

S3000 Introduction to the Christian Spiritual Life

Professor C. Vanessa White FALL 2019

September 1 – December 13, 2019

ONLINE COURSE

Office Hours: By Appointment
Office Location: Room 523
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CTU MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Catholic Theological Union is to prepare effective leaders for the Church, ready to witness to Christ's good news of justice, love, and peace.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an introduction to Christian spirituality and the practices and values that comprise it. The course offers a survey of the components that are included in the five aspects of the spiritual journey: context, participants, content, process and aspiration. These will be considered in both their traditional and contemporary expression. This course will also address current scientific studies on spiritual practice and the spiritual life. Each class session will begin with a period of prayer and lecture that includes time for critical reflection of a spiritual practice that was assigned the previous week, followed by lecture that focuses on the specific module. Other teaching/learning strategies include online group discussions, participation in a group spiritual practice/event and a final paper/oral interview/or presentation.



BOOKS FOR COURSE

Required texts - available from <https://d2l.ctu.edu/content/Book%20List%20for%20Fall%202019-v3.pdf>

Marjorie Thompson. *Soul Feast: An Invitation to the Christian Spiritual Life*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1995, 2005, 2014. Revised Edition. ISBN 978-0-664-23924-4

Howard Thurman. *Disciplines of the Spirit*. Richmond, IN: Friends United Press, 1963. 1987. ISBN 0 913408-35-2

Rupert Sheldrake. *Science and Spiritual Practices*. Berkley, CA: Counterpoint Press, 2017. ISBN: 978-1- 64009-117-7

Wendy M. Wright. *The Essential Spirituality Handbook*. Liguori: Liguori Press, 2009. ISBN 978-0-7648-11786-1

Gilberto Cavazos-Gonzales. *BEYOND PIETY: The Christian Spiritual Life, Justice and Liberation*. Eugene, OR: Wipf and Stock. 2010. ISBN 978-1-60899-509-7

Ghezzi, Bert. *THE SIGN OF THE CROSS*. Chicago. Loyola Press, 2004 ISBN: 0-8294-1619-6

BOOKS ON RESERVE IN THE CTU PAUL BECHTOLD LIBRARY



Ronald Rolheiser. *The Holy Longing: The Search for a Christian Spirituality*. New York: Doubtless Press, 1995. ISBN 0-385-49418-1

Marjorie Thompson. *Soul Feast: An Invitation to the Christian Spiritual Life*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1995, 2005. ISBN 978-0-664-22947-4

Howard Thurman. *Disciplines of the Spirit*. Richmond, IN: Friends United Press, 1963. 1987. ISBN 0-913408-35-2

The Inward Journey. Richmond, IN: Friends United Press,

Wendy M. Wright. *The Essential Spirituality Handbook*. Liguori: Liguori Press, 2009. ISBN 978-0-7648-1786-1

Gilberto Cavazos-Gonzales – *Beyond Piety: The Christian Spiritual Life, Justice and Liberation*. Dorothy C. Bass – *Practicing Our Faith*. Jossey-Bass, 1997, 2005.

Ghezzi, Bert. *THE SIGN OF THE CROSS*. Chicago. Loyola Press, 2004 ISBN: 0-8294-1619-6

LEARNING OUTCOMES

After completing this course, students will be able to:

1. **Identify, explore, critique and reflect with** a contextual framework, an understanding of Christian spirituality and its impact on the spiritual journey of the student (*MDiv.2; MA1; MAPS1, 3; MA in Sp. Min.1,3*)
2. Recognize, both critically and appreciatively, the five aspects of the Christian spiritual journey. (*MDiv.2; MA1; MAPS1, 3; MA in 1,3*)
3. Access literature on the Christian Spiritual Life and its various dimensions. (*MDiv.2; MA1; MAPS1, 3; MA in Sp. Min. 1,3*)
4. Articulate and engage in spiritual practices that will impact their spiritual and ministerial development. (*MDiv.3; MAPS2, 3; MA in Specimen. 1,3*)
5. Research a specific topic in the Christian Spiritual Life (MA-academic) (*MDiv.2; MA1; MAPS1, 3; MA in Spec. 1,5*)

ASSESSMENT METHODS

- **Student performance in this course will be evaluated on the basis of:**
 - Presence and participation in class
 - Written and oral assignments associated with readings, notes, class participation and attendance
 - Individual and group presentations assigned during the course.

