



MAS 503 Pastoral Studies 3 Credits/ 4 CEUs

Instructor Name	Robert Brumet MS
Office Hours	M 3.00- 4.00pm; M W 9.30- 10.15am; T Th: 11:00- 11.30am, 2.30- 3.30 pm. Other times by appointment. (Sign-up sheet is on the door.)
Telephone	Office: 816 524 3550 x 2440 Cell phone: 816 853 5721
E-Mail	BrumetRJ@unityonline.org
Required Texts	Howard Clinebell. Basic Types of Pastoral Care & Counseling: Resources for the Ministry of Healing & Growth Nashville TN: Abingdon, 1984. (This text is also used for MAS 501: Pastoral Counseling I)
Recommended Reading (On Library Reserve.)	John Bradshaw. On: The Family. Deerfield Beach FL: Health Communications, Inc. 1996. Howard Clinebell. Understanding and Counseling Persons with Alcohol, Drug, and Behavioral Addictions. Nashville TN: Abingdon, 1998. Kathleen Singh. The Grace in Dying: A Message of Hope, Comfort, and Spiritual Transformation. New York: Harper Collins, 1998.

Course Description

This course provides relevant information on a variety of life issues encountered in pastoral ministry. The focus is on the pastor's function and relationship to the congregants, as well as the effective use of Unity principles in various pastoral circumstances. The elements of designing, implementing and administering lay pastoral programs will be discussed. Prerequisite: MAS 501 Pastoral Counseling I or equivalent.

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Articulate knowledge of a variety of life issues encountered in pastoral ministry.
2. Describe how these life issues will be addressed in their ministry.
3. Describe how their own life has been impacted by these issues and how these experiences will influence their ministry.

The above objectives partially fulfill the following outcomes for the Master of Divinity and Certificate programs:

1. Provide spiritual counsel, establish rapport, and communicate empathetically.
2. Perform pastoral care functions.

Assignments: (Tentative)

1. Read assigned text material.
2. Write three reflection papers: One reflection paper on the topics presented in each unit. Unit I paper is due May 3; Unit II paper is due May 24; Unit III paper is due Jun 2.

Instructions for Reflection Papers:

Unit I is comprised of the following topics: Marriage/ Partnership; Divorce; Family Systems; Human Sexuality. **Unit II:** Addiction and Recovery; Domestic Violence; Child Abuse; Religious Abuse. **Unit III:** Aging; Death/Dying; Suicide; Grief/Bereavement.

Each reflection paper should contain the following: 1) A brief summary of each topic presented. (1pg max)

2) Your personal response to the topics. (3) Your plan for addressing this topic in your ministry.

Personal responses should include: your emotional response to the topic as presented; and your personal history and/or healing needs with this issue.

Please double space all text. Include a cover page that contains your name, current date, course title and the paper's due date. (Papers should be 12- 15 pages in length.) Due dates: Unit I – May 3; Unit II – May 24; Unit III – Jun 2.

3. Write a term paper on any of the following topics: Marriage or Partnership; Divorce; Human Sexuality; Family Systems; Addiction and/or Recovery; Child Abuse and/or Domestic Violence; Aging & The Elderly; Suicide; Religious Abuse; Death & Dying; Grief & Bereavement. Due May 26.

Instructions for Term Papers:

- The purpose of this paper is to present general information and pastoral applications for your chosen topic or issue, such that it could be of benefit to someone functioning as a Unity minister. The purpose of the paper is to educate the reader on the chosen topic, to show him/her ways that Unity principles could be applied to this topic, and to explain how a Unity ministry could serve in this arena.
- Topics may be combined or slightly modified with approval of instructor.
- Include material from at least three authorities in the area you have chosen.
- Use Chicago style for all notes and references.
- Length: 3 - 4k words (12- 15 pages).

Selected Bibliography:

To be provided.

Contact the faculty member for a copy of the complete syllabus.