

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
PTHM 540 Military Chaplaincy

Chaplain Charles Marvin

Spring 2004

COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

A study will be made of the United States military chaplaincy: its history, organization, requirements, and religious programs; selected issues relating to separation of Church and State, modern warfare, "Just War theory," and religious pluralism within the chaplaincies; related theological and Constitutional issues.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this course is to stimulate interest in and develop pastoral skills for public community and congregational services and ceremonies, with major focus on the military chaplaincy. Issues pertaining to Church-State relationships, religious pluralism, and Christian approach to military ministry will be examined in light of biblical principles to assist in preparing potential chaplains for service.

TEXTBOOKS: (Other than the required text, these books are either in the AGTS Library or provided on a reserved reading shelf.)

***Required:** Richard G. Hutcheson, The Churches and The Chaplaincies, (Revised edition, 1997) (This book is currently out of print but copies will be provided by instructor.)

Al Gray (GEN, USMC), Warfighting, 1997

Anthony E. Hartle, Moral Issues in Military Decision Making, 1989. University Press, Kansas

Keith B. and Karl I. Payne, A Just Defense, c. 1987

Donald L. Davidson, Nuclear Weapons and the American Churches, c. 1983.

Roy J. Honeywell, Chaplains of the United States Army, c. 1958.

Donald W. Hadley and Gerald T. Richards, Ministry with the Military, c. 1992.

Daniel B. Jorgenson and John D. Barringer, The History of the Air Force Chaplaincy, c. 1958.

Billy Keith, Days of Anguish, Days of Hope, c. 1991.

Robert L. Spaeth, No Easy Answers, (Christians Debate Nuclear Arms), c. 1983.

BASIC OUTLINE

March 8 Course Overview. Getting acquainted and discussion of goals. Reading and grading policy explained. Biblical examples of priests/prophets who went to war with their soldiers and early developments of the chaplaincy through the Colonial Period. Historical evolution of the military chaplaincy from the Colonial Period to the end of World War II.

- March 9 Post World War II; Korean War; Changing Warfare--Changing Chaplain Ministry: Viet Nam to Iraq. Trends and implications for future development of the military chaplaincy, including new technology, different battle "fronts," distance learning, "parish model" changes, changes in deployments, and joint duty. Organizational structures: The Assemblies of God Commission on Chaplains, the Chaplaincy Department, NCMAF, ECVAC, expectations of Chiefs of Chaplains for relationships of chaplains with their churches and Endorsing Agents; chaplains' relationships with the Commission on Chaplains and Chaplaincy Department.
- March 10 Church--State relationships as envisioned by our founding fathers and how this impacts on today's military chaplaincy. Includes legal challenges to government support for chaplains and the importance of "Free Exercise of Religion;" discussion of religious accommodation issues.
- March 11 Religious Pluralism—Provide or facilitate? Conducting and participating in interfaith services/community services; Collective Protestant Worship; Liturgical and non-liturgical traditions; Pentecostal/Charismatic/Gospel services; public Ceremonies; Church--State issues affecting these activities. Formulating an effective, spiritual religious program for diverse groups that includes worship, pastoral (sacerdotal) functions, Religious Education, outreach, etc.; discussion of traditional Protestant vs. contemporary worship services; use of Armed Forces Hymnal.
- March 12 Command relationships; "Chain of Command" issues; practical application of leadership skills for service as a chaplain in the military forces of the U.S. (Staff relationships with chaplains, commander, etc.). Chaplains' family relationships, commitments, moving and deployments. (**NOTE:** Spouses are invited to attend the afternoon session, beginning with a light lunch.)

