profile (SGP) & The Pastoral Care Profile (PCP)*. The following queries will fulfill the required report/evaluation. Each under-lined topic heading must be in your paper.
 - i. 4-5 Pages: Theology of Pastoral Care; Student is to reflect on their theology based on what; (a) the course related literature says, (b) what the biblical text and scriptural references support, and (c) what other theological resources confirm as the students Theology of Pastoral Care;
 - ii. 1-2 Pages: Vocational Practice; reflect on the distinctive attributes from the SGP & PCP profile. What do they reveal about your calling and gifting’s?
 - iii. 1-2 Pages: Caregiving Practice; reflect on a church or community setting for one’s present or possible future ministry or pastoral care context. Do the SGP & PCP profiles really say and reveal your ministry practice? What are those attributes seen in the profile? Are they accurate?
 - iv. 2-3 Pages Conclusions; should be a summary based on what you observed about your gifts; Using the texts, power-points and reflections, etc., what has been strengthen in your understanding about your own cultural, biblical and theological practice for doing ministry in the future practical sense?
 *You may use answers from your discussions, colleague reflections and reading assignments.
 - c. **(20%) Reflective Paper - The Choice**
 Students will write a 3-5 pages Reflective Paper based upon their reading of *The Choice* (2017) integrating self-reflection and discussion of other books and materials as related to the book’s topics.

d. Attendance/Participation Zoom Sessions

Students are expected to be prompt and participate in any planned zoom sessions. It is expected that students will join with video and audio and remain on the zoom session for its entirety.

V. COURSE CALENDAR (Revisions TBD)

Week	Date	Topics of Study*
1	Week 1	Introduction/Theology of Pastoral Care
2	Week 2	History, Theology, and Caring (Mathew text, Chapters: 1-3)
3	Week 3	Psychology and Assessment (Mathew text, Chapters: 4-5)
4	Week 4	Model, Pain, Suffering, and Care (Mathew text, Chapters: 6-8)
5	Week 5	Intercultural Care, Basic Ingredients (Doehring text, Chapters: 1-2)
6	Week 6	Listening and Establishing (Doehring text, Chapters: 3-4)
7	Week 7	Themes (Doehring text, Chapters: 5-6)
8	Week 8	Systemic Assessment and Planning (Doehring text, Chapters: 7-8)
9	Week 9	Eger book discussion
10	Week 10	Eger book discussion
11	Week 11	Topic discussion TBD
12	Week 12	Topic discussion TBD
13	Week 13	Topic discussion TBD
14	Week 14	Topic discussion TBD
15	Exam Week	Ministry Profile Report

**Inventory for Student Learning Outcomes
Graduate School of Theology and Ministry
Master of Divinity**

PRM 673—Introduction to Pastoral Care Dr. Nancy Cook, Instructor

Summer 2023

This course contributes to student learning outcomes for the Master of Divinity degree as indicated below:

Significant Contribution—Addresses the outcome directly and includes targeted assessment.

Moderate Contribution—Addresses the outcome directly or indirectly and includes some assessment.

Minimal Contribution—Addresses the outcome indirectly and includes little or no assessment.

No Contribution—Does not address the outcome.

Degree Program Outcomes	Significant Contribution	Moderate Contribution	Minimal Contribution	No Contribution
1	Old Testament Scripture in Cultural/Historical Context			
Articulate a foundational knowledge of the historical/theological content of Scripture with application to selected contemporary situations.	X			
2	Exegetical Tools to Translate/Analyze Biblical Text			
Interpret the biblical writings in the Greek and/or Hebrew languages using critical exegetical tools, and write a hermeneutical and exegetical paper.	X			
3	Biblical/Theological Basis for Ministry Strategies			
Present practical ministry strategies utilizing biblical and theological principles.	X			
4	Christian Ethics for Social Issues			
Analyze and discuss contemporary social issues affecting the Church and society based upon biblical, theological, and ethical principles.	X			
5	Theology and Theory of Ministry			
Develop and articulate a theology and theory of ministry that is relevant to the student's background and calling.	X			
6	Skills for Contemporary Ministry			
Demonstrate skills for contemporary ministry within a variety of traditions, churches, and cross-cultural contexts.	X			
7	Knowledge of History of Christianity			
Present a basic knowledge of the history of Christianity.	X			
8	Knowledge of Christian Theology/Doctrines			
Exhibit a basic knowledge of theology and Christian doctrines.		X		

**Master of Divinity and M.A. Practical Theology
PRM 673—Introduction to Pastoral Care
Summer 2023**

This course contributes to the University and program outcomes as indicated below:

Significant Contribution – Addresses the outcome directly and includes targeted assessment.

Moderate Contribution – Addresses the outcome directly or indirectly and includes some assessment.

Minimal Contribution – Addresses the outcome indirectly and includes little or no assessment.

OUTCOMES	Significant	Moderate	Minimal
Spiritual Integrity			
Outcome 1. Articulate a foundational knowledge of the content of Scripture within its cultural and historical context with application to selected contemporary situations.	X		
Outcome 2. Exhibit competence and understanding in the Word of God by utilizing basic methods of biblical interpretation.	X		
Outcome 3. Exhibit a basic knowledge of the contents and methods of Christian theology.		X	
Outcome 4. Research and synthesize key movements and figures together with their significance in the history of Christianity.	X		
Outcome 6. Articulate a biblical/theological understanding of the person, work, and ministry of the Holy Spirit.	X		
Outcome 7. Articulate clearly their ministry/professional calling.		X	
Personal Resilience			
Outcome 4. Research and synthesize key movements and figures together with their significance in the history of Christianity.			
Outcome 6. Articulate a biblical/theological understanding of the person, work, and ministry of the Holy Spirit.			
Outcome 7. Articulate clearly their ministry/professional calling.			
Intellectual Pursuit			
Outcome 1. Articulate a foundational knowledge of the content of Scripture within its cultural and historical context with application to selected contemporary situations.	X		
Outcome 2. Exhibit competence and understanding in the Word of God by utilizing basic methods of biblical interpretation.	X		
Outcome 3. Exhibit a basic knowledge of the contents and methods of Christian theology.		X	
Outcome 4. Research and synthesize key movements and figures together with their significance in the history of Christianity.	X		
Outcome 5. Effectively communicate the message of Christianity through the medium of preaching and teaching.		X	
Global Engagement			
Outcome 1. Articulate a foundational knowledge of the content of Scripture within its cultural and historical context with application to selected contemporary situations.		X	
Outcome 3. Exhibit a basic knowledge of the contents and methods of Christian theology.	X		
Outcome 5. Effectively communicate the message of Christianity through the medium of preaching and teaching.		X	
Outcome 6. Articulate a biblical/theological understanding of the person, work, and ministry of the Holy Spirit.			X
Outcome 7. Articulate clearly their ministry/professional calling.			X
Outcome 8. Demonstrate understanding and skills for contemporary ministry contexts.	X		
Bold Vision			
Outcome 1. Articulate a foundational knowledge of the content of Scripture within its cultural and historical context with application to selected contemporary situations.		X	
Outcome 6. Articulate a biblical/theological understanding of the person, work, and ministry of the Holy Spirit.			X
Outcome 8. Demonstrate understanding and skills for contemporary ministry contexts.			X