Criteria used for assessing performance

- **Content** (e.g. quality of material in the submission of sources learned through course notes and readings; demonstration of ability to support one's position)
- **Communication** (e.g. clarity of thought; clarity of organization of ideas; style—grammar, spelling, proper citation of sources, etc., in group situations ability to work collegially)
- **Critique** (e.g. ability to identify strengths and weakness of ideas/positions presented by self and/or others; attention to what is missing in the positions/ideas of self and /or others; attention to the contexts out of which positions/ideas arise, including one's own context)

GRADING

Grading and Points

A+		4.00	99-100
A		4.00	93-98
A-		3.75	90-92
B+		3.50	87-89
B		3.00	83-86
B-		2.75	80-82
C+		2.50	77-79
C		2.00	73-76
C-		1.75	70-72
D+		1.00	67-69

- A** Indicates the student has **significantly** exceeded the minimum expectations for the assignment. The student has consulted the relevant scholars and has consistently entered into dialogue with these scholars, offering his/her critique of the relevant sources. All the required parts of the assignment are present, and the written presentation is consistently above average, with no errors in spelling or grammar. Student demonstrated leadership in the course.
- B** Indicates the student has **exceeded the minimum** expectations for the assignment. The student has consulted relevant scholars and has entered into dialogue with most of them, offering his/her critique of the sources. All the required parts of the assignment are present, and the written presentation is above average, with no errors in spelling or grammar. Student demonstrated good participation in the course.
- C** Indicates the student has **met the minimum** expectations for the assignment. The student has consulted relevant scholars and has represented their views well, at least occasionally offering a critique of the sources. The required parts of the assignment are present, and the written presentation is acceptable, with minimal errors in spelling or grammar. Student made little contribution to the group or class.
- D** Indicates the student **has not met the minimum** expectations for the assignment in one or more of the following ways: significant critical scholarship is not consulted; significant segments of the assignment are missing or inadequate; or the written presentation is inadequate in grammar, spelling, or format. Minimal participation of student
- F** Indicates the work is not acceptable for graduate-level study.
- I** Student did not complete work for the course and has consulted with the professor to complete work at later date and has completed necessary forms for an incomplete.
- PI** Student did not complete the work and therefore has received a permanent incomplete in the course and does not receive credit for taking the course.

SPECIFIC ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

1. **PRESENCE, PARTICIPATION AND PRACTICE (PPP) 40 points**

Students are expected to participate for all class modules. It will be presumed that students have read the assigned readings for the week and have viewed the class lecture for that week. Students must be prepared to engage in conversations surrounding the readings through online postings.

- **Student Participation** - in class exercises (prayers and other practices), completion and critical reflection of reading assignments and discussions (online and in class) are required.
- **Plan A Prayer Experience** with others in their group. Each student will be paired with another student to plan a prayer experience for the class. This can take the form of a video, written prayer, inclusion of song meditation or other form of prayer.
- **Small Group Critical Responses** – Each student will participate in a small group discussion board the entire semester. For each module, the students will write a short critical reflection addressing a **minimum of five readings from that module.** (750 – 1000 words) All students will read the postings and respond. Postings must cite readings. Points will be given for clarity, critical thinking and response to others in the group. Critical Responses are due the following days. Responses must be at least 75 -100 words.

Fridays at midnight

Responses are due by the Sunday at midnight.

(September 27 on Context; October 25 on Participants; November 15 on Content; December 6 on Process).

2. **INDIVIDUAL SPIRITUAL PRACTICE - 20 points Due: Weekly**

Each student will be required to participate in an individual spiritual practice and critically reflect on this experience as well as keep an online journal of their spiritual journey during the class. This journal will include

- **Weekly spiritual practice**
 - **Journal Reflection (10 entries)** (*Sign of the Cross* and *Disciplines of the Spirit* and other spiritual readings, prayers and reflections during class) Journal reflections are due on Saturday of the week.
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3. **COMMUNAL SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCE 15 points Due: November 22, 2019**

