

## PT 540 Spiritual Formation

May Modular 2012

*To develop Christ-minded leaders who make a difference in the world*

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**SCHEDULE:** Sunday, May 6 (6:00 PM) – Thursday, May 10 (7:00 PM) at Gull Lake Centre

**CREDITS:** 3

**DESCRIPTION:**

An exploration of five classic Christian streams of spirituality from a biblical and historical perspective, with emphasis on practical application. 3 Credits.

We are like eggs at present. And you cannot go on indefinitely being just an ordinary, decent egg. We must be hatched or go bad. - C. S. Lewis



**OBJECTIVES:**

The aim of this course is to:

- Enable students to understand and articulate spiritual formation from a biblical and historical perspective.
- Help students reflect on their spiritual formation and to assess areas of strength and needed growth.
- Offer opportunities to experience and participate in a variety of spiritual disciplines, in an effort to integrate them into a personal quest for Christlikeness.
- Provide a supportive framework for students to set goals for continued spiritual development.
- Increase awareness of the value of Christian community in the pursuit of spiritual formation.
- Foster a commitment to the role of offering spiritual direction as a priority among the many tasks of pastoral ministry.

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**TEXTBOOKS:**

Foster, Richard. *Streams of Living Water*. San Francisco: Harper, 2001.

Foster, Richard and James Bryan Smith, eds. *Devotional Classics: Selected Readings for Individuals and Groups*. San Francisco: Harper, 2005.

Thompson, Marjorie. *Soul Feast*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2005.

*Guide for Research and Writing (SBL style)*. Available on course Web Site  
[www.online.tayloru.ca](http://www.online.tayloru.ca)

Suggested sites from which to order texts: [www.amazon.ca](http://www.amazon.ca) [www.chaptersindigo.ca](http://www.chaptersindigo.ca)  
[www.bookdepository.com](http://www.bookdepository.com) [www.renovare.org](http://www.renovare.org) [www.abebooks.com](http://www.abebooks.com)  
*Streams of Living Water* is available digitally at [www.ebooks.com](http://www.ebooks.com)

**RECOMMENDED TEXTS:**

Mulholland, M. Robert. *Shaped by the Word: The Power of Scripture in Spiritual Formation*. Nashville: Upper Room, 2001.

Peterson, Eugene H. *Eat This Book: A Conversation in the Art of Spiritual Reading*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2006.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Pre-Reading  
In order to maximize learning and discussion, all students are expected to complete the reading of *Streams of Living Water*, pp. 1-233 prior to the beginning of classes. Students will be responsible for the contents of this material on the final examination.
2. Book Review  
Students will submit a review of Marjorie Thompson's *Soul Feast*, following the template on page 5 of this syllabus. This review is due **June 10, 2012**.
3. Reading Log  
Students will submit a reading log of a minimum of 300 pages from Richard Foster and James Bryan Smith's *Devotional Classics*. No commentary or reflection is required in this exercise; only a record of the number of pages read. Use the template on page 6 of this syllabus. This reading log is due **June 10, 2012**.
4. Internet Reading  
Students will spend a minimum of 7 hours exploring some of the links related to the five classic streams of Christian spirituality. These can be accessed through our course web at <http://online.tayloru.ca> This should be documented by means of a reading log on page 7 of this syllabus. For your convenience, the Reading Log is also downloadable in an Excel format on our course web site. **Due June 10, 2012**.

5. Spiritual Autobiography

This assignment is designed with the intention that students will reflect on their spiritual formation through the lens of Foster's five streams of Christian Spirituality. This is a reflection paper and not a research paper, therefore, it is perfectly acceptable to write in the first person singular and to not make extensive reference to written sources.

The spiritual autobiography will begin by recounting how the student has been drawn to Christ, by surveying some of the critical moments and influences that have led him or her on a pathway toward Christlikeness. Next, the student will examine the progress made in each of the five streams, recounting the high and low points of each one. Some questions that may guide this section are:

1. When did you first become impressed with the need to grow in this stream?
2. Who were the influential people who have encouraged your growth in this stream?
3. What experiences or readings played a significant role in a growing understanding of this stream?
4. What practices have you engaged in so you could grow in this stream?
5. As you look into the future and the kind of person you would like to become, is there a rule of life you may want to incorporate that would help you to grow specifically in this stream?

After surveying all five streams, conclude by considering how you might be most helpful in directing someone else in developing the spiritual life. How do you think you are best equipped at this point in life to facilitate another person's growth toward Christlikeness?

