

Asbury Theological Seminary Syllabus



DM(SDL)915A, X1: Seminar I – Biblical and Theological Foundations of Community Spiritual Direction 2 Credit Hours Wilmore, Kentucky/Hybrid Online: September 3 – December 13, 2019

PROFESSOR INFORMATION

Professors: Michael Voigts and Stephen Martyn

Email: mike.voigts@asburyseminary.edu and steve.martyn@asburyseminary.edu



Welcome to Biblical and Theological Foundations of Community Spiritual Direction!
The information below provides an introduction to your teaching team.

Rev. Michael C. Voigts, Ph. D. Dr. Voigts serves as an Associate Professor of Spiritual Formation at Asbury Seminary. Before coming to Asbury, he spent more than 25 years in pastoral ministry in Texas and Kentucky. His academic areas of expertise include Medieval Christian spirituality, Christian spiritual direction, and pastoral leadership. Mike is the author of *Letters of Ascent: Spiritual Direction in the Letters of Bernard of Clairvaux* (Wipf & Stock, 2013), as well as several academic and pastoral articles.

Mike received a B.A. from Baylor University, an M.Div. and D.Min. from Asbury Theological Seminary, and a Ph.D. from Brunel University in London, England. Mike is a member of the Lay Cistercians of Gethsemani Abbey, where he is involved in the formation of new members and in the leadership of monthly meetings.

Mike and his wife Sheryl have two grown children and a rambunctious Yorkshire Terrier named Gracie. He is an avid sports fan and reads the Lord of the Rings

each January.

Rev. Stephen L. Martyn, Ph.D. Stephen Martyn is Associate Professor of Spiritual Formation at Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore, Kentucky in the United States and an Elder in the Kentucky Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. Prior to coming to Asbury Seminary in 2004, Steve served pastorates in Northwest Texas, Pennsylvania, New Mexico and Kentucky. He also served for two years as the first Director of Spiritual Formation for the Kentucky Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church.

Steve was born in Midland, Texas and raised in Quanah, Texas. He is a graduate of McMurry University, Asbury Theological Seminary, and received his Ph.D. in Spiritual Formation from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

In addition to his extensive leadership within four different Annual Conferences of the United Methodist Church, Steve has served in a multiplicity of settings in the United States and abroad through conferencing, teaching, writing and preaching in the areas of lay and clergy spiritual formation.\

Steve is committed to reclaiming classic ecclesiology along with Wesleyan theology and spiritual formation processes for the worldwide church today. He is married to Diane Moore, and together they are blessed with three wonderful children and their spouses along with nine grandchildren. Steve is an avid outdoorsman.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This first course in the *Community Spiritual Direction* cohort, DM(SDL)915A and DM(SDL)915B, “Biblical and Theological Foundations of Community Spiritual Direction,” will ground students in the biblical and theological purposes of God’s church. They provide a “deep dive” for ministry leaders into the specific directives of our Lord for his body and will further assist them in integrating the Gospel of Jesus Christ into their own lives as well as the everyday lives of the people they are called to serve. In addition, the course will introduce students to the art and discipline of spiritual direction in community, to the Christian anthropology of Adrian van Kaam, and to the collaborative effort of building Ministry Action Plans (MAPs).

PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES (PLOs)

By the time students complete the D.Min Program, they will have an accomplished or exceptional ability to:

1. Revisit foundations for sustainable ministry.

- Being immersed in explicit Wesleyan practices of community-based formation around the priorities of Scripture, reason, tradition and experience, participants will discover transformational habits for sustainable ministry lifestyles.
2. Foster ministry leadership vision, ethic and practice relevant to their ministry context and world.
 - By deeply engaging in analysis of one significant theme from their unique ministry context, participants establish a trajectory for life-long contribution.
 3. Appreciate transformational demands within contemporary ministry organizational contexts such as congregations, non-profits and marketplace engagements through various analytic means of biblical, theological, social and cultural exegesis.
 - Participants must add to their biblical and theological exegesis, cultural- situational exegesis that informs ministry leadership practice on a daily basis.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (SLOs)

