

Course Description

Course Number: MN 157W

Course Title: Diaconal Ministry Seminar 1

Name of Instructor: Man-Hei Yip

Semester and Year: Fall 2021

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Diaconal Ministry Seminar 1 is a 1 credit, credit/no credit, course. This is a required course for new incoming students in the Master of Arts in Diaconal Ministry (MADM) degree program. The course provides a foundation in diaconal ministry grounded in the Lutheran traditions. Participants in this course will study the history of the ELCA diaconate, the roles of deacons, and be given the opportunity to connect with those who are serving in a wide and distinctive variety of diaconal ministries. Instruction is delivered synchronously.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Participants completing this course will:

- I. Demonstrate an understanding of the history and theology of Diakonia grounded in the Lutheran traditions. (Practice of Biblical and Theological Wisdom)
- II. Be able to integrate personal faith with the needs to be served in respective contexts. (Practice of Personal Faith and Integrity)
- III. Be able to articulate the current rosters in the ELCA contexts and the concept of diaconate in other denominations. (Practice of Ecclesial Partnership)
- IV. Connect with those who are serving in a wide and distinctive variety of diaconal ministries in responsive to an increasingly precarious world. (Practice of Collegiality)

PROCEDURE:

This class will meet once per week for one hour. It puts an emphasis on student participation through interactive discussion with instructor, guest speakers, and one another.

EVALUATION:

I. Class participation. II. Demonstration of understanding of weekly assigned readings. III. Reflection paper that contributes to the biblical, theological, and theoretical analysis of diaconal ministry in light of the themes explored throughout the course.

BIBLIOGRAPHY (indicates required texts):**

**Dietrich, Stephanie, ed. *Diakonia as Christian Social Practice: An Introduction*. Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock, 2015.

Epting, Susanne Watson. *Unexpected Consequences: The Diaconate Renewed*. New York: Morehouse Publishing, 2015.

**Larson, Duane H., ed. *From Word and Sacrament: Renewed Vision for Diaconal Ministry*. Chicago: Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, 1999.

Nessan, Craig L. *Wilhelm Loehe and North America: Historical Perspective and Living Legacy*. Missional Church, Public Theology, World Christianity, 10. Eugene, Oregon: Pickwick Publications, 2020.