Each student will choose a spiritual event/experience that takes place in the context of a community (such as novena, Taize prayer, holy hour, etc.). Some suggestions include many of the many spiritual events/experiences that are offered at CTU or the neighboring ACTS schools. Student will then write a short reflection/integrative paper (guidelines given in class) on their experience and how this experience contributes to their understanding of the Christian Spiritual Life. Student must consult/inform professor of selection before engaging in the communal spiritual experience. Guidelines and suggestions will be given in class and placed online. Some examples include:

September 13 Tolton Chicago Pilgrimage

November – Altar De Los Muertos - CTU (prayer at noon)

Taize Prayer (4th Presbyterian Church, 126 E. Chestnut in Chicago and throughout the global world)

Vesper Services (Monasteries and retreat centers)

Prayer Marches (St. Sabina Catholic Church in Chicago)

4. **FINAL PRESENTATION/PAPER/ORAL INTERVIEW (FPI)- 25 points**

Due: Filmed Presentations begin - Week of November 25, 2019,

Oral and Paper week of December 6 – 16, 2017

IN CONSULTATION WITH THE PROFESSOR – THE STUDENT WILL CHOOSE FROM ONE OF THE FOLLOWING FOR A FINAL PAPER/PROJECT.

- **8 – 10-page paper on a specific topic on the Christian Spiritual Life.** Topics will be given in class or student in consultation with the professor will choose a topic. Upon consultation with professor, Pastoral students may write integrative paper covering themes in this course and their implications for ministry & spiritual life. Student must follow CTU writing manual, citation of sources. ***MA in Theology/ Research must choose specific topic***
- **20-minute oral - filmed presentation** on a specific topic on Christian Spiritual Life.
- **15 minutes - Oral Interview/Discussion** of questions on various themes discussed in the course. Questions will be given to student two weeks before the end of the semester. Student chooses two questions and professor chooses one.

POINT ASSESSMENT

Participation and other assignments (PPP) <i>(in class participation, prayers, critical reflection online)</i>	40 points
Individual Spiritual Experience (ISE) <i>(journal and practices)</i>	20 points
Group Spiritual Life Experience and Paper (GSL)	15 points
Final Presentation/Paper/Oral Interview (FPI)	25 points

EXPECTATIONS

Bias-Free Language – “Faculty and students are expected to use inclusive, nondiscriminatory language when referring to human beings in classroom presentations and discussions, in written materials and papers for courses, and in projects or thesis. While recognizing the complexity of the cultural contexts and theological issues around the question of how we name God, everyone is also encouraged to use gender neutral or gender-balanced language and imagery as far as possible when they speak about God.” [Cf. Student handbook, 4.2.6]

Netiquette and Nethics – *policy on Netiquette found on union site.*

COPYRIGHT POLICY – “It is the intent of Catholic Theological Union (CTU) that all members of the CTU community adhere to the provisions of the United States Copyright Law (Title 17, USC, Section 101 *et seq*) and all related legislative acts. CTU expects those using materials which are or may be copyright protected to be familiar with and comply with copyright law. For more information about copyright go to: <http://www.copyright.gov/title17/92chap1.html#107> [cf. Student Handbook, 12.4]

POLICY FOR MISSED CLASSES AND LATE ASSIGNMENTS: It is the responsibility of each student who misses a class for whatever reason to inform one of the course instructors by phone or email. Students are then given a week to submit a make-up summary paper. This will take the form of a 500-word (or 2 pages double-spaced) summary of the main points of the readings for the week. Cf. “Missed Class Assignment” on course site on Union. Failure to makeup the class will impact the student’s grade. It is also the responsibility of students to turn in assignments on the date assigned. Failure to do so will lower a student’s cumulative grade points.

STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC INTEGRITY – see **Student Handbook** Section 4, Plagiarism. Academic integrity demands that a student acknowledge all sources employed in the preparation of written assignments, whether in the use of exact quotations, or in substantial reproduction of ideas. **Failure to do so (plagiarism) will result in a failing grade for the course and may also result in dismissal.**

CAMPUS RESOURCES

Library Hours: <https://ctu.edu/the-paul-bechtold-library/> For information, Kristine Velden, Library Director, kveldheer@ctu.edu or 773-371-5460

English for Theological Education: contact Christina Zaker

Writing Handbook: located in the Helpful Links section of D2L at <https://d2l.ctu.edu>.

