TRADITIONS OF SPIRITUAL FORMATION

SF003S17 (Spring 2017)

Class Schedule: 9am-12pm, April 8, 29; May 20; June 3, 10, 17 (Saturdays)
Location: The Meeting House, 2700 Bristol Circle, Oakville ON L6H 6E1
Coordinator: Sandra Broadus: sandy@emmausformation.ca (905) 334-7263 (cell)
Instructor: Paul Bramer: pbramer@gmail.com (647) 406-7929 (cell)

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION
The Emmaus Formation Centre’s Spiritual Direction Certificate Program includes 9 courses. It normally starts with Introduction to Spiritual Formation, includes courses on Scripture and Spiritual Formation, Spiritual Formation Traditions, Discernment, Spiritual Disciplines, Spiritual Direction Methodologies, Spiritual Direction Contexts, Introduction to Spiritual Direction, and the Spiritual Direction Praxis. See https://emmausformation.ca/certificate-program/ and https://emmausformation.ca/course-schedule/.

COURSE DESCRIPTION
There are a number of different traditions in the Christian faith and each nuances spiritual growth and spiritual formation in some distinctive ways. We will survey a number of historical and contemporary expressions of Christian faith including why they developed, how they vary in their understanding of the initiation, goal, and process of spiritual growth, and which spiritual practices they emphasize. We will consider how we engage in formation of self, others, and our community in light of these various models.

OBJECTIVES
When the course is completed you should have
1. Engaged in thinking theologically and historically about Christian spirituality and formation.
2. Identified major themes, trends, persons, and institutions in the history of Christian spiritual formation.
3. Recognized the distinctiveness in various contemporary approaches and the implications of each for Christian formation.
4. Discerned what should be conserved and what should be developed for the ministry of Christian spiritual formation in your own life and community.
ABOUT THE INSTRUCTORS

Paul Bramer graduated from Shalem Institute's spiritual direction program, earned a PhD from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School in Christian education and spiritual formation, and is ordained in the Evangelical Covenant Church. He was a primary developer of the Spiritual Direction Certificate Program at North Park Theological Seminary, Chicago, IL and the Doctor of Ministry program with its Ministry Leadership, Spiritual Formation, and Preaching tracks at Tyndale Seminary, Toronto, ON. He has taught at all levels of education and is now professor of Christian Formation and Leadership and Director of the Doctor of Ministry program at Tyndale Seminary. He interests include depth psychology, spiritual autobiography, Celtic Christianity, and leadership development.

Sandra Broadus is a graduate of the University of Toronto, Tyndale Seminary (MDiv), and George Fox Seminary (DMin, Leadership and Spiritual Formation). Sandra is a Certified Spiritual Director and Supervisor, church retreat leader and speaker. Her desire is to companion others as they discern God's presence and activity in their lives, whether it be in her spiritual direction and supervision practice, her teaching and speaking, or in church retreat leading. She is a member of several professional spiritual direction associations. Sandra is the founder and director of Emmaus Formation Centre.

I. CLASS SCHEDULE

* Readings and videos are listed below by author. Readings are available through link: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/jyse68fx5s59lko/AADa5zrLZIIok_hLUL6x3Lsia?dl=0

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>READINGS*</th>
<th>INSTRUCTOR</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Apr 8</td>
<td>History and Traditions of Spiritual Direction and Soul Care</td>
<td>Edwards-History of SD</td>
<td>McGregor</td>
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<td>Apr 29</td>
<td>The Nature of a Formation Tradition</td>
<td>Westerhoff-Fashioning</td>
<td>Bramer</td>
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<td>Three Formation Traditions: Lay, Religious, and Radical Traditions</td>
<td>Christians</td>
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<td>Luther-Letter in Behalf</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>May 20</td>
<td>The Three Cultures Influencing Early Christianity</td>
<td>Weber-Evangelism</td>
<td>Bramer</td>
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<td>Early Church Approach to Formation: Family, Mentoring, Community</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>May 27</td>
<td>Medieval Church Approaches to Formation: Cenobitic; Celtic; Cathedral/Parish</td>
<td>Benedict-Rule</td>
<td>Bramer</td>
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<td>Trevor-The Search</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>June 3</td>
<td>Historic-Contemporary Streams:</td>
<td>Foster- Social Justice</td>
<td>Bramer</td>
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ASSIGNMENTS

1. Participate constructively in the six classes including group spiritual direction.
2. Readings: Read the bi-weekly articles or excerpts before class according to the schedule. Come to class with a couple of questions, comments, or issues to discuss. (See “Readings” as scheduled, where found, and full bibliography below.)
3. Do two of the following four:
   a) Write 1 ½ page responses to the ideas and experiences after four of the six classes. Due one week following class.
   b) Write one 7-page response to the course, including your readings and classes. Due one week after classes end.
   c) Read one book related to this subject and write 4 page a summary and review of the book. Make a brief report in class. Due before 3rd last class.
   d) Visit one church service of an unfamiliar tradition. Observe aspects of the service (architecture, hymnody, sermon, rituals, etc.) and write a 2-3 page description of what you observed and in 1-2 pages, identify and discuss what seems important in their spirituality. Make a brief report in class. Due by 2nd last class.

Enrichment (optional):
4. Read beyond the required readings.
5. Discuss with someone what you are learning.

TEACHER’S SLIDES AND OTHER RESOURCES CAN BE FOUND IN

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/6cetmk2qw2s5feu/AADrbqhivr9eP8bO-6ardZm_a?dl=0
They will be posted a few days before the class.

READINGS

On-line articles and chapters can be found in

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/crxe59shqo6jj/AAAkeHT4MVL31pXWMaZqYknca?dl=0
See class schedule for reading by class session.


**RECOMMENDED READING**


**SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY**


