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## PC 660 Practicum in Pastoral Care

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**PC 660 – Practicum in Pastoral Care**  
**Tapiwa Mucherera, Coordinator**

Purpose: The purpose of this course is to provide students the opportunity to experience ministry and the application of pastoral care and counseling skills and to reflect upon that experience. The goals include:

1. To confirm present knowledge as well as learning new knowledge about pastoral care and counseling.
2. To develop understanding about persons and their needs from a pastoral perspective and purpose.
3. To experience the applications of pastoral care counseling knowledge and skills in the context of a “hands-on” ministry.
4. To reflect on one’s acts of ministry in order to gain insights about those actions, about the needs of people, and about one’s style of ministry.
5. To develop one’s pastoral identity and integrity in ethical conduct, and role of authority, in pastoral care and counseling.

Context:

1. Participants will be apply to an institutional setting (hospitals, retirement centers, group homes, treatment center, etc.). The student will be supervised by a staff member on site, e.g. staff chaplain, certified or licensed counselor, etc., and will offer pastoral care and counseling in these settings. The student will meet at least weekly or bi-weekly with their supervisor for one-on-one supervision.

Requirements:

1. Complete 225 hours of involvement at the placement. (For example: 6 weeks of 37.5 hours per week Mon – Fri., 8:00 am – 4:00 pm., or 15hrs/wk for 15 wks. Some centers may allow students to work weekends).

2. Read one book as assigned by supervisor and /or of your selection in consultation with your supervisor.

*Suggested:*

Biddle, Perry H. Hospital Manual – Abingdon Press, 1990.

Holst, Lawrence. Hospital Ministry – The Role of the Chaplain Today. New York: Crossroad, 1989.

Richmond, Kent D. & David L. Middleton. The Pastor and the Patient, Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1992.

3. Assume responsibility as assigned by the supervisor; such as: visitation of patients or meet with clients, individual and group supervision, and didactic seminars, and one-on-one supervision..

4. Prepare a 3-5 page theological reflection paper. (See outline). Discuss your paper with your supervisor in your last session and hand in a clean copy to Dr. Mucherera.

Evaluation:

This is a credit only course and will be evaluated by your on sight CPE supervisor. The evaluation is to be mailed or handed in:

**Original to:** Counseling & Pastoral Care  
c/o Dr. Tapiwa Mucherera PhD.  
Asbury Theological Seminary  
8401 Valencia College Lane  
Orlando Fl 32825

Only use the evaluation form titled: **PASTORAL COUNSELING PRACTICUM**

It is your responsibility to make sure the supervisor sends in the evaluation or you will not receive credit.

**PC 660 PRACTICUM**  
**Reflection Paper Suggested Format**

Instructions: Prepare for your final supervisory session a three – five page reflection paper. This paper is to be an over-view of your experience. The paper is to be typed and double-spaced. Discuss your reflection paper with your supervisor in the last session and send a clean copy to Dr. Tapiwa Mucherera.

1. Briefly describe the placement and some of your assignments.
  
2. Discuss some of the issues that you dealt with professionally. Select one growth-provoking situation or incident that you encountered during your practicum and what you learned about yourself.
  
3. Using the book you read and others of your own choosing reflect theologically on this experience about humanity's need for God in times of pain, suffering or how theologically you were challenged in this practicum experience.
  
4. Finally, reflect upon some areas in pastoral care and counseling skills you need further growth and how you might deal with those areas to facilitate growth and development.