Writing & Resource Center: There are a number of writing resources all CTU students. The Writing and Resource Center is located in room 338 for drop in help with writing and presentation skills. Contact: Kathleen Martin, kmartin@ctu.edu, room 370B.

Technology Help: D2L and Educational Technology, Rick Maundy, rmauney@ctu.edu

Information Technology help desk: support@ctu.edu

Student Services: contact Carmen Salas, Room 347; 773-371-5536;

Academic Calendar: <http://www.ctu.edu/academics/academic-calendar>

COURSE CALENDAR

PRE-MODULE

WEEK ONE – September 1 – 8, 2019
INTRODUCTIONS

Objective:

- Student will begin to define spirituality.

Reflection and Posting Assignment:

- What is your definition of spirituality?
- Describe your spiritual journey.
- Post your introduction and definition of spirituality online. Short reflection please.

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE READING: Bert Ghezzi. *The Sign of the Cross - Introduction*

- Michael Downey. "Understanding Christian Spirituality" in **SPIRITUALITY TODAY** Fall 1991, Vol.43 No. 3, pp. 271-280.
<http://www.spiritualitytoday.org/spir2day/91433downey.html>
- Gilberto Cavazos-González, OFM. <http://spiritualitas.edublogs.org/2010/10/> or *Beyond Piety*. 1 – 27.
- Ronald Rolheiser. "What is Spirituality" in *Holy Longing*. 1 – 19. (on D2L)
- Thea Bowman. "Spirituality: The Soul of the People" definition on D2L

MODULE ONE

CONTEXT of the Christian Spiritual Life

Objectives for Module One:

- Student will be able to gain a greater understanding of their context in the world and the social context of others.
- Students will be able to name social and developmental factors that impact the spiritual life.
- Students will be able to describe how their current context and focus on technology and activity shapes the spiritual life
- Students will be able to state how culture and context shape and impact the spiritual life

[1-A] WEEK TWO –September 8 – 14, 2019
(CONTEXT – The World)
PRACTICE: BE STILL

Journal Assignment:

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE READING: Bert Ghezzi. *The Sign of the Cross – Chapter 1*

Critical Reading Assignment

- Ronald Rolheiser. "The Current Struggle with Christian Spirituality" in *The Holy Longing*. 20 – 41.
- Marjorie Thompson. "Hunger and Thirst for the Spirit: The Spiritual Yearning of Our Time. *Soul Feast*. Chapter One. 1 – 16.
- Tran, Mai-Anh Le. "Narrating lives, narrating faith: "organic hybridity" for contemporary Christian

- Religious Education." *Religious Education* 105, no. 2 (March 1, 2010): 188-203.
- Yust, Karen-Marie. 2014. "Digital power: exploring the effects of social media on children's spirituality." *International Journal of Children's Spirituality* 19, no. 2: 133-143. ATLASerials, EBSCOhost (accessed September 1, 2017).
<http://ezproxy.ctu.edu:2048/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=rft&AN=ATLAn3767075&scope=site>
 - Optional – Shared Statement on racism & hate crimes by Academy of Catholic Hispanic Theologians and Black Catholic Theological Symposium
<http://www.ctu.edu/story/article/statement-regarding-most-recent-surge-racist-hate-crimes-united-states-issued-bcts>

[1-B] WEEK THREE – September 15 – 21, 2019
(CONTEXT – Journey and Growth)
PRACTICE: SABBATH

Journal Assignment

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE READING: Bert Ghezzi. *The Sign of the Cross, Chapter 2*

Writing Assignment:

#1 Small Group Critical Reflection Discussion of readings from Module One. Due on September 21

Critical Reading Assignment

- Rogoff, Barbara. "Orientating Concepts and Ways of Understanding the Cultural Nature of Human Development." *The Cultural Nature of Human Development*. NY: Oxford University Press, 3 – 34 (online)
- Marjorie Thompson. "Reclaiming Sabbath" in *Soul Feast*. Chapter Three. 69-79.

