

Culture and Practical Ministry

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Office Hour: Tuesday 10:00-12:00

Course Description

Culture Matters! How does culture shape practical ministry? How does practical ministry affect cultural renewal? Practical ministry includes education, preaching, worship, and pastoral care ministry of the church. In this course we will analyze how culture and practical ministry interacted in specific historical periods and examine ways that could have been more appropriate for practitioners of Christian ministry to respond to those cultural contexts. Through cultural sketch of one's own context, the student will envision the future of practical ministry, and learn to not only challenge his/her own culture, but also engage in it with a renewed perspective.

Objectives: At the end of the course the students will be able to

- 1) Acquire knowledge on interdependency between culture and practical ministry. (through whole course Graduate Level Outcomes 1.1, and 1.4)
- 2) Describe how culture shaped practical ministry in one's own context. (through presentation Graduate Level Outcomes 2.3, 2.4 and 2.5)
- 3) Identify roles of practical ministry in a particular culture in a historical period. (through whole seminar Graduate Level Outcomes 2.3, 2.4 and 2.5)
- 4) Demonstrate how practical ministry might play a critical role in any culture. (through whole seminar Graduate Level Outcomes 4.3.1.2)
- 5) Demonstrate analytical skills with historical resources in practical ministry. (through whole seminar Graduate Level Outcomes 2.5, 3.1)
- 6) Identify how practical ministry- education, preaching, worship and pastoral care- similarly responded to culture of the time. (whole seminar Graduate Level Outcomes 4.2.2.5)
- 7) Envision the future of practical ministry in one's own context. (through final paper Graduate Level Outcomes 3.1)

Related TST Graduate Level Outcomes:

1. Knowledge of the area of concentration

<p>1.1 basic familiarity with their area of concentration, as outlined in the departmental description of the field and as understood in scholarly discussion at the forefront of study in the area;</p>	<p>to provide basic answers to most questions from first-year students arising from a typical introductory course (e.g., in the context of a tutorial);</p>
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1.4 expertise in at least one subject.	to undertake and complete a project of original scholarly research.
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2. Ability with scholarly tools and skills

2.3 proficiency in the use of a library and the construction of a bibliography	to produce bibliographies appropriate to each of the four levels of knowledge described above;
2.4 competence or proficiency in the use of pertinent electronic and web-based resources	to make appropriate use of such resources (1) at a level of proficiency in their own area of research, and (2) at a level of competence in classroom and instructional settings;
2.5 proficiency in the following skills: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • clear and effective communication in both oral and written forms; • the construction of a logical argument; • the making of informed judgments on complex issues; • the use of standard conventions of style for scholarly writing. 	to produce standard forms of scholarly engagement, both written (e.g., publishable research paper, publishable book review) and oral (presentation of a paper, response to an oral presentation, lecture), of a quality consistent with standards for an entry-level academic appointment.

3. Ability to carry out specialized original research

3.1 will have

- attained expertise in one subject, together with competence or proficiency in a cognate area or method, where appropriate;

4.2. Teaching

- 4.2.2.5 to adapt their teaching skills to situations other than a formal classroom

4.3. Service

- 4.3.1.2 recognize the ecumenical character of theological scholarship and its place within the broader world of scholarly discourse;

COURSE REQUIREMENT and EVALUATION CRITERIA:

1. **Active Class Participation:** Students are expected to attend all class sessions and to have read assigned readings to contribute to class discussion. This is a seminar course, so your active participation is very important. **Evaluation Criteria:** active participation, constructive comments and questions to presenters, thoughtful insights and attitude respectful of others. (20 %)
2. **A Seminar Presentation on Culture and Practical Ministry:** Choose a historical period, study its culture, select an educator, or preacher, or pastoral care

person according to your specialization, analyze how culture and practical ministry interacted in the person's works, evaluate the appropriateness of the work to its cultural context, and suggest alternative ways the practitioner would have responded to the culture.

Evaluation Criteria: accurate comprehension, critical insights, accurate analysis and evaluation, clear thinking, skills of application of theories, effective use of resources. (40 %: 20 % from peers, 20 % from professor)

- 3. Final Paper (A substantial scholarly paper):** Your Own Cultural Sketch and Future of Practical Ministry (in your specialization) 20-30 pages. Sketch your own culture in various angles, and design your future practical ministry, not only engaging in, but also challenging your culture for renewal.

