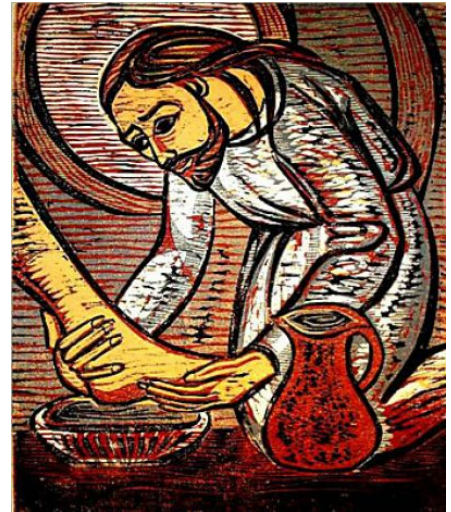


MN 504 Young Adult Formation
J-Term 2017 - 2 credits, grade only
Dr. Susan Forshey

Course Description

This course explores the cultural, intellectual, emotional and spiritual experiences of US young adults (18-30) with an understanding of the larger global context. Students will follow a practical theological method which explores a continuum of young adult experiences and then brings it into conversation with the resources of the Christian faith: scripture, reason, experience, and tradition, as a means of better understanding moves of the Spirit toward transformation, faith formation, and discipleship. Students will reflect on their own generational and social locations with a goal of developing their gifts for leadership and ministry with and for young adults in a variety of contexts.



Course Objectives By participating fully in this class, students will:

- Learn and practice a method of contemplative practical theological reflection in a variety of contexts;
- Articulate the characteristics and impact of cultural formation, with regards to formation as a disciple of Christ;
- Gain an introductory awareness of teaching and learning models, human development patterns, and brain research on learning so as to communicate Gospel truths in ways that meet young adults in their particular stage of developmental and learning needs;
- Be able to describe and assess the ways to approach the tasks of Christian formation with young adults;
- Explore models of young adult catechesis, worship, and incorporation into the Body of Christ.
- Explore best practices and develop personal skills relevant to leadership and ministry with young adults.

Curricular Goals Fulfilled by This Course

- Be formed by, live in, and minister out of Scripture and the historical and theological tradition of the Church.
- Educate and equip individuals and congregations to live and minister joyfully and faithfully as part of their own denomination and the ecumenical church.
- Lead and nurture congregations to promote peace and justice in the public arena and encourage the witness and service of the church in mission to the world.
- Integrate theology and practice in all areas of life and ministry.
- Develop, implement, and assess strategies for missional living in a specific cultural context.
- Adopt spiritual practices that nurture their personal lives as faithful disciples and witnesses.
- Develop skills and capacities for faithful and competent Christian witness.

Requirements

1. Attendance, reading, and attentive participation in the class – 20%
2. Three reflective journals (600 words each) – 5% each
3. Young adult ministry visit analysis (600 words) – 10%
4. Ministry with young adults context description (1000 words) – 20%
5. Final Project: Create a young adult formation approach for your context - 35%

Required Texts

Miller, Donald. *A Million Miles in a Thousand Years*.

Setran, David & Chris Kiesling. *Spiritual Formation in Emerging Adulthood: A Practical Theology for College and Young Adult Ministry*.

Smith, Christian. *Souls in Transition*

Smith, James K. A. *You Are What You Love*.

The Millennial Generation Research Review

A novel or fiction series which speak to young adult concerns/experience.

To Register:

- UDTs Students – when registration is open for J-Term/Spring semester and you've been given clearance by your advisor - <http://my.dbq.edu>
- Non UDTs Students - <http://udts.dbq.edu/admissions/non-degreestudents/>