This reflection paper should be emailed to the instructor and it is **due June 10, 2012**.

8. Final Examination

The Final Examination will cover all materials presented in the form of lectures and media. When students write answers that also integrate materials from the texts the instructor is very impressed. Students may consult their Bibles. This examination will be completed online. Students will have two hours to complete it and may start the examination any time between **Thursday, May 17 at 12:05 AM and Saturday, May 19 at 9:50 PM**.

**LATE ASSIGNMENTS:**

Because the *spiritual* life is also a *disciplined* life, all assignments are expected to be completed by their respective due dates. The instructor will not assign grades to any late assignments except where unusual and tragic circumstances lead the students to make arrangements for an extension prior to the deadline. This extension must be applied for by letter to the chair of the Taylor Seminary Academic Committee.

**A NOTE TO AUDITORS:**

In order to ensure class participation and enriching discussion, auditors will be expected to complete the assigned pre-reading. All other assignments are waived.

**GRADING AND COURSE LOAD DISTRIBUTIONS:**

<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Book Review	15	June 10, 2012
Reading Log	10	June 10, 2012
Internet Reading	10	June 10, 2012
Spiritual Autobiography	20	June 10, 2012
Spiritual Autobiography	20	December 8
Examination	25	December 3

**COURSE OUTLINE:**

Intro. to Course  
The Nature of Spiritual Formation  
Disciplines and Spiritual Formation  
Community and Spiritual Formation  
Intro. to the Five Streams  
The Contemplative Tradition  
The Holiness Tradition  
The Charismatic Tradition  
The Social Justice Tradition  
The Evangelical Tradition  
Developing a Rule of Life

**Access to our Course Web Site**

In order to access Taylor's online learning platform, you will need to follow these steps:

1. Go to [www.online.tayloru.ca](http://www.online.tayloru.ca)
2. Your user name is TSXXXXX (TS followed by your Taylor Student ID Number)
3. Your password is your last name in small case letters (eg., effa). Once you log in you may change your password by going into PROFILE and accessing EDIT PROFILE.
4. If you are already registered on the platform you will need to click on PT 540 Spiritual Formation in order to access the course materials.
5. Our web site has one section with resources for the course and five sections of web links, organized according to the different streams of Christian spirituality.

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**BOOK REVIEW FOR *SOUL FEAST*, by Marjorie Thompson**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Percentage of pages read \_\_\_\_\_/100%

**Write a reflective review of Thompson's book, by responding to each of the nine chapters in her book. Write a paragraph of 300 – 400 words in response to each chapter (total review should be between 2,700 – 3,600 words) reflecting on how the chapter addressed you personally. What strengths did it affirm? What weaknesses did it reveal? What practices did you find yourself drawn toward?**

**Offer a brief concluding paragraph summarizing the impact this reading has had on your thinking and cultivation of Christian Spirituality.**

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**INTERNET READING LOG TEMPLATE** (This is also uploaded on our web site)

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

1. Web site researched (give name of site) \_\_\_\_\_

Minutes spent reading/exploring \_\_\_\_\_

2. Web site researched (give name of site) \_\_\_\_\_

Minutes spent reading/exploring \_\_\_\_\_

3. Web site researched (give name of site) \_\_\_\_\_

Minutes spent reading/exploring \_\_\_\_\_

4. Web site researched (give name of site) \_\_\_\_\_

Minutes spent reading/exploring \_\_\_\_\_

5. Web site researched (give name of site) \_\_\_\_\_

Minutes spent reading/exploring \_\_\_\_\_

6. Web site researched (give name of site) \_\_\_\_\_

Minutes spent reading/exploring \_\_\_\_\_

7. Web site researched (give name of site) \_\_\_\_\_

Minutes spent reading/exploring \_\_\_\_\_

8. Web site researched (give name of site) \_\_\_\_\_

Minutes spent reading/exploring \_\_\_\_\_

9. Web site researched (give name of site) \_\_\_\_\_

Minutes spent reading/exploring \_\_\_\_\_

10. Web site researched (give name of site) \_\_\_\_\_

Minutes spent reading/exploring \_\_\_\_\_

11. Web site researched (give name of site) \_\_\_\_\_

Minutes spent reading/exploring \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL MINUTES OF INTERNET READING =** 420

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**READING LOG FROM *Devotional Classics***  
(minimum of 300 pages)

Page numbers read (e.g, 3-55)	# of pages
1. _____	_____
2. _____	_____
3. _____	_____
4. _____	_____
5. _____	_____
6. _____	_____
7. _____	_____
8. _____	_____