By the end of DM(SDL)915A, students will have a *developing* ability to:

1. Understand the biblical and theological foundations of ecclesiology and the role of spiritual direction therein. (PLO #1)
2. Integrate biblical and theological foundations of ecclesiology in their personal discipleship. (PLO #2)
3. Apply biblical and theological foundations of ecclesiology in their ministry of spiritual direction. (PLO #3)

TEXTBOOKS & RESOURCES

Required Reading

Barton, Ruth Haley. *Pursuing God's Will Together: A Discernment Practice for Leadership Groups*. Downers Grover: InterVarsity Press, 2012. 253 pp. ISBN: 978-0-8308-3566-9, \$18.38.

Collins, Kenneth J. *The Theology of John Wesley: Holy Love and the Shape of Grace*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2007. 33 pp. ISBN: 978-0-687-64633-3, \$29.62. [Read Chapter 7, "The Church and the Means of Grace" 237-270.]

Davis, Henry, S.J. (Translator). *St. Gregory the Great Pastoral Care*. Ancient Christian Writers No. 11. New York: Newman Press, 1950. 281 pp. ISBN: 0-8091-0251-X, \$30.68.

Jones, Beth Felker. *Practicing Christian Doctrine: An Introduction to Thinking and Living Theologically*. Baker Academic: 2014. 246 pp. ISBN: 978-0-8010-4933-0, \$16.66.

Letterman, Rebecca and Susan Muto. *Understanding Our Story: The Life's Work and Legacy of Adrian van Kaam in the Field of Formative Spirituality*. Eugene, Oregon: WIPF & Stock, 2017. 254 pp. ISBN: 978-1-5326-0179-8, \$30.00.

McNeill, John T. (Ed.). *Calvin: Institutes of the Christian Religion. The Library of Christian Classics Volume XXI*. Philadelphia: The Westminster Press, 1960. 514 pp. ISBN: 978-0664220280, \$36.00. [Read "Book Four: The External Means or Aims by Which God Invites Us Into the Society of Christ and Holds Us Therein" 1011-1525.]

Oden, Thomas C. *Classic Christianity: A Systematic Theology*. New York: HarperOne, 2009. 73 pp. ISBN: 978-0-06-144971-0, \$23.73. [Read "Book Three, Life in the Spirit" Chapter 7: "The Community of Celebration" and Chapter 8: "Marks Of the Church" 691-764.]

Outler, Albert C. (Ed.) *The Works Of John Wesley: Volume 2 SERMONS II 34-70*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1985. 15 pp. ISBN: 0-687-46211-8, \$32.78. [Read "Sermon 68: "The Wisdom of God's Counsels" 551-566.]

Outler, Albert C. (Ed.) *The Works Of John Wesley: Volume 3 SERMONS III 71-114*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1986. 24 pp. ISBN: 0-687-46212-6, \$34.59. [Read "Sermon 74 Of the Church" 45-57 and "Sermon 75 On Schism" 58-69.]

Roth, William. "A Review of Rebecca Letterman and Susan Muto's *Understanding Our Story: The Life's Work and Legacy of Adrian van Kaam in the Field of Formative Spirituality*." *Journal of Spiritual Formation & Soul Care* 2018. 7 pp. Vol. 11 (1) 93-99. **Located in your online cohort classroom.**

Roxburgh, Alan J. *Missional Map-Making: Skills for Leading in Times of Transition*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2010. 224 pp. ISBN: 978-0-470-48672-6, \$22.46.

Stott, John. *The Living Church: Convictions of a Lifelong Pastor*. Downers Grove: IVP Books, 2007. 180 pp. ISBN: 978-0-8308-3805-9, \$11.48.

Webber, Robert E. *Worship Is A Verb: Celebrating God's Mighty Deeds Of Salvation*. Peabody, Massachusetts: Hendrickson Publishers Marketing, 2004. 225 pp. ISBN: 978-1-56563-242-4, \$14.95.