CHOOSE 2

- Demarest, Bruce A. "Reflections on developmental spirituality: journey paradigms and stages." *Journal of Spiritual Formation & Soul Care* 1, no. 2 (September 1, 2008): 149-167. *ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials*, EBSCOhost (accessed September 1, 2017).
- Parker, Stephen, and Yvonne Bissonnette Tate. "Using Erikson's developmental theory to understand and nurture spiritual development in Christians." *Journal of Psychology and Christianity* 26, no. 3 (September 1, 2007): 218-226. *ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials*, EBSCOhost
<http://ezproxy.ctu.edu:2048/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=rft&AN=ATLA0001625252&scope=site>
- Jon Rainbow. "Spiritual and faith development in the later years." *Review & Expositor* 88, no. 3 (June 1, 1991): 195-204. *ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials*, EBSCOhost (accessed September 1, 2017).
<http://ezproxy.ctu.edu:2048/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=rft&AN=ATLA0000843089&scope=site>
- Darian Duckworth. "The Unplugged Pastor" in. *Church Health Reader online*. <https://chreader.org/the-unplugged-pastor/>
- Scott Morris. *Healing Sabbath*. Church Health Reader. <https://chreader.org/healing-sabbath/>

MODULE TWO

PARTICIPANTS of the Christian Spiritual Life

Objectives for Module Two:

- Student will be able to articulate and differentiate the three participants of the Christian Spiritual Life.
- Students will be able to demonstrate how understanding of the three participants of the Christian Spiritual Life shapes the spiritual journey.
- Students will be able to name how hospitality is a non-negotiable of the Christian Spiritual Life.
- Student will be able to demonstrate the impact of the practice of sabbath on their spiritual life.

[2-A] WEEK FOUR – September 22 – 28, 2019

THE TRIUNE GOD – Others – Self
(Creator – Redeemer – Sanctifier)

Journal Assignment

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE READING: Bert Ghezzi. *The Sign of the Cross, Chapter 3*

Critical Reading Assignment

- Gilberto Cavazos-Gonzales. "God's Liberating Family – GOD-JESUS-HOLY SPIRIT" in *Beyond Piety*. 41 -49
- C. Vanessa White. "The Holy Spirit in the Acts of the Apostles" *The Bible Today*. Vol 54. No. 3 (May/June 2014) 141 – 146.
- Wendy Wright. "Belonging to the Mystical Body" in *The Essential Spirituality Handbook*. 35 – 97.
- Winn, Albert C. 1979. "Holy Spirit and the Christian life." *Interpretation* 33, no. 1: 47-57. *ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials, EBSCOhost*
<http://ezproxy.ctu.edu:2048/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=rh&AN=ATLA0000769819&scope=site>
- Ronald Rolheiser. "The Incarnation as the Basis for a Christian Spirituality" in *Holy Longing* 71 – 107.

[2-B] WEEK FIVE – September 29 – October 5, 2019

(PARTICIPANTS)

THE TRIUNE GOD – Others – Self

Saints, Holy Men and Women, Spiritual Companions Family – Friends, Human Family

Journal Assignment

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE READING: Bert Ghezzi. *The Sign of the Cross, Chapter 4 & 5*

Critical Reading Assignment

- Gilberto Cavazos-Gonzales. "God's Liberating Family – Virgin Mary/Communion of Saints" in *Beyond Piety*. 41 -49
- Wendy Wright. "Charisms in the Body of Christ" in *The Essential Spirituality Handbook*. 207-275.
- Marjorie Thompson. "Companions on the Journey: The Gift of Spiritual Direction" and "Entertaining Angels Unawares" in *Soul Feast*. 107 - 148.

Choose One:

- Kerry Alys Robinson. "Why Catholics are Called to Radical Hospitality in These Political Times." *America*. September 4, 2017. <https://www.americamagazine.org/politics-society/2017/08/24/why->

[catholics-are-called-radical-hospitality-these-political-times](#)

- Rachel Bundang "May you storm heaven with your prayers: Devotions to Mary and Jesus in Filipino American Catholic Life. *Off the Menu: Asian and Asian North American Women's Religion and Theology* (WJKP, 2007), esp.)
- Anna Maria Pineda. "Hospitality" in *Practicing Our Faith*. Jossey-Bass Publishers, 29 – 42.