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**TOTAL PAGES READ**

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## Select Bibliography

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### General Reading

- À Kempis, Thomas. *The Imitation of Christ*. E. M. Blaicklock, transl. T. Nelson, 1979.
- Calhoun, Adele Ahlberg. *Spiritual Disciplines Handbook: Practices that Transform Us*. IVP, 2005.
- Cunningham, Lawrence S. and Keith J. Egan. *Christian Spirituality: Themes from the Tradition*. Paulist Press, 1996.
- Ford, David F. *The Shape of Living: Spiritual Directions for Everyday Life*. Baker, 1997.
- Foster, Richard J. *Celebration of Discipline*. Harper & Row, 1988.
- Holt, Bradley P. *Thirsty for God: A Brief History of Christian Spirituality*. Augsburg, 1993.
- Imbach, Jeff. *The River Within: Loving God, Living Passionately*. NavPress, 1998.
- Kelley, Thomas R. *A Testament of Devotion*. Harper & Row, 1941.
- Maas, Robin and Gabriel O'Donnell. *Spiritual Traditions for the Contemporary Church*. Abingdon, 1990.
- Miller, Donald. *Blue Like Jazz: Nonreligious Thoughts on Christian Spirituality*. Thomas Nelson, 2003.
- Nee, Watchman. *The Spiritual Man*. Christian Fellowship Publications, 1968.
- Nouwen, Henri. *Reaching Out: The Three Movements of the Spiritual Life*. Doubleday, 1975.
- Piper, John. *A Hunger for God: Desiring God through Fasting and Prayer*. Crossway Books, 1997.
- Rolheiser, Ronald. *The Holy Longing: Guidelines for a Christian Spirituality*. Bantam, 2002.
- Scorgie, Glen G. *A Little Guide to Christian Spirituality: Three Dimensions of Life with God*. Zondervan, 2007.
- Sider, Ronald. *Living Like Jesus: Eleven Essentials for Growing a Genuine Faith*. Baker, 1996.
- Tozer, A.W. *The Pursuit of God*. Christian Publications. N.D.
- Whitney, Donald S. *Spiritual Disciplines for the Christian Life*. NavPress, 1991.
- Willard, Dallas. *Renovation of the Heart: Putting on the Character of Christ*. NavPress, 2002.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *The Spirit of the Disciplines*. Harper & Row, 1985.

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### The Contemplative Life

Brother Lawrence. *The Practice of the Presence of God*. John Delaney, transl. Doubleday, 1977.

Carreto, Carlo. *Letters from the Desert*. Orbis, 1972.

Ellul, Jacques. *Prayer and Modern Man*. Seabury, 1970.

Foster, Richard J. *Prayer: Finding the Heart's True Home*. Harper Collins, 1992.

Griffin, Emilie. *Doors into Prayer: An Invitation*. Paraclete Press, 2001.

Houston, James. *Transforming Power of Prayer: Deepening Your Friendship with God*. NavPress, 1998.

Issler, Klaus. *Wasting Time with God: A Christian Spirituality of Friendship with God*. Intervarsity Press, 2001.

Merton, Thomas. *Seeds of Contemplation*. New Directions, 1949.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Contemplative Prayer*. Doubleday, 1971.

Nouwen, Henri. *Clowning in Rome: Reflections on Solitude, Celibacy, Prayer and Contemplation*. Doubleday, 1979.

Peace, Richard. *Meditative Prayer: Entering God's Presence*. NavPress, 1996.

Pennington, Basil. *Centering Prayer: Renewing an Ancient Christian Prayer Form*. Doubleday Image, 1982.

Peterson, Eugene. *Answering God: The Psalms as Tools for Prayer*. Harper & Row, 1988.

Rhodes, Tricia McCary. *The Soul at Rest: A Journey into Contemplative Prayer*. Bethany House, 1996.

Rolheiser, Ronald. *The Shattered Lantern: Rediscovering a Felt Presence of God*. Crossroads, 2001.

Thibodeaux, Mark. *Armchair Mystic: Easing into Contemplative Prayer*. St. Anthony Messenger Press, 2001.

Wangerin Jr., Walter. *Whole Prayer: Speaking and Listening to God*. Zondervan, 1998.

Whiston, Charles. *Pray: A Study of Distinctive Christian Praying*. Eerdmans, 1972.

Yancey, Philip. *Prayer: Does it Make Any Difference?* Zondervan, 2006.