Evaluation Criteria: accurate understanding and analysis of one's own culture and ministry, effective communication, creative thinking, critical insight, logical argument, skills of application of theories, use of resources. (40 %)

Course Website

Quercus: <https://q.utoronto.ca/>

This course uses Quercus for its course website. To access it, go to the UofT Quercus login page at <https://q.utoronto.ca/> and login using your UTORid and password. Once you have logged in to Quercus using your UTORid and password, look for the My Courses module, where you'll find the link to the website for all your Quercus-based courses. (Your course registration with ACORN gives you access to the course website in Quercus.) Information for students about using Quercus can be found at: <https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10701>. Students who have trouble accessing Quercus should ask [insert college contact] for further help.]

Grading System

A+ (90-100)

A (85-89)

A- (80-84)

B+ (77-79)

B (73-76)

B- (70-72)

Failure

The course must be completed with a final grade of at least B- to be credited to the required courses of a graduate degree program. All grades are recorded in the student's academic history as a letter grade.

Please see the appropriate handbook for more details about the grading scale and letter grades (e.g. SDF, INC, etc).

Late work

The instructor is not obliged to accept late work, except where there are legitimate, documented reasons beyond a student's control. In such cases, a late penalty is normally not appropriate. Degree students are expected to hand in assignments by the date given in the course outline. For the course 4 points deducted per week late.

Course grades: Consistently with the policy of the University of Toronto, course grades submitted by an instructor are reviewed by a committee of the instructor's college before being posted. Course grades may be adjusted where they do not comply with University grading policy (<http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/grading.htm>) or college grading policy.

OTHER COURSE POLICIES:

Other Policies for courses are contained in the TST Advanced Degree Handbook.

Please refer:

Accessibility. <http://www.accessibility.utoronto.ca/>

Plagiarism. <http://www.tst.edu/academic/resources-forms/handbooks>

http://www.trinity.utoronto.ca/Library_Archives/Theological_Resources/Tools/Guides/plag.htm.

Other academic offences. TST students come under the jurisdiction of the University of Toronto Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters

<http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm>.

Back-up copies. Please make back-up copies of essays before handing them in.

Obligation to check email: At times, the course instructor may decide to send out important course information by email. To that end, all students in conjoint programs are required to have a valid utoronto email address. Students must have set up their utoronto email address which is entered in the ACORN system. Information is available at www.utorid.utoronto.ca. The course instructor will not be able to help you with this. 416-978-HELP and the Help Desk at the Information Commons can answer questions you may have about your UTORid and password. Students should check utoronto email regularly for messages about the course. Forwarding your utoronto.ca email to a Hotmail, Gmail, Yahoo or other type of email account is not advisable. In some cases, messages from utoronto.ca addresses sent to Hotmail, Gmail or Yahoo accounts are filtered as junk mail, which means that emails from your course instructor may end up in your spam or junk mail folder.

Email communication with the course instructor: The instructor aims to respond to email communications from students in a timely manner. All email communications from students should be sent from a utoronto email address. Email communications from other email addresses are not secure, and also the instructor cannot readily identify them as being legitimate emails from students. The instructor is not obliged to respond to email from non-utoronto addresses

SUGGESTED BOOKS

There is no one required book. You are free to choose books for your study according to your interest. Most of Weekly Readings will be posted on Blackboard. These are just suggestions.

Carter, Craig A. *Rethinking Christ and Culture: a Post-Christendom Perspective*, Grand Rapids, MI: Brazos Press, 2006

Crouch, Andy, *Culture Making: recovering our creative calling*. Downers Grove, Ill.: IVP Books, 2008

Niebuhr, H.R., *Christ and Culture*. New York: Harper Rowe, 1951.

Tanner, Kathryn, *Theories of culture: a new agenda for theology*, Minneapolis: Fortress Press, c1997.

Your own selections from bibliography in your specialization

COURSE SCHEDULE

WEEK ONE: September 11

**To Know Who We Are!
Sharing about the Course
Culture and Me**

WEEK TWO: September 18 Christ and Culture Your own definition of "Culture"

Reading:

H. Richard Niebuhr, *Christ and Culture*

Craig A. Carter, *Rethinking Christ and Culture: a Post-Christendom Perspective*

Ottati, Douglas F. "Christ and Culture: Still Worth to Reading after All These Years" in *Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics*, 23:1 (2003): 121-132

Bargar, Pavol, "Niebuhr's typology reconsidered: reading Christ and culture through the lenses of the praxis matrix," *Communio viatorum*, 56 no 3 2014, p 294-316 <http://web.etf.cuni.cz/myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/> (Publisher's URL:)

WEEK THREE: September 25 Culture and Christian Church

Reading:

Crouch, Andy, *Culture Making*

Aune, Michael B., "Go in Peace and Serve the Lord: Changing Cultures - Changing Ministries" in *Currents in Theology and Mission*, 38:3 (June, 2011), 175-182

