

FE-4223: Community Intern Reflection

"So in myself I see what self is... in my town I see what community is... in the world I see what is under heaven."

~ Lao Tzu, *Tao Te Ching*, Ch. 54

Spring 2020 Synchronous Online

<https://zoom.us/j/237556701>

Thursdays, 3:40pm - 5:00pm Pacific Time

February 6, 2020 – May 7, 2020

Final Syllabus (subject to change)

Instructor: J. Tyson Casey tcasey@sksm.edu
Office Hours: by appointment only, generally before class on Thursdays
Grading: 2 Units. Pass/Fail (unless letter grade is requested in writing)

I. Rationale

This course is a peer group seminar for interns doing fieldwork in community field sites. It offers the@logical reflection, linking the experience in the internship to the student's broad educational and vocational goals (praxis). The class is designed for students to assess their personal progress, gather support from peers and the instructor, integrate their internship experience into their degree program, and deepen the@logical practices to sustain religious leadership in community ministry. Students gather multi-religious sources of wisdom and inspiration, which serve as touchstones for group spiritual reflection. The course includes a required live web-based video seminar approximately twice a month, as well as weekly online discussion postings that orient the seminar sessions. This online course is synchronous on Zoom and counts as low residency; students must have consistent internet access to relevant technology. Evaluation is based on participation, depth of engagement with peers and resources, as well as written self-evaluations. Required for MDiv/ MASC students enrolled in credit for community internship during the same semester. Fulfills thresholds based on personal learning goals.

Prerequisites: Simultaneous enrolment in community internship credits for the semester. Full and complete approval of the internship agreement by the Director of Contextual Education, site supervisor and faculty advisor. Student must submit description of approved internship and copy of agreement to FE-4222 instructor prior to first session.

II. Intended Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will:

- Have reflected on and integrated their religious leadership and site experiences
- Be familiar with core complexities and competences for religious leadership within institutions
- Have practiced leading theological reflection for religious professionals and community change agents
- Be able to integrate the site experience as well as bodies of knowledge into their vocational development and professional-spiritual identities.

III. Tentative Sequence

Each week will require engagement from all students. The form of engagement will differ depending on whether we meet synchronously via Zoom, or students engage/contribute material asynchronously via Moodle. Some participation on Moodle is required each week (except Reading Week).

February 6th

(Zoom) Welcome/Context Setting; Share Internship Learning Goals

February 13th

(Zoom) Leadership, Ritual, and Praxis
(Moodle) Self-evaluation

February 20th

(Moodle) Self-evaluation, Cohort Coaching, and Sourcebook Contribution

February 27th

(Zoom) Grounding and Renewal
(Moodle) Self-evaluation

March 5th

(Moodle) Self-evaluation, Cohort Coaching, and Sourcebook Contribution

March 12th

(Zoom) Resilience
(Moodle) Self-evaluation

March 19th

(Moodle) Self-evaluation, Cohort Coaching, and Sourcebook Contribution

March 26th

No Class: Reading Week. Leadership Reflection Paper

April 2nd

(Zoom) Student Led Praxis
(Moodle) Self-evaluation

April 9th

(Moodle) Self-evaluation, Cohort Coaching, and Sourcebook Contribution

April 16th

(Zoom) Student Led Praxis
(Moodle) Self-evaluation

April 23rd

(Moodle) Self-evaluation, Cohort Coaching, and Sourcebook Contribution

April 30th

(Zoom) Student Led Praxis
(Moodle) Self-evaluation

May 7th

(Zoom) Closing Session/Final Reflections
(Moodle) Self-evaluation

IV. Course Requirements

- A. Work to be completed during the course (30%):
- Completion of mid-term theological leadership reflection paper, which includes reading and reviewing a leadership text of your choosing from an approved/established list
 - Weekly self-evaluation postings in Moodle
- B. Participation (70%):
- On-time attendance at each class
 - Full participation in all activities, conversations, and praxis
 - Compliance with group agreements and processes
 - Continual contribution of resources, inquiries, and wisdom to the class
 - Completion of readings in preparation for each meeting session
 - Leading a theological reflection session based on your site experience, topic of your choosing, and a sacred source.

V. Course Sources for Learning

This course is an integrative seminar that will consistently utilize various modalities of engagement. These include, and are not limited to:

- **Course Preparation** – The instructor will post readings, resources, and reflection prompts in Moodle in preparation for each topic. Students are expected to engage this material prior to each synchronous session.
- **Self-evaluations** – On Moodle each week, students are required to share a self-evaluation of their leadership and learning within the context of their internship. Each self-evaluation covers prompts for assessing student internship learning outcomes and is between 150 and 400-words. *These must be posted by 3:30pm Pacific Time each Thursday.*
- **Cohort Coaching** – in response to students' self-evaluations, other students will post at least one question or comment for further inquiry, reflection, and integration. This can be a post on a single-student's self-evaluation, or multiple. Rotation of responses is required so that by the end of the semester, each student has commented at least once on each of the other students' self-evaluations. These are questions of curiosity or statements of encouragement that are related to the self-evaluator's internship learning outcomes, with the intention of cultivating further integration of these outcomes. *Coaching questions or comments must be posted by 5pm Pacific Time on Friday during Moodle-only weeks.*

- **Student Sourcebook** – During the Moodle-only weeks, students are required to post a multi-religious resource of their choosing for others to read/review that inspires and informs their leadership and learning. *These must be posted by 3:30pm Pacific Time on the designated Thursday.*
- **The@logical Leadership Reflection Paper** – For the mid-term assignment, each student will write a 1500 – 2500-word reflection paper that integrates a specific leadership text and their own leadership development within the context of their internship, vocational development, and professional-spiritual identities. Students choose a leadership text to read and reference, which must be a work from women and BIPOC/POCI scholars, selected from a list or otherwise approved by instructor. This paper is not limited to internship learning outcomes, though the outcomes may play a part in the paper. Its focus is on the student's the@logical and leadership development at this time. The internship provides an environment for this development, and the paper should reflect a larger vision of leadership in relation to the students sense of vocational calling.
- **Student Led Reflection Praxis** – each student will lead one Zoom discussion, around a topic of their choosing, that integrates a specific learning experience and/or inquiry from their site. This is an opportunity to workshop questions, conundrums, or competencies within community, with the intention of enhancing learning for all in the group. *By 12pm Pacific Time on the Tuesday preceding their Praxis session, students are required to send a RIOTS, 3 reflection questions, and any resources to consider so that they may be posted in Moodle for others to consider in advance.*
- **Ritual and Learning Log** – each student can develop a ritual to utilize each day at the site, and a means of recording progress towards their personal learning outcomes for the internship. Self-evaluations will integrate the data from this log. *This is an optional assignment, intended to enhance the daily/weekly learnings and integrations of the internship.*