

PRAYER AND WORSHIP

Course Syllabus: Fall 2011

Mrs. Stephanie Pino-Dressman

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My schedule for this Spring: 5th, 6th & 7th hours teaching in Room 214.

In the Campus Ministry office at all other times.

PURPOSE

To offer a student the opportunity to explore, compare and contrast the prayer and worship styles of Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Hinduism and Buddhism and thereby grow in her appreciation and understanding for the place where she presently stands in relationship with God.

TEXTBOOK

- *Pray All Ways* – Fr. Ed Hays (Student Purchased)

REFERENCES IN THE CLASS:

- *Prayer: Finding the Heart's True Home* – Richard J. Foster
- *Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy*. Second Vatican Council
- *Nostra Aetate: Declaration on the Relation of the Church to Non-Christian Religions*
Second Vatican Council
- *The World's Religions* – Houston Smith
- *A Beginner's Guide to Constructing the Universe: Mathematical Archetypes of Nature, Art, and Science* - Michael S. Schneider
- *Practicing the Sacred Art of Listening: A Guide to Enrich Your Relationships and Kindle Your Spiritual Life*. ~ Kay Lindahl
- *Intrareligious Dialogue*~ R. Panikkar

MATERIALS

All of the following items brought to class by Wednesday, January 5th, 2011. (10 points)

- Binder for retaining handouts and returned assignments with lined paper for taking notes.
- Pencil bag or pencil box containing the following:
 1. Compass, straight edge, pencil to fit the compass and a pencil to draw straight lines
 2. Five colored pencils (you choose the colors, don't need to be brand new...)
- *Pray All Ways*, textbook

COURSE DESCRIPTION

PRAYER

“What we believe, acknowledge, and become by praying are deep features of what we profess about God.” ~ Don E. Saliers, *Worship as Theology: Foretaste of Glory Divine*

Throughout the semester we will delve into the prayer styles of different faith traditions and examine how posture, word, action, and our multiple intelligences influence an individual's life of prayer. In light of our text, the testimony of guest speakers, and class discussion, students will discover the possibilities of “praying all ways”.

WORSHIP

“I love you when you bow in your mosque, kneel in your temple, pray in your church.”

~Kahlil Gibran, *Lebanese American artist, poet, writer, philosopher and theologian.*

We will engage in an inter-faith study of why, how and where people gather to worship as a community; what is the language and action of these gatherings and if there is a specific purpose to the architecture and décor of the buildings or spaces where they meet. This will lay the foundation for visiting places of worship here in Kansas City.

GRADES

Grades will be based on the following:

- 45% tests and quizzes, projects
- 45% daily assignments
- 10% respectful class participation. (Taking out books and materials for other classes during this class and not giving your attention to the person who is sharing their insights, will affect this part of your grade)
- You will receive one point per day for being in class and participating.
- No final exams are given for Prayer and Worship.

CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENT

As expressed in our Mission Statement: “Sion continues the tradition of the Congregation of Notre Dame de Sion, cultivating awareness and appreciation for the beliefs and practices of others.” Although students will not reach full agreement on all issues, respect for those with beliefs and convictions different from one’s own is imperative.

EXPECTATIONS

- Failure to be in the classroom when the bell rings, with the required materials and in correct uniform or failure to respectfully participate will result in a pink slip.
- When the bell rings to signal the beginning of class, the only items on a student’s desk should be their prayer and worship notebook and a writing utensil.
- Space on either side of a student’s desk should be clear of books bags, purses, pencil bags etc. No purses, pencil bags or sweaters on the lap during class. No cell phones.
- No food, drinks or gum in the classroom. Exception: water in a transparent bottle.

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is using others’ ideas and words without clearly acknowledging the source of the information. Notre Dame de Sion is a Catholic institution where a student’s ethical conduct is at least as highly valued as her academic achievement. Plagiarism is unacceptable and will result in academic and disciplinary consequences. Any essay or report that includes sections from a source that is not acknowledged will result in a zero for that assignment and a meeting with myself and your counselor.

MAKE-UP ASSIGNMENTS

Make-up work due to an absence is always the responsibility of the student. If you are absent, please speak to me upon your return for make up work. See student handbook, page 11 for details.

LATE WORK

Each day the assignment is late, 10% will be deducted from the grade, with no more than 40% deducted for late assignments. An assignment is considered late if it is not on **my desk in the campus ministry office** by 3:15 p.m. on the day it is due.

YOUR STYLE OF LEARNING

Please contact me by email or schedule a visit if I need to know about any challenges you have had in the past with taking tests, completing projects, classroom environment, etc. You should be able to learn and demonstrate your knowledge in a manner which enables you to do your personal best.