PLUS: Select one text on ecclesiology (ancient, modern, or contemporary) that you would like to study. You will complete a 3-page book review on this text and share it with the cohort. This should be a text that will be of help to you in your particular

situation. For instance, a female author or an author from your particular country if you are not a U.S. resident would be acceptable. *Your text must be approved by the professors.*

Total pages: 2,329 pages PLUS one student-selected text

Suggested Reading (Optional)

(none)

ASSIGNMENTS

To successfully complete this class, students must satisfactorily complete and submit all assignments on time and actively participate and contribute to the learning community.

1. Biweekly Online Interaction, Reading Guide, & Video Lectures (30 points)

Due Date: September 3 – December 13, 2019

Points/Percentage: 30

Learning Outcome: 1, 2

Write 150-word responses to questions in online classroom, and 100-word responses to other students' posts. The quality of your responses to biweekly questions and the character of online interactions with other students in the cohort will be assessed by your professors. See the "Additional Assignment Guidelines" section of this syllabus for a guide to the online classroom experience.

2. Ecclesiology Text Book Review (15 points)

Due Date: November 22, 2019

Points/Percentage: 15

Learning Outcome: 1, 2

In standard assignments, including your dissertation, MLA format is required. However, for this 3-page book review, use 12 point type and either Times New Roman or Calibri font. Please single space your review with an extra space between paragraphs.

Include full bibliographic information in your heading. Here is an example to follow:

Ecclesiology Book Review

Hirsch, Alan. *5Q: Reactivating the Original Intelligence and Capacity of the Body of Christ*. Columbia: 100 Movements, 2017. ISBN: 978-0-99986393-0-7 (216 pages)

By (Your Name Here)

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Do a “grand sweep” review of the major highlights of the text. By necessity, your quotes will need to be short. These book reviews will be shared with the entire class. Keep in mind, therefore, that your audience for these reviews will be our cohort.

Please make sure that your text gives serious consideration to the biblical and theological foundations of God’s church. You can review an ancient, modern, or contemporary text on ecclesiology. Make sure that this is a text that you find personally helpful and enlightening as you consider the purposes of the Body of Christ.

Your book review will be graded on both the clarity of the review and your adherence to the above guidelines.

3. Ecclesiology Reflection Paper (55 points)

Due Date: December 2, 2019

Points/Percentage: 55

Learning Outcome: 3

The purpose of this 10-page paper is to help you begin to frame the work before you in Chapter Two of your dissertation where you will articulate the biblical and theological foundations of the spiritual direction project you decide upon for your dissertation.

Whereas Chapter Two will be a substantial document, this much smaller assignment is designed to help you prepare for the work that is to come. In ten pages we want you to articulate two things:

1. What is your understanding of the biblical foundation for God’s church? (SLO #1)
2. What are the theological implications for the church arising from your biblical foundation? (SLO #2 & 3)

Here is another way to state our two goals for this assignment: What does scripture have to say about God’s design for his church; and, what are the implications for the body of Christ today?

In this paper, we want you to interact with the assigned texts as well as the one, or more, texts on ecclesiology you chose for your book review. As you write your paper, we want you to be aware of further areas you are going to need to research for Chapter Two. Note that you must have a minimum of 75 sources for Chapter Two. While you only need to reference your assigned readings in this paper (plus self-selected pages on ecclesiology), this assignment will help you prepare for the task ahead.

It will help you to glance over the directions for Chapter Two in the D. Min Ministry Transformation Project Workbook “Module 3” so that you can have an idea of where your work is headed and how this first paper can fit well in your research project.

We expect this paper to have *flawless* grammatical work. Please run Microsoft Word Spell Check! And if you need help with your writing, please contact the Writing Center at ATS. Sloppy papers with syntax and grammatical errors, as well as papers that do not follow proper MLA formatting, will not be accepted by the professors. For writing help, visit The Writing Center’s website: <https://guides.asburyseminary.edu/writingcenter>

All papers must be typed, double-spaced, 1” margin all around, using a 12-point font (such as New Times Roman or Calibri). Papers should adhere to MLA format which calls for a separate “Works Cited” page at the end of your paper. Internal citations within the body of your paper should have the following format (Martyn 47). MLA format is required for your dissertation.

