

SPIR 538: Wholistic Spiritual Formation

Chris Hall, Carolyn Arends

July 3 – 7; 1:30 – 4:30 pm

1 or 2 graduate credit hours; or 1 audit hour

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Richard Foster has helpfully identified six great streams—contemplative, holiness, charismatic, social justice, evangelical, and incarnational—flowing through the life of Jesus and the spirituality of the Christian church. In this course, we will explore the ways in which these streams relate to one another, impact spiritual formation, and foster the possibility of real transformation.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the conclusion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Explain the Trinitarian basis for the intensely relational nature of Christian spiritual formation.
2. Understand and articulate the six great streams of the Christian tradition in their historical and contemporary expressions.
3. Develop a biblically-based, historically-informed, and personally-integrated theology of Christian spiritual formation.
4. Access the wisdom and engage the practices from each of the six traditions to form a holistic approach to life with God.
5. Craft a balanced (six stream) Rule of Life that fosters connection and cooperation with the Triune God on an ongoing basis.

COURSE OUTLINE

Day 1 Introductions; Syllabus Overview; Spiritual Formation and its Trinitarian Basis

Day 2 Introduction to the Streams; The Contemplative Tradition; The Holiness Tradition

Day 3 The Charismatic Tradition; The Social Justice Tradition

Day 4 The Evangelical Tradition; The Incarnational Tradition

Day 5 Integrating the Streams and Crafting a Rule of Life

REQUIRED TEXTS

Foster, Richard, J. *Streams of Living Water*. New York: Harper One, 2001. (970-0060628222)

Foster, Richard J., and James Bryan Smith. *Devotional Classics: Selected Readings for Individuals and Groups*. Rev. ed. New York: HarperOne, 2005. (978-0060777500) - *assigned chapters*

Sittser, Gerald, *Water From a Deep Well: Christian Spirituality from Early Martyrs to Modern Missionaries*. Illinois: Intervarsity Press, 2010. (978-0830837458) - *required reading for two-credit students only*

All prices subject to change without notice. Please note that the Regent College Bookstore offers a 20% discount on regularly priced books (some exceptions may apply).

Please Note: This Course Information Sheet is meant to assist in selecting courses. The official syllabus should be consulted for more detailed information. A full syllabus with drop deadlines, policies, and course assignment details is available on Moodle for registered students: moodle.regent-college.edu/login