[2-C] WEEK SIX – October 6 – 12, 2019

(PARTICIPANTS)

THE TRIUNE God –Others - Self

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Journal Assignment

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE READING: Bert Ghezzi: *The Sign of the Cross*. Chapter 6 & 7

Critical Reading Assignment

- Gilberto Cavazos-Gonzales. "Embracing Our Reality" in *Beyond Piety*. 28 - 40

Choose three:

- Wesche, Kenneth Paul. 1999. "Eastern Orthodox Spirituality: Union with God in Theosis." *Theology Today* 56, no. 1: 29-43. *ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials*, EBSCOhost
<http://ezproxy.ctu.edu:2048/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=rft&AN=ATLA0000985335&scope=site>
- Díaz-Stevens, Ana María. "Memory, Imagination, and Tradition: Diasporic Latino Spirituality." *Union Seminary Quarterly Review* 53, no. 1-2 (January 1, 1999): 1-18. *ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials*, EBSCOhost (accessed September 8, 2013).
- White, C Vanessa. "I'm gonna do what the Spirit says do?" A Spirituality of laity in mission." *New Theology Review* 24, no. 2 (May 2011): 85-88. *ATLA Catholic Periodical and Literature Index*, EBSCOhost (accessed September 8, 2013).
- Kujawa-Holbrook, Sheryl A. "Resurrected lives: relational evangelism with young adults." *Congregations* 37, no. 2 (March 1, 2010): 17-21. *ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials*, EBSCOhost
<http://ezproxy.ctu.edu:2048/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=rft&AN=ATLA0001791934&scope=site>
- Thanh-Tu, Nguyen, Christian R Bellehumeur, and Judith Malette. 2014. "Faith in God and post-traumatic growth: a qualitative study among Vietnamese Catholic immigrants." *Counseling Et Spiritualité* 33, no. 2: 137-155. *ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials*, EBSCOhost (accessed September 1, 2017).
- Traitler, Reinhold. "Feminist and Orthodox spiritualities: "women's spirituality." *Ecumenical Review* 60, no. 1-2 (January 1, 2008): 16-28. *ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials*, EBSCOhost
<http://ezproxy.ctu.edu:2048/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=rft&AN=ATLA0001703695&scope=site>
- Orlando Espín. *The God of the Vanquished: Foundations for a Latino Spirituality in The Faith of the People*. Orbis Books, 1997. 11 – 31.
- Oduyoye, Mercy Amba. "Praying for God's transformation in Africa." *Ecumenical Review* 57, no. 3 (July 1, 2005): 281-283. *ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials*, EBSCOhost
(<http://ezproxy.ctu.edu:2048/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=rft&AN=ATLA0001516067&scope=site>)
- Tinker, George E. 1992. "Spirituality, Native American personhood, sovereignty and solidarity." *The Ecumenical Review* 44, no. 3: 312-324. *ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials*, EBSCOhost (accessed September 5, 2017)

- Wedow, Robbee, Landon Schnabel, Lindsey K. D. Wedow, and Mary Ellen Konieczny. 2017. "I'm Gay and I'm Catholic': Negotiating Two Complex Identities at a Catholic University." *Sociology of Religion* 78 (3): 289–317.
doi:10.1093/socrel/srx028.https://ctu.idm.oclc.org/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=a9h&AN=125529207&scope=site

Writing Assignment:

#2 Small Group Critical Reflection Discussion of readings from Module Two. Due on October 11.

READING WEEK

WEEK SEVEN

October 13 -19, 2019

READING WEEK



“Every person needs to take one day away. A day in which one consciously separates the past from the future. Jobs, family, employers, and friends can exist one day without any one of us, and if our egos permit us to confess, they could exist eternally in our absence. Each person deserves a day away in which no problems are confronted, no solutions searched for. Each of us needs to withdraw from the cares which will not withdraw from us.” –

Maya Angelou – Wouldn’t Take Nothing for the Journey, 2011

This week is given to you to help you catch up on your reading for the semester. Begin the week with taking a little time to refresh and renew for the week’s journey ahead.

MODULE THREE

CONTENT of the Christian Spiritual Life

Objectives for Module Three

- Student will be able to name at least three content/sources for the Christian Spiritual Journey and their importance.
- Student will be able to state why sign and symbol are important sources/content for the Christian Spiritual Life.
- Student will be able to state how worship and prayer are both seen as content and processes of the Christian Spiritual life.

