



CM507 Experiencing the Trinity

Short Syllabus

Instructor: Larry Hinkle, DMin.

Course description

This course studies spiritual formation. Participation is required in a three-day retreat that presents students with the opportunity to come to know God more intimately through silence, solitude, meditative prayer, communion, worship, and other spiritually formative activities. This retreat experience is informed by a study of the dynamic of these practices as they relate to Scripture and the call of the Triune God to know him better. Currently, the retreat requirement is experienced through an online format.

Estimated workload: For a student to do well in this course, the student will need to invest a total of 140 hours, or about 12 hours per week of reading, participating on the website, and writing papers.

Fees

- **Tuition charge:** \$660 (audit, \$330), payable to Grace Communion Seminary in the online registration system.
- **Retreat registration:** The 2022 Retreat will be conducted online using the video-conferencing platform of Zoom (November 4, 5, 6). The student cost will be \$75.00 payable to Odyssey in Christ on their website at: [Experiencing the Trinity Retreat](#).^{*} The fee includes a Participant's Guide to be made available prior to the retreat. Requirements include a computer with a high-speed internet connection and a webcam. Students must be willing to carefully prepare their schedules and physical environment prior to the retreat in order to be fully present and without

interruption during the three-day time period assigned for the retreat. Since the retreat is bathed in prayer, each participant is asked to find a minimum of five individuals not attending the retreat who are willing to dedicate themselves to praying for the participant over the three days.

Required textbooks

Please obtain the books before the class begins. To find the lowest prices on these books, you may find it helpful to use www.bookfinder.com.

Andrews, Alan (General Editor). *The Kingdom Life: A Practical Theology of Discipleship and Spiritual Formation*. Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 2010. ISBN: 13:978-1-60006-280-3. 328 pages. \$13.85 - \$17.99. (Amazon).

Barton, Ruth Haley. *Sacred Rhythms: Arranging Our Lives for Spiritual Transformation*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2006. ISBN: 08308-3333-1. 187 pages. \$12-13.

Buchanan, Mark. *The Rest of God: Restoring Your Soul by Restoring Sabbath*. Nashville, TN: Nelson, 2006. ISBN: 978-0-8499-1870-4. 220 pages. \$10.00.

Reeves, Michael. *Delighting in the Trinity: An Introduction to the Christian Faith*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2012. ISBN: 978-0-8308-3983-4. 133 pages. \$10.00.

Additional required reading – no additional cost:

Davis, Martin. *A Window Into the Heart of God*. 13 pages. Available on the Odyssey in Christ website under Retreat Registration.

Barton, Ruth Haley. *Invitation to Retreat: The Gift & Necessity of Time Away with God*. (Reading Selections will be provided by the professor as part of online class assignments).

Hinkle, Larry. *The Spiritual Rhythms of Solitude, Silence and Meditation*. 8

pages. Available on the Odyssey in Christ website under Retreat Registration.

Hinkle, Larry. Odyssey in Christ Retreat Participant's Guide. Available at the time of the retreat.

Perrine, Myra. Spiritual Temperaments Inventory. 13 pages. Available on the Odyssey in Christ website under Retreat Registration.

Requirements and assignments

1. **Read the lessons.** Lessons will be posted each Monday for eight weeks.
2. **Participate.** In most courses, part of the learning that occurs comes through discussion and interaction with other students. In an online class, this is done through comments posted on a discussion forum. The online discussions, along with three two-page reflection papers on the lectures, counts for 20 percent of the final grade.
3. **Read the textbooks.** They total about 900 pages, or about 80 pages each week.
4. **Papers.** Write four 3-5 page reaction papers, one for each required textbook. Write a final 6-8 page final paper. These papers count for 45 percent of the final grade. We estimate that you will need about 48 hours to work on these papers – an average of 4 hours per week – some weeks more, some less.
5. **Retreat.** Attend the three-day (70 hour) Odyssey in Christ retreat or participate in the optional online retreat experience. This counts for 30 percent of the final grade.
6. **Online video conference.** Meet with professor online. This counts for 5 percent of the final grade.