

**ST. NORBERT COLLEGE
DE PERE, WI
SUMMER 2018**



**COURSE: THEO 522 Faith Development
DATES: Wednesdays, May 16, 23, 30; June 13
TIME: 5:30-8:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Mulva Library Room 315**

**INSTRUCTOR: Rev. Dr. Matthew Knapp
EMAIL: knapp@sbmoravian.org**

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course offers perspectives on the contributions of theology and psychology to an understanding of faith development through the lens of modern developmental psychology. They will discuss ways to encourage the development of a spiritual life across the life cycle.

REQUIRED COURSE TEXTS

This text should read prior to the first class:

Groome, Thomas. *Christian Religious Education: Sharing Our Story and Vision*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass Publishers, 1999.

This text needs to be read prior to the last class:

Bowler, Kate. *Everything Happens for a Reason: And Other Lies I've Loved*. New York: Random House, 2018.

COURSE STRUCTURE:

The class will be a combination of lecture and discussion designed to expand your understanding of the topic. At all times the questions, comments, and reflections of all participants are not only welcome, but also hoped for and encouraged. The concepts of missional leadership have a broad impact on a variety of ministry settings; therefore class interaction will be very important to help each of us to be able to implement these concepts in our personal context. Your background, experiences, insights, and concerns, will be a vital part of the course.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1. A careful reading of the texts and hand out materials. Students should come prepared to discuss the various readings and to offer questions and comments.
2. Class Attendance
- 3.. A Final Paper due on June 13.

The final paper a 6-8 page critical reflection in which you focus on a specific theme from the class and/or readings which interests you. Although you do not need secondary sources or additional bibliography, you should incorporate material from the readings related to your topic. Your topic should be developed in consultation with the instructor. In the essay you should:

- 1.) Demonstrate your understanding of the topic.
- 2.) Analyze and interpret the topic.
- 3) Indicate its relevance by relating it to your life, experience, or ministry.

It would also be important to incorporate your own reflections and/or experiences into the papers. The essays should be typed, double-spaced, and carefully proofread. The papers can be sent to me by e-mail.

EVALUATIONS AND GRADING:

Class participation.....40%
 Paper.....60%

Grade Equivalents

A: 93-100 AB: 88-92 B: 83-87 BC: 78-82 C: 73-77

ACADEMIC HONOR CODE

The learning process proceeds only when Students perform honestly on assignments and examinations. All students are expected to abide by the Academic Honor code. It defines academic dishonesty and sets forth the responsibilities of faculty and students in the event of alleged dishonesty. Possible penalties for dishonesty include reduction of a grade, failure in the course, failure and suspension, or failure and dismissal. Please refer to the current *St. Norbert College Student Handbook* for the text of the Academic Honor Code.

SERVICES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

In keeping with the St. Norbert College mission to help students develop their full potential, and compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the College provides supportive services to students with disabilities. For inquiries and further details, please visit the Academic Support Services Office located in Todd Wehr Hall, Room 211, call at 403-1321, or visit the website www.snc.edu/academicsupport/disabilities.html.

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE:

Wednesday, May 16	Introduction What is Faith?
Wednesday, May 23	Pioneers in Understanding Faith Development Comenius Kolhberg Westerhoff Piaget Fowler Palmer
Wednesday, May 30	Stages of Faith Part 1 Understanding Fowler’s Stages
Wednesday, June 13	Stages of Faith Part 2 How do Fowler’s Stages shape ministry Strategies for Faith Formation
Wednesday, June 13	Papers due