Internal quotes within your paper should be single-spaced and should not have quotation marks around them.

One of the best ways to learn MLA format is to check out a recent Doctor of Ministry dissertation from Asbury Theological Seminary.

A grading rubric for this paper will be provided when class begins in September 2019.

Pre-Residency				
Assignment Description	SLO	Method of Assessment	Value /Due Date	Evaluator
Assignment #1: Biweekly Online Interaction, Reading Guide, & Video Lectures	#1, 2	150-word responses to questions in online classroom 100-word responses to other students’ posts	30% Due Date: 9/3-12/13/2019.	Faculty
Assignment #2: Ecclesiology Text Book Review	#1, 2	3 pages, single-spaced, 12 pt. Times New Roman or Calibri font	15% Due Date: 11/22/2019.	Faculty
Assignment #3: Ecclesiology Reflection Paper	#3	10 pages, double-spaced, 1-inch margins all around, 12 pt. Times New Roman or Calibri font	55% Due Date: 12/2/2019.	Faculty

ADDITIONAL ASSIGNMENT GUIDELINES

Assignment #1: Biweekly Online Interaction, Reading Guide, & Video Lectures Guide:

Week One (September 3-7) & Week Two (September 9-14)

Read:
Watch:

Week Three (September 16-21) & Week Four (September 23-28)

Read:
Watch:

Week Five (September 30-October 5) & Week Six (October 7-12)

Read:
Watch:

Week Seven (October 14-19) & Week Eight (October 21-16)

Read:
Watch:

Week Nine (October 28-November 2) & Week Ten (November 4-9)

Read:
Watch:

Week Eleven (November 11-16) & Week Twelve (November 18-23)

Read:
Watch:

READING WEEK (November 25-30)

Week Thirteen (December 2-7) & Week Fourteen (December 9-13)

Read:
Watch:

Student Learning Outcomes	Method of Assessment	Exemplary=4	Accomplished=3	Developing=2	Beginning=1	Evaluator
SLO #2: Integrate biblical and theological foundations of ecclesiology in their personal discipleship.	Biweekly Online Interactions, Reading Guide, & Video Lectures	<i>Integrates, at an exemplary level, biblical and theological foundations of ecclesiology in their personal discipleship.</i>	<i>Integrates, at an accomplished level, biblical and theological foundations of ecclesiology in their personal discipleship.</i>	<i>Integrates, at a developing level, biblical and theological foundations of ecclesiology in their personal discipleship.</i>	<i>Integrates, at a beginning level, biblical and theological foundations of ecclesiology in their personal discipleship.</i>	Faculty
SLO#3: Apply biblical and theological foundations of ecclesiology in their ministry of spiritual direction.	Ecclesiology Reflection Paper	<i>Applies, at an exemplary level, biblical and theological foundations of ecclesiology in their ministry of spiritual direction.</i>	<i>Applies, at an accomplished level, biblical and theological foundations of ecclesiology in their ministry of spiritual direction.</i>	<i>Applies, at a developing level, biblical and theological foundations of ecclesiology in their ministry of spiritual direction.</i>	<i>Applies, at a beginning level, biblical and theological foundations of ecclesiology in their ministry of spiritual direction.</i>	Faculty

Late Assignments: Any assignment submitted after the due date and time will be reduced one numerical point for every day late. For example, two days late would reduce the grade from a 90 to an 88, unless the student talks to the professor ahead of time and receives permission to turn in the assignment late, based upon a legitimate excuse (such as illness).

Incomplete Work: “A grade of ‘I’ denotes that course work has not been completed *due to an unavoidable emergency*. Delinquency or attending to church work or other employment (i.e. being too busy) does *not* constitute an unavoidable emergency. Without an approved ‘I,’ a letter grade will be recorded based on grades received for completed work and an ‘F’ grade assigned to incomplete work” (ATS 2015-16 Student Handbook, page 67).