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Because so much of the value of this class is in the oral presentations and discussions, regular attendance and participation in classes/field trip will count **35%**. (Field trip to Fort Leonard Wood **TBA**.)
2. Reading: minimum of 2,000 pages from the suggested bibliography with written reading reports when work is completed (**25%**).
3. Oral critique/brief (5 minutes) of video/audio cassette tape, or periodical (**5%**). (Focus on poise, delivery, critiquing skills)
4. One formal 20 page written paper (**35%**) as follows:

Each student should quickly determine his/her topic and begin meaningful research immediately. This formal paper will include title page, footnotes, bibliography, and be

completed in accordance with AGTS standards. The paper in its final form will be due in **two copies not later than June 14 to allow time for grading and grade submission.**

Late papers will receive lowered grades. The purpose of the research papers is to: Enhance writing skills; encourage students to wrestle with different historical, theological, organizational, moral, biblical or ethical aspects of the military chaplaincy; help the student gain new insights and information about this ministry; learn military traditions which may influence his/her future ministry.

The paper will be evaluated on the basis of the student's ability to analyze material, communicate effectively, and demonstrate creativity. Additional consideration will be given to total content, logical conclusions, recommendations, and conformity with writing standards established by AGTS for research papers (Turabian's A Manual for Writers). **CHAPLAINS MUST KNOW HOW TO THINK AND WRITE WELL. THOUGHT DEVELOPMENT, COHESIVENESS OF CONTENT, SPELLING, SYNTAX, GRAMMAR, AND PUNCTUATION WILL BE EXAMINED CAREFULLY.**

Possible Topics for Research Papers (Suggestions only):

- Chaplaincy Role Tensions: Military Officer and Minister
- Specific subject relating to Army, Navy, or Air Force Chaplaincy
- Challenges of the Veterans Administration Chaplaincy
- Ministering to Wiccans, Muslims, and Others
- Church and State Relationships as Pertains to the Chaplaincy
- Religious Pluralism and the Chaplaincy
- Theological Implications for/of the Military Chaplaincy
- Multiple Masters: Whom Do We Serve-Commander-in-Chief, Commander, Church?
- Ministry to Military Personnel Overseas
- What Does It Mean to Be Protestant, and Is This a Valid Label for Chaplains?
 - The History and Value of the Chaplain Candidate Program (either Army, Navy, or Air Force)
- Pacifism and Conscientious Objection
- Just War Theory and Terrorist Warfare
 - Is Liturgy Compatible with Evangelical Freedom?
 - Combat Ministry: Ministry to the Dying and Dead
 - War on Terrorism: Islamic Jihad and the Christian Crusades

GRADING PROCEDURE

Within each category, the grade will only count for the assigned percentage. All categories will be averaged to arrive at a final grade. Note that fulfilling all requirements does not automatically equal "A" quality. This element of quality will be objectively and subjectively evaluated by the instructor and will be reflected in the final grade.

BIBLIOGRAPHY ("Not all readers are leaders, but every leader is a reader.")

BOOKS: (Not all listed books can be found in the AGTS Library but may be borrowed from other libraries.)

Abercrombie, Clarence L., The Military Chaplain. Beverly Hills, CA: Sage Publication, 1977. (191 pages) *AGTS Call Number: UH20.A23*

Boyle, Beth Ellen, ed., Words of Conscience. (Religious Statements on Conscientious Objection), Washington, D.C.: National Interreligious Service Board for Conscientious Objectors, 1983. (220 pages)

Brinsfield, John W., Jr., Encouraging Faith, Serving Soldiers. (A history of the U. S. Army Chaplaincy, 1975-1995) U. S. Army, 1997

Carnesale, Albert, and others, Living With Nuclear Weapons. New York; Bantam Books, Inc., 1983. (268 pages)

Davidson, Donald L., Nuclear Weapons and the American Churches. (Ethical Positions on Modern Warfare), Boulder, Colorado: Westview Press, 1983.

Elson, Edward L.R., Wide Was His Parish. Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House, 1986.