Tanner, Kathryn, *Theories of culture: a new agenda for theology*, Ch. 5. Christian Culture and Society, 93-119

WEEK FOUR: October 2

Current Issues in Culture and Education

Reading:

Miedema, Siebren and Bert H. M. Roebben, "The Two Contested Concepts of Culture and Tradition in Religious Education" in *Religious Education*, <http://www.informaworld.com.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/smpp/title~db=all~content=713775204~tab=issueslist~branches=103 - v103:4> (July 2008), 480 – 492

Hammond, Zaretta, *Culturally Responsive Teaching and The Brain: Promoting Authentic Engagement and Rigor Among Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Students*, Ch. 4, Preparing to be a Culturally Responsive Practitioner, pp. 52-69

WEEK FIVE: October 9

Current Issues in Culture and Pastoral Care by Prof. Anne Anderson

Led by a special guest Prof. Anne Anderson

Reading:

Cahalan Kathleen A *The Stories We Live By: Finding God's Calling All Around Us*, pp.22-45

Kujawa-Holbrook, Sheryl A. In *Justice & The Care Of Souls*, Ch. Three, Engaging Diversity and Difference

Kidd, Sue Monk, *When the Heart Waits*. Ch. 3 From False Self to True Self

WEEK SIX: October 16

Current Issues in Culture and Preaching, and Worship

Led by a special guest Prof. Dorcas Gordon

Reading:

Copeland, M. Shawn, "Body, Representation, Black Religious Discourse," in *Postcolonialism, Feminism and Religious Discourse*, Donaldson, Laura E. & Kwok Pui-Lan (ed), Routledge, 2002, 180-198

Edwards Jr, O. C. *A History of Preaching*, Ch. 32 A Crisis of Communication, Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2004

WEEK SEVEN: October 23: Reading Week

WEEK EIGHT: October 30
Culture and Practical Ministry
Student Presentation

Reading from Presenter's selection

WEEK NINE: November 6
Culture and Practical Ministry
Student Presentation

Reading from Presenter's selection

WEEK TEN: November 13
Culture and Practical Ministry
Student Presentation

Reading from Presenter's selection

WEEK ELEVEN: November 20
Culture and Practice Ministry
Student Presentation

Reading from Presenter's selection

WEEK TWELVE: November 27
Culture and Practice Ministry
Student Presentation

Reading from Presenter's selection

WEEK THIRTEEN: December 4
Closing and Opening

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Books in Culture

Bhabha, Homi K. *The location of culture*, London and New York: Routledge, 2004

- Carter, Craig A. *Rethinking Christ and Culture: a Post-Christendom Perspective*, Grand Rapids, MI: Brazos Press, 2006
- Carson, D.A. *Christ and Culture Revisited*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2008
- Crouch, Andy, *Culture making: recovering our creative calling*, Downers Grove, Ill.: IVP Books, 2008
- Niebuhr, H.R. , *Christ and Culture*. New York: Harper Rowe, 1951.
- Fensham, Charles, *Emerging from the dark age ahead: the future of the North American church*, Ottawa: Novalis, c2008
- Moore, T. M., *Culture matters: a call for consensus on Christian cultural engagement*, Grand Rapids, MI : Brazos Press, c2007
- Pelikan, J. *Jesus Through the Centuries: His place in the History of Culture*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1985.
- Sanneh, L. O. *Religion and the Variety of Culture: A Study in origin and Practice*, Vally Forge: Trinity Press, 1996
- Sanneh, L.O. 1993. *Encountering the West: Christianity and the Global Cultural Process: The African Dimension*: New York: Orbis Press, 1993
- Sanneh, L.O. *Whose Religion is Christianity? The Godpel beyond the West*, Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2003.
- Smith, R. Drew and William Ackah (ed), *Churches, blackness, and contested multiculturalism: Europe, Africa, and North America*, New York : Palgrave Macmillan, 2014.
- Sommerfeldt, John R. *Christianity in culture: a historical quest*, Lanham, Md.; Toronto: University Press of America, 2009.
- Tanner, Kathryn, *Theories of culture: a new agenda for theology*, Minneapolis : Fortress Press, c1997.