Format of Papers: Students must use MLA academic style for completing papers; this is also the required style for your dissertation.

GRADING

Assignment	Weight/Point Value
Biweekly Online Interaction, Reading Assignments, & Video Lectures	30
Ecclesiology Book Review	15
Ecclesiology Reflection Paper	55
	Total: 100

Grading Scale

Letter	Lowest	Highest
A	95.00%	100.00%
A-	90.00%	94.99%
B+	87.00%	89.99%
B	84.00%	86.99%
B-	80.00%	83.99%
C+	77.00%	79.99%
C	74.00%	76.99%
C-	70.00%	73.99%
D+	67.00%	69.99%
D	64.00%	66.99%
D-	60.00%	63.99%
F	0.00%	59.99%

The unit of credit is a semester hour, which is defined as one hour of classroom work per week for one semester, or its equivalent. The 4.00 point system is used to compute grade point standing. The grading system is:

GRADE	EVALUATION CRITERIA
A	Exceptional work: surpassing outstanding achievement of course objectives

B	Good, accomplished work: strong, significant achievement of course objectives
C	Acceptable work: basic, essential achievement of course objectives, developing potential
D	Marginal work: inadequate, minimal, beginning achievement of course objectives
F	Unacceptable work: failure to achieve course objectives

Note: For the Doctor of Ministry Program, 80% or above is required to meet the program standard.

CANVAS (LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM)

Canvas is the new learning management system that Asbury is in the process of transitioning to for seminary classes. To access Canvas for the fall semester, log into <http://connect.asburyseminary.edu> and click on the **Online Courses** tab (upper right corner) to access each course you are enrolled in. In the gray Navigation block on the left, click on **My courses** and then the desired course. You will see a link that will direct you to the Canvas website. Once you have logged in, it is recommended that you bookmark this page for easy access. The courses that you are enrolled in should appear as “course cards” on this page. You may navigate to your desired course here.

Information is arranged on the Canvas homepage as follows:

1. A banner introducing your course and instructor
2. **Course Related:**
 - a. **Announcements** – class news and information
 - b. **Course Questions** – students can post questions about the course and even answer each other
 - c. **Student help link** for navigating Canvas
 - d. **Prayer forum**– a forum where students can post prayer concerns and a great way to build community
 - e. **Office Hours** – your instructor’s scheduled office hours availability (please note that this may vary based on your instructor)
 - f. **Request a Conference** – additional information about your instructor’s conferencing availability
3. **Course Syllabus**
4. A reminder to access your course materials through the Modules section
5. Any further information and/or resources about the course from your instructor

In the Modules section, you will see the course materials labeled either by topics or weeks, depending upon the course organization. Assignment information, group discussion forums, and links to documents and class resources are located within the modules.

COURSE EVALUATIONS

Course evaluations are a vital part of Asbury Seminary's efforts to achieve excellence in the classroom. At the end of the semester, you will receive an email with information and directions for completing course evaluations. Your responses are completely anonymous, and your participation is greatly appreciated. If you have questions or encounter problems accessing the evaluations, contact the Help Desk at helpdesk@asburyseminary.edu or by phone at 859.858.2100 or toll-free at 800.2ASBURY.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS & SUPPORT

To take an online or hybrid class, you should be comfortable using e-mail, web browsers, word-processing software and be able to download files and create attachments. You will need the following in order to participate online:

- A computer with Windows 7 or MAC OS 10.6 or above
- An account with or regular access to an internet service provider (ISP)
- Reliable, high-speed internet (recommended)
- Word processing software
- A webcam (built-in or external) for video conferences, as needed
- A headset with microphone (preferable)

Contact the Help Desk for technical assistance accessing the online class, using electronic resources, or with other technical issues related to Asbury Seminary coursework.