Gray, A. M., ed. Warfighting, Washington, DC, 1997. U. S. Government Printing Office. (Nature, theory, and conduct of war)

Gushwa, The Best and Worst of Times: The United States Army Chaplaincy, 1920-1945. Vol. 4 of 5. (Office of the Chief of Chaplains: Department of the Army). Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1978. (227 pages) *AGTS Call Number: UH23.G8X*

Hutcheson, Richard G., Jr. The Churches and the Chaplaincy. Atlanta: John Knox Press, 1975. (223 pages) *AGTS Call Number: UH23.H87*

Jorgensen, Daniel B. The Service of Chaplains: To Army Air Units 1917-1946. Vol. 1 (Office, Chief of Air Force Chaplains). Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1961. (344 pages) *AGTS Call Number: UG 633.A59*

Keith, Billy, Days of Anguish, Days of Hope. Scripta Publishing Inc., F. Worth, TX, 1991. (214 pages) *AGTS Call Number: D805.P6K44*

Martin, H. Lawrence, Commander, CHC, USN, ed. Chaplains with U.S. Naval Units in Vietnam 1954-1975. (Selected Experiences at Sea and Ashore), Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1985. (118 pages)

Martin, H. Lawrence, Commander, CHC, USN, and LT William F.R. Gilroy, CHC, USNR, The Uniforms of the Chaplain Corps United States Navy. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1985. (44 pages)

- National Conference of Catholic Bishops. The Challenge of Peace: God's Promise and Our Response. Washington, D.C.: United States Catholic Conference, 1983. (103 pages)
- Norton, Herman A., The United States Army Chaplaincy: 1790-1865 Struggling for Recognition. Vol. 2. (Office of the Chief of Chaplains: Department of the Army). Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1977. (192 pages) *AGTS Call Number: UH23.N66*
- Payne, Keith B., and Karl I. Payne. A Just Defense. Portland, OR: Multnomah Press, 1987.
- Scharlemann, Martin H., Air Force Chaplains 1961-1970. Vol. 3. (Office of the Chief of Chaplains). Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1961. (246 pages) *AGTS Call Number: UG633.A59*
- Schumacher, John W. (Colonel, USA), A Soldier of God Remembers. Winona Lake, IN: Grace Brethren North American Missions, 2000. (300 pages)
- Shattuck, Gardiner H. A Shield and Hiding Place. (The religious life of Civil War armies); Mercer, University Press, 1987
- Spaeth, Robert L., No Easy Answers. (Christians Debate Nuclear Arms), Minneapolis, Minnesota: Winston Press, Inc., 1983. (128 pages)
- Stover, Earl F. Up From Handymen: The United States Army Chaplaincy 1865-1920. Vol. 3 (Office of the Chief of Chaplains: Department of the Army). Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office. (302 pages) *AGTS Call Number: UH23.576*
- Thompson, Parker C., The United States Army Chaplaincy: From Its Antecedents to 1971. Vol. 1. (Office of the Chief of Chaplains: Department of the Army). Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1978. (327 pages) *AGTS Call Number: UH23.T5X*
- Venzke, Rodger R., Confidence in Battle, Inspiration in Peace: United States Army Chaplaincy 1945-1975. Vol. 5. (Office of the Chief of Chaplains: Department of the Army). Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office. (211 pages) *AGTS Call Number: UH23.V46*
- Walzer, Michael, Just and Unjust Wars, Basic books, Inc., 1977
- Wardlaw, Charles D., Jr. The Stranger of Galilee. Chapel Hill, NC: Sparks Press, 1979.
- Weston, Burns H., ed. Toward Nuclear Disarmament and Global Security: A Search for Alternatives. Boulder, Colorado: Westview Press, 1984.

Wilson, John F., Church and State in American History, Boston, 1965

Zahn, Gordon C. The Military Chaplaincy: A Study of Role Tension in the Royal Air Force. Toronto, CA: University of Toronto Press, 1969. (310 pages) *AGTS Call Number: UH25.G7.23*

Periodicals:

Military Chaplains' Review (DA Pam 165-143), Winter, Spring, Summer, Fall 1984 - Winter, Spring, Summer, Fall 1998 (Not all copies are available at AGTS).

Internet: See attached list.

SPECIFIC DATA

Syllabus prepared by Chaplain Charles Marvin, November 10, 2003.