[3-A] WEEK EIGHT – October 20 – 26, 2019

BIBLE – SPIRITUAL READING – ICONOGRAPHY– LECTIO DIVINA OR VISIO DIVINA

Journal Assignment

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE READING: Howard Thurman. "Growing in Wisdom and Stature" in *Disciplines of the Spirit*. 38

Critical Reading Assignment

- Cecilia Gonzales Andrieu "Afro-Latina Woman Re-images Michelangelo's 'The Creation of Adam'" in *America* June 6, 2017. <https://www.americamagazine.org/arts-culture/2017/06/06/afro-latina-artist-reimagines-michelangelos-creation-adam>
- Gilberto Cavazos-Gonzales. "God's Formative Word" in *Beyond Piety*. 40-82
- Marjorie Thompson. "Chewing the Bread of the Word: The Nature and Practice of Spiritual Reading" in *Soul Feast*. 19-31.
- Stylianos, Abp of Australia. "The icon in Orthodox spirituality." *Phronema* 4, (January 1, 1989): 5-13. *ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials, EBSCOhost*.

[3-B] WEEK NINE – October 27 – November 2, 2019

(CONTENT)

PRAYER, MYSTICISM PRACTICE – BE

Journal Assignment

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE READING: Howard Thurman. "Prayer" in *Disciplines of the Spirit*. 86 – 103.

Critical Reading Assignment

- Marjorie Thompson. "Communication and Communion with God: Approaches to Prayer" in *Soul Feast*. 33-55.
 - Joy R. Rostic. "Mystical Experience, Radical Subjectification and Activism in the Religious Experience of African American Women." In *Mysticism and Social Transformation*. Ed. Janet Ruffing. Syracuse University Press. 2001. 143-158.
 - Boyle, Joseph M. "The book of nature calling us to union with God in prayer." *Cistercian Studies Quarterly* 47, no. 1 (2012): 87-96. *ATLA Catholic Periodical and Literature Index, EBSCOhost*.
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[3-C] WEEK TEN – November 3 – 9, 2019
(CONTENT)
WORSHIP/LITURGY/SIGN AND SYMBOL

Journal Assignment

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE READING: Howard Thurman. "Suffering" in *Disciplines of the Spirit* 64-75.

Critical Reading Assignment

- Marjorie Thompson. "Gathered in the Spirit: Our Common Worship" in *Soul Feast*. 57 – 73.
- Oduro, Thomas. "Symbolisms in African independent churches: aides to spirituality and spiritual formation." *Ogbomoso Journal of Theology* 16, no. 1 (January 1, 2011): 67-84. ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials, EBSCOhost
- Gil Ostdiek. "Eucharist and Life" *Catholics on Call* online. July 21, 2011
<http://www.catholicsoncall.org/eucharist-and-life-part-1> (accessed August 31, 2017)

Writing Assignment:

#3 Small Group Critical Reflection Discussion of readings from Module Three. Due on November 8

MODULE FOUR
PROCESS of the Christian Spiritual Life

Objective:

- Students will be able to articulate how scientific studies have shown the relationship between spiritual practice and the human body and experience.
- Student will be able to name those spiritual practices essential for the Christian Spiritual Life.
- Students will be able to identify the relationship between spiritual experience, spirituality and justice in the world.
- Student will be able to show the impact of regular spiritual practice on the journey of the Christian individual, specifically their own journey

[4-A] WEEK ELEVEN - November 10 – 16, 2019
(PROCESS)
PRACTICES

Journal Assignment

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE READING: Howard Thurman. "Commitment" in *Disciplines of the Spirit*. 13-37.

Critical Reading Assignment

- Craig Dykstra and Dorothy C. Bass. "A Way of Thinking About a Way of Life" *Practicing Our Faith*. San Francisco. Jossey Bass, 1997, 2005.
- Wendy Wright. "Walking the Way" in *The Essentials of the Christian Spiritual Life*. 99 – 205.
- Margaret Thompson. "The Practice of Self-Emptying: Rediscovering the Fast." and "Of Conscience and Consciousness: Self-examination, Confession and Awareness" in *Soul Feast*. 75 – 106.