Books in Culture and Education

- Alexander, Robin, *Culture and pedagogy: international comparisons in primary Education*, Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishers, 2001.
- Bishop, Russell and Ted Glynn, *Culture counts: changing power relations in Education*, Palmerston North, NZ: Dunmore Press, 1999.
- Gaztambide-Fernández, Rubén A., Heather A. Harding, Tere Sordé-Martí (ed). *Cultural studies and education: perspectives on theory, methodology, and Practice*, Cambridge, MA: Harvard Educational Review, c2004.
- Hammond, Zaretta, *Culturally Responsive Teaching and The Brain: Promoting Authentic Engagement and Rigor Among Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Students*, Thousand Oaks: Corwin, 2015
- Keller, Diana Silberman ... [et al.].(ed), *Mirror images : popular culture and education*, New York : Peter Lang, c2008.
- Leirman, Walter, *Four cultures of education: expert, engineer, prophet, communicator*, Frankfurt am Main ; New York : P. Lang, c1994
- Lord, Carnes, *Education and culture in the political thought of Aristotle*, Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1982
- Plueddemann, James E., *Teaching Across Cultures: Contextualizing Education for Global Mission*, IVP Academic (Nov. 27 2018)

- Shapiro, H. Svi (ed) *Education and Hope in Troubled Times: Visions of Change for Our Children's World*, NY: Routledge, 2009
- Solway, David, *Lying about the wolf: essays in culture and education*, Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press, c1997.
- Suárez-Orozco, Marcelo M. and Desirée Baolian Qin-Hilliard (ed), *Globalization: culture and education in the new millennium*, Berkeley : University of California Press, c2004.
- Wheeler, Steve (ed), *Connected minds, emerging cultures: cybercultures in online learning*, Charlotte, NC : Information Age Pub., c2009.
- Wright, Andrew, *Critical Religious Education: Multiculturalism and the Pursuit of Truth*, University of Wales Press, 2008

e-Journals:

- Irizarry, Jose R. "A Bilingual Aesthetic for Religious Education" in [Religious Education](#), Volume
<http://www.informaworld.com.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/smpp/title~db=all~content=713775204~tab=issueslist~branches=102 - v102102>, Issue 2 March 2007 , pages 124 – 127
- Condo-Frazier, Elizabeth, "Culture and the Production of Religious Knowledge and Interpretation" in [Religious Education](#), Volume
<http://www.informaworld.com.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/smpp/title~db=all~content=713775204~tab=issueslist~branches=102 - v102102>, Issue 2 March 2007 , pages 111 – 115
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<http://www.informaworld.com.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/smpp/title~db=all~content=713775204~tab=issueslist~branches=102 - v102102>, Issue 2 March 2007 , pages 120 – 123
- Court, Deborah, "Glimpsing God on the Rocky Road of Culture" in [Religious Education](#), Volume
<http://www.informaworld.com.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/smpp/title~db=all~content=713775204~tab=issueslist~branches=102 - v102102>, Issue 2 March 2007 , pages 116 – 119
- Foster, Charles R. "RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AT THE EDGE OF HISTORY" in [Religious Education](#), Volume
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- Hess, Mary E., TRANSFORMING TRADITIONS: TAKING POPULAR CULTURE SERIOUSLY IN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, *Religious Education*, ISSN 0034-4087, 01/2004, Volume 99, Issue 1, pp. 86 – 94
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- Press, 1998.
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- Power, David N., *Worship: culture and theology*, Washington, D.C. : Pastoral Press, c1990
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- Stout, Harry, *The New England Soul: Preaching and Religious Culture in Colonial New England*: Oxford, Toronto: Oxford University Press, 1986
- Travis, Sarah, *Decolonizing Preaching: Decolonizing Preaching The Pulpit as Postcolonial Space*, Eugene: Cascade Books, 2014
- Troeger, Thomas H., *Preaching and worship*, St. Louis, Mo: Chalice Press, c2003.

Books in Culture and Pastoral Care

- Augsburger, David W. *Pastoral counseling across cultures*, Philadelphia: Westminster Press, c1986. 1st ed
- Berinyuu, Abraham Adu, *Pastoral care to the sick in Africa: an approach to transcultural pastoral theology*, Frankfurt am Main ; New York : P. Lang, c1988
- Bower, Kate, *Everything Happens for a Reason and Other Lies I've Loved*, NY: Random House, 2018
- Furniss, George, *The Social Context of Pastoral Care: Defining the Life Situation*, Louisville: John Knox Press, 1994
- John, Elizabeth A., *Creation and the Cross: The Mercy of God for a Planet in Peril*, Maryknoll NY: Orbis Books, 2018
- Johnson, Lydia F., *Drinking from the same well: cross-cultural concerns in pastoral care and counseling*, Eugene, OR : Pickwick Publications, 2011.
- Lartey, Emmanuel Y. *In Living Color: An Intercultural Approach to Pastoral Care and Counseling*, London & New York: Jessica Kingsley Publishers, 2003,

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Martin, James SJ, *Building a Bridge*, NY: Harper Collins, 2017

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