

**ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
BRANCH CAMPUS AT VALLEY FORGE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE
Phoenixville, PA
October 27-31, 2003**

**P THE 545 MINISTRY DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR
(3 Credits)**

COURSE SYLLABUS

**Don Meyer, Ph.D.
Russell Eggert, D. Min.
David Scolforo, D. Min. candidate**

Fall 2003

COURSE DESCRIPTION

A five-day learning experience for the participants in the Master of Arts in Christian Ministries degree program designed to integrate the spiritual, psychological, and professional dimensions of their lives and ministries.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Understand and assess their unique design for ministry, including areas of ministry passions, and personal strengths and limitations as they relate to the enhancement of ministry effectiveness.
2. Identify their own psychological and personality make-up, spiritual giftedness, abilities, talents and passions, and how this impacts their personal ministry, spiritual life, and professional development.
3. Articulate how self-understanding and the practice of sound spiritual disciplines inform, develop, and transform the individual minister.
4. Implement a strategy for integrating these insights into their own spiritual formation process and personal and professional ministry development.

TEXTBOOKS

Malphurs, Aubrey. *Maximizing Your Effectiveness: How to Discover and Develop Your Divine Design*. Foreward by Carl George. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Books, 1995.

McIntosh, Gary L. and Samuel D. Rima, Sr. *Overcoming the Dark Side of Leadership: The Paradox of Personal Dysfunction*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Books, 1997.

Willard, Dallas. *The Spirit of the Disciplines: Understanding How God Changes Lives*. New York: HarperCollins, 1991.

COURSE METHODOLOGY

Readings, lectures, writing assignments, small group activities, personal reflection, and assessment instruments will be utilized to achieve course objectives.

COURSE OUTLINE

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| Session I | TEMPERAMENT IN MINISTRY | Introduction and description of M.A.C.M. degree. Introduction to the course and its purpose. Temperament and personality profile assessments (TJTA and Meyers-Briggs inventories). Discussions of assessment inventories. |
| Session II | TEMPERAMENT IN MINISTRY | Temperament and personality issues. (Malphurs, Part I.) |
| Session III | PERSONAL LIFE AND SPIRITUAL FORMATION | Spiritual formation. (Malphurs, Part II and III. Willard text.) Development of a personal mission statement. Definitions and models of spirituality. |
| Session IV | SPIRITUAL FORMATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT | Personal development and the practice of spiritual disciplines. Professional development. (Willard text, McIntosh text.) |
| Session V | PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT | Integration of personal, spiritual, professional components. (McIntosh text.) |

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A. Pre-Session Requirements

1. Read all assigned textbooks.
2. Complete the personal inventories in the Malphurs and McIntosh texts in order to understand your own tendencies. These will not be turned in but you should be prepared to discuss these issues during the course sessions. Particular attention will be given to discussing “overcoming the dark side of leadership” on **Thursday, October 30**.
3. Write a two-page reflection paper (approximately 500 words) for each of the Malphurs, McIntosh, and Willard texts. Each reflection paper should focus on four topics from your reading that were most significant to you and why they are

significant. Reflection papers are **DUE** the first day of class **Thursday, October 27**.

B. Session Requirements

1. Attendance and participation in all sessions.
2. Preparation for each day's activities.

C. Post-Session Requirements

1. Write three (3) five-page analytical papers. Each five-page paper should discuss one of the major aspects (temperament in ministry, spiritual formation, professional development) of this course. Focus on the objective factors of the topic that must be considered in developing self-understanding, in facilitating personal growth, and for effectiveness in professional practice.
2. Write a four to five page synthesis paper integrating all three major aspects of this course into your life and ministry. Focus on the practical implications of what you have learned through this course.

DUE: All post-session assignments must be **postmarked** (or via e-mail attachment) no later than **Friday, December 12**. Submit assignments to:

Dr. Donald L. Tucker, Director
AGTS Branch Campus
Valley Forge Christian College
1401 Charlestown Road
Phoenixville, PA 19460
Phone: (610) 917-1474
Fax: (610) 935-9353
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NOTE: A change of grade fee of \$15.00 may be assessed on any work submitted past the postmark date, even if the professor has granted an extension. Late work may be penalized at the discretion of the professor.

GRADING

Pre-session:	Reflection papers	100 points
Post-session:	Analytical papers	300 points
	Integration paper	100 points

BIBLIOGRAPHY

See textbook notes and appendices for additional suggested readings. Professors may distribute appropriate topical bibliographies as needed.

Syllabus prepared by Dr. Donald L. Tucker, director of VFCC branch campus (revised April 2003).