COS 124 Transformative Leadership

Date: October 2-3 and November 6-7, 2020  
(Friday 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm & Saturday 8:00 am - 3:30 pm)

Instructors: Patty Johansen and Mike Crawford  
Email: pjohansen@adams.net and mcrawford@igrc.org  
Phone: (217) 722-2730 and (217) 299-4820

Course of Description:

This course forms the student’s identity as pastoral leader and change agent in congregations,  
The United Methodist Church, and the world.

Students will be able to:

1. Identify and understand the attributes of good leaders, biblically and theologically.
2. Evaluate and strengthen their own identities and skills as pastoral leaders.
3. Explain and reflect on the nature of change in the local congregation and wider society.
4. Implement visioning, strategizing, and planning processes in their local congregations.

Texts:


Instructions: how to format your homework

1. All written work should be turned in as a hard copy, using 12 pt. Calibri or Times New Roman, double spaced, 1” margin all around, all pages stapled together, your name & assignment noted in header (in the margins, not in the body of the paper).
2. Written work is due at the beginning of class on the due date.
3. If you quote from a printed text, use quotation marks and note the source. Ideas and information should be stated in your own words, not in the words of the authors you have read.
4. Bring an additional copy of written work with you for your own use during the class.
COS 124 Transformative Leadership

Grading:

1. Class attendance and participation in class discussions (25%)
2. Homework (75%) (each assignment will be 15% of the grade)

Homework (due date: Friday, October 2, 2020)

1. Read *Ducking Spears, Dancing Madly*.
   a. Write a paper (2 pages minimum/3 pages maximum) outlining the key points Parks and Birch make related to church leadership based on the Samuel narratives.
   b. Write a paper (2 pages minimum/3 pages maximum) reflecting on your own story’s relationship to the points Parks and Birch make:
      i. Share two examples from your leadership experience illustrated through the book.
      ii. What are the positive leadership characteristics which you would like to develop or deepen in your life? What steps can you take to do that?

2. Read *The New Adapters*.
   a. Each chapter focuses on an aspect of developing strategies for a local church. Focus on three chapters and write a paper (4 pages minimum/5 pages maximum):
      i. Reflect on each of the three principles you have chosen.
      ii. Identify ways each principle could be applied in your ministry setting.

3. Complete two online profiles and bring a printed copy of the results to class:
      i. If you have not previously completed the CliftonStrengths assessment, contact Mike Crawford as soon as possible to secure the code needed to complete it.
      ii. Submit the Strengths Insight Guide via email to mcrawford@igrc.org prior to November 6.
   b. Free Spiritual Type Assessment: http://prayer-center.upperroom.org/resources/quiz. Copy and paste the results into a Word document (include your name and COS 124 in the header) and print.
Homework (due date: Friday, November 6, 2020)

1. Write a paper (4 pages minimum/5 pages maximum) reflecting on your CliftonStrengths and Spiritual Type.
   a. How have you seen your Strengths themes positively enhance ministry relationships?
   b. What, if any, blind spots have arisen related to your Strengths themes as you engage in ministry?
   c. How would a person in your congregation describe your spiritual type as it is reflected and used in your ministry?
   d. How do you see your Strengths themes and Spiritual Type work together in your leadership?
   e. How do your Strengths themes and Spiritual Type support and enhance each other?
   f. What gaps do you see in your personality and what type of leaders do you need around you to offer alternative insights and strengths?

2. Utilizing www.MissionInsite.com create Executive Insite and Ministry Insite reports (both are “Predefined Reports”) for your ministry context. (If you serve a multi-point charge, focus on one of the communities for this assignment.)
   a. To register for a free MissionInsite account, go to www.igrc.org/demographics and follow the instructions in the “How to Register with MissionInsite” document. An “Instructional Presentation” document is also available to give you step-by-step instructions to create demographic reports.
   b. Submit the demographic reports via email to mcrawford@igrc.org when you have completed them. (This will save the need to print the demographic reports. They must be submitted no later than the beginning of class on November 6, but should be submitted shortly after you have generated them.)
   c. Write a paper (4 pages minimum/5 pages maximum) reflecting on the demographic information:
      i. Which data gave you new insight into the community you serve? What was the surprise? How does that insight impact how your approach ministry in your context?
      ii. Read the Mission Impact Guide for each of the top two (by percentage) MOSAIC segments in your chosen study area. (http://missioninsite.com/missionimpact-guide/)
      iii. According to the demographics, what are two possible opportunities in your community in which your church is not engaging to the fullest in ministry? Clearly identify and state the statistics and information on which you base these observations.
      iv. Using the insights gained from The New Adapters, identify one potential thematic goal for the congregation and three to five key action steps related to that thematic goal.
3. Based on the video presentation by Dr. Frank Thomas, write a reflection paper (2 pages minimum/3 pages maximum) about his main points and any sub-points which stood out to you regarding your personal emotional and spiritual maturity. Include observations about behaviors and reactions learned in your family of origin and your current family relationships and how they impact your ministry and interactions with parishioners and others. Identify and include at least two or three personal areas on which you need to reflect and consider growth to become a more emotionally healthy leader.