Choose One

- Cavazos-González, Gilberto. "Shining a light on the new mysteries." *U.S. Catholic* 68, no. 10 (October 2003): 30-31. *ATLA Catholic Periodical and Literature Index*, EBSCOhost

http://ezproxy.ctu.edu:2048/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=va_h&AN=CPLI0000368532&scope=site

- McNaughton, Lynne. 2008. "'Because I walked it': pilgrimage as spiritual practice during life's transitions." *Touchstone* 26, no. 1: 35-44. *ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials*, EBSCOhost (accessed September 2, 2017).
- M. Shawn Copeland. "Saying Yes and Saying No." *Practicing Our Faith*. Jossey Bass, 1997, 2005. Chapter 5.
- Tan, Jonathan Y. "Asian-American Marian devotions as ritual practice." *New Theology Review* 23, no. 3 (August 2010): 35-44. *ATLA Catholic Periodical and Literature Index*, EBSCOhost

[4-B] WEEK TWELVE – November 17 – 23, 2013
(PROCESS)
SCIENCE and SPIRITUAL PRACTICE
Journal Assignment

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE READING: Howard Thurman. "Reconciliation" *Disciplines of the Spirit*. 104-127.

Critical Reading Assignment

Rupert Sheldrake. *Science and Spiritual Practice*. Berkeley, CA: Counterpoint. 2017. 4 – 169.

Writing Assignment

Communal Prayer Experience Paper Due – November 22

WEEK THIRTEEN – November 24 – November 30, 2019
PRACTICE: AN ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE
Thanksgiving Break



[4-C] WEEK FOURTEEN – December 1 – 7, 2019 (PROCESS)
JUSTICE, MINISTRY AND SPIRITUALITY PRACTICE – TBA

Critical Reading Assignment

- Gilberto Cavazos-Gonzales. "Pillars of Liberating Spirituality" in *Beyond Piety*. 84 -106.
- Oduyoye, Mercy Amba. "The story of a circle." *Ecumenical Review* 53, no. 1 (January 1, 2001): 97-100. *ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials*, EBSCOhost (accessed September 9, 2013). Or Oduyoye, Mercy Amba. "Troubled But Not Destroyed." *Journal of The Interdenominational Theological Center* 26, no. 2 (March 1, 1999): 19-35. *ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials*, EBSCOhost
- Massingale, Bryan N. "Racism: A Spiritual Cataract that Limits Our Vision" (accessed September 1, 2017). <https://www.ncronline.org/news/justice/fr-bryan-massingale-calls-racism-spiritual-cataract-limits-our-vision> and/or "To Break Bread Together We Must End the Scandal of Hunger" in *U.S. Catholic Magazine*. June 2017. <http://www.uscatholic.org/articles/201706/break-bread-together-we-must-end-scandal-hunger-31029> (accessed September 1, 2017) or "We Cannot Abandon Transgender Catholics" in *U.S. Catholic*. August 2016. <http://www.uscatholic.org/articles/201608/we-cannot->

[abandon-transgender-catholics-30726](#)

- “Theology en la Plaza” - NCR online column articles – by Arturo J. Bañuelas, M.T. Dávila, Miguel Díaz, Carmen Nanko-Fernández “Hate is Not Welcome Here”. August 9, 2019. <https://www.ncronline.org/news/opinion/theology-en-la-plaza/hate-not-welcome-aqu>

Writing Assignment:

- #4 Small Group Critical Reflection Discussion of readings from Module Four. Due Dec. 6

MODULE FIVE

Aspiration of the Christian Spiritual Life

Objectives for Module Five

- Student will be able to state what is the ultimate goal of the Christian Spiritual Life.
- Student will be able to define a rule of life and its importance and/or impact on the Christian Spiritual Life.

**[5-A] WEEK FIFTEEN – December 8 – 12, 2019
(ASPIRATION)
UNION WITH GOD PRACTICE – TBA**

Critical Reading Assignment

- Marjorie Thompson. “Putting it All Together: Developing a Rule of Life” in *Soul Feast*. 145 – 153.
- Gilberto Cavazos-Gonzales. “Christian Aspiration” in *Beyond Piety*. 107-112.

Due: – Student Presentations

**Week of December 8, 2019 2017
ORAL INTERVIEWS/EXAM
FINAL PAPER DUE – December 13, 2019**

**ALL ASSIGNMENTS DUE BY DECEMBER 13, 2019.
(No Exceptions made without the approval of the professor)**

Syllabus Subject to Revision