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### The Virtuous Life

- Alexander, Donald L. *Christian Spirituality: Five Views of Sanctification*. InterVarsity, 1989.
- Anderson, Neil T. and Robert Saucy. *The Common Made Holy: Being Conformed to the Image of God*. Harvest House, 1997.
- Barnhouse, Donald Grey. *How to Live a Holy Life*. Fleming Revell, 1975.
- Bridges, Jerry. *The Pursuit of Holiness*. Navpress, 1978.
- Kendall, David. *God's Call to Be like Jesus: Living a Holy Life in an Unholy World*. Light and Life Communications, 1998.
- Law, William. *A Serious Call to a Devout and Holy Life*. Sovereign Grace, 1971.
- Olford, Stephen. *The Way of Holiness: Signposts to Guide Us*. Crossway Books, 1998.
- Packer, J.I. *Rediscovering Holiness*. Vine Books, 1991.
- Peterson, David. *Possessed By God: A New Testament Theology of Sanctification and Holiness*. Eerdmans, 1995.
- Seamands, Stephen A. *Holiness of Heart and Life*. Abingdon, 1989.
- Tracy, Wesley, E. Dee Freeborn, Janine Tartaglia and Morris Weigelt. *The Upward Call: Spiritual Formation and the Holy Life*. Beacon Hill, 1994.
- Wright, N. T., *After You Believe: Why Christian Character Matters*. HarperCollins, 2010.

### The Charismatic Life

- Choy, Leona Frances. *Powerlines: What Great Evangelicals Believed About the Holy Spirit: 1850-1930*. Christian Publications, 1990.
- Cymbala, Jim. *Fresh Wind, Fresh Fire: What Happens When God's Spirit Invades the Hearts of His People*. Zondervan, 1996.
- Deere, Jack. *Surprised by the Power of the Spirit*. Zondervan, 1996.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Surprised by the Voice of God: How God Speaks Today Through Prophecies, Dreams, and Visions*. Zondervan, 1996.
- Hayford, Jack. *The Beauty of Spiritual Language*. Thomas Nelson, 1996.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Worship His Majesty*. Regal, 1999.
- Tan, Siang-Yang, and Douglas H. Gregg. *Disciplines of the Holy Spirit: How to Connect to the Spirit's Power and Presence*. Zondervan, 1996.

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### **The Compassionate Life**

Blue, Kevin. *Practical Justice: Living Off-Center in a Self-Centered World*. InterVarsity, 2006.

Grigg, Viv. *Companion to the Poor*. MARC, 1989.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Cry of the Urban Poor*. MARC, 1992.

Kraybill, Donald B. *The Upside-Down Kingdom*. Herald Press, 2003.

Le Joly, Edward. *We Do It For Jesus: Mother Teresa and Her Missionaries of Charity*. Oxford University, 1998.

Myers, Bryant L. *Walking with the Poor*. Orbis, 1998.

Sider, Ronald J. *Rich Christians in an Age of Hunger*. Word, 1997.

Teresa, Mother. *A Simple Path*. Ballantine Books, 1995.

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Wallis, Jim. *The Call to Conversion*. Harper & Row, 1982.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Who Speaks for God? An Alternative to the Religious Right - A New Politics of Compassion, Community*. Delacorte, 1995.

### **The Evangelical Life (Word Centered)**

Bonhoeffer, Dietrich. *Psalms: The Prayer Book of the Bible*. James Burtner, transl. Augsburg, 1970.

Hall, Thelma. *Too Deep for Words: Rediscovering Lectio Divina*. Paulist Press, 1988.

Howard, Evan B. *Praying the Scriptures: A Field Guide for Your Spiritual Journey*. IVP, 1996.

Law, P., ed. *Praying with the Old Testament*. SPCK, 1989.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Praying with the New Testament*. SPCK, 1988.

Mulholland Jr., M. Robert. *Shaped by the Word: The Power of Scripture in Spiritual Formation*. Upper Room, 2001.

Peace, Richard. *Contemplative Bible Reading: Experiencing God through Scripture*. NavPress, 1996.

Peterson, Eugene H. *Eat This Book: A Conversation in the Art of Spiritual Reading*. Eerdmans, 2006.

Smith, M. *The Word is Very Near You: A Guide to Praying With Scripture*. Cowley, 1989.

**Life in Community**

Bonhoeffer, Dietrich. *Life Together: A Discussion of Christian Fellowship*. Harper & Row, 1954.

Benner, David G. *Sacred Companions: The Gift of Spiritual Friendship and Direction*. IVP, 2002.