- Email: helpdesk@asburyseminary.edu
- Phone: 859.858.2100 or 800.2ASBURY (toll free)

LIBRARY RESOURCES

Library resources, research support, and library loan are available via:

- Website: asbury.to/library
- Email: helpdesk@asburyseminary.edu
- Phone: 859.858.2100 or 800.2ASBURY (toll free)

Materials Requests

Use the links on the library website to search the library catalog for available materials. Students on the Kentucky or Florida campuses can use their student ID cards to check out materials in person. Books can be returned or mailed to the library at either the Kentucky or Florida campus.

Students may request books, photocopies, or emailed attachments of journal articles or portions of reference books from the library. Allow 3-10 business days for requests to be filled. Contact the library for costs and instructions on how to make requests, or view the online tutorial at guides.asburyseminary.edu/libraryloan.

Online Resources

- **Asbury Scholar** – Find library books, ebooks, journal articles, and other media at asbury.to/library.
- **Databases** – Access links to online resources including the library catalog, online journal databases, encyclopedias, and more at guides.asburyseminary.edu/az.php.

Research Assistance

Students should contact Research Services in the library for research assistance. Help is available for general research questions, including how to find course materials online or navigate library resources. Training for supported Bible software or bibliographic management software is also available. Appointments can be made via:

- Website: asbury.to/library
- Email: helpdesk@asburyseminary.edu
- Phone: 859.858.2100 or 800.2ASBURY (toll free)

The Writing Center

- The goal of the Writing Center is to help students improve their graduate-level writing. Assistance is available both online and on the Kentucky campus to help with various aspects of the writing process, including structure and organization, grammar, punctuation, and citation formatting. Appointments can be made by contacting the library via:
 - Website: asbury.to/library
 - Email: helpdesk@asburyseminary.edu
 - Phone: 859.858.2100 or 800.2ASBURY (toll free)
- Students can sign up for 30-minute sessions on the library website at asbury.to/library.

POLICIES

Each student is responsible for being familiar with seminary policies. Asbury Seminary reserves the right to change policies when necessary. Below are brief descriptions of a few seminary policies. For more detailed information regarding school policies, please refer to the ATS Student Handbook at asburyseminary.edu/students/student-services/student-handbook/

Attendance/Participation

To progress satisfactorily and achieve learning outcomes in this class, students must meet the course requirements. D.Min. students are required to attend all classes during each residency.

Disability Accommodations

Asbury Theological Seminary provides reasonable accommodation on an individualized basis for qualified students with disabilities. Students are required to provide documentation of a disability prior to receiving classroom accommodations. Since accommodations may require early planning before or at the start of the term and are

generally not provided retroactively, students need to contact an Accommodations Officer as soon as possible. If you are a student with a disability and believe you require reasonable accommodations in this class, you will need to make an appointment with an Accommodations Officer in the Office of the Registrar on the Kentucky campus or in the Enrollment Management Office on the Florida campus. Students attending the Tennessee site should contact the Kentucky Registrar.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is expected of every student. Plagiarism, that is, “presenting ... another’s ideas or writings as one’s own,” is considered a serious violation of integrity and is unacceptable. Detailed information, including the penalty for plagiarizing, is in the Student Handbook. For additional information about plagiarism, go to plagiarism.org

In this course we may utilize Unicheck, an automated system that compares students’ assignments with websites as well as a database of previously submitted student work. After the assignment is processed, instructors receive a report from unicheck.com that states if and how another person’s work was used in the assignment. For more information, see www.unicheck.com. If you have questions about academic honesty, please contact the library at helpdesk@asburyseminary.edu.

Copyright Information

The copyright law of the United States (title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. Under certain conditions specified in the law, libraries and archives are authorized to furnish a photocopy or other reproduction. One of these specific conditions is that the photocopy or reproduction is not to be "used for any purpose other than private study, scholarship, or research." If a user makes a request for, or later uses, a photocopy or reproduction for purposes in excess of "fair use," that user may be liable for copyright infringement. This institution reserves the right to refuse to accept a copying order if, in its judgment, fulfillment of the order would involve violation of copyright law.

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