DSRE 541

FOUNDATIONS OF BIBLICAL SPIRITUALITY

Summer 2015

Joseph S. Kidder
DSRE 541
FOUNDATIONS OF BIBLICAL SPIRITUALITY
(JULY 19-23, 2015)
SUMMER 2015

GENERAL CLASS INFORMATION

Class Location: Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI 49104
(Chan Shun Bldg. Rm CSH 108)
Class Time/Day: Sunday, 5 p.m. – 8 p.m. Mandatory Orientation 4 p.m. CSH 108
Mon – Thurs. 8 a.m. – 12:30; 1:30 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Credits Offered: 3

INSTRUCTOR CONTACT

Instructor: Dr. S. Joseph Kidder
Telephone: 269-471-8316 (office); 269-473-2497 (home)
Email: kiddersj@andrews.edu
Office location: Seminary Hall, Room N221

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Study and practice of spiritual growth designed to lead students to growth in their personal spiritual lives.

COURSE MATERIALS

Required:

5. The student must purchase a notebook from the instructor with all of the materials pertinent to the class. Cost will be $35.00.
REVISION STATEMENT

The instructor reserves the right to revise the syllabus for the benefit of the learning process with appropriate notification to the students.

OUTCOMES

MA in Pastoral Ministry (MAPMin) English & Spanish Program Outcomes
1. Delivers effective biblically based sermons.
2. Demonstrates proper biblical interpretation skills.
3. Understands the historical–theological and missional development of the Adventist Church.
4. Trains church members for evangelism.
5. Empowers church members for leadership
6. Capable of reaching specific social groups

Masters of Divinity (MDIV) Program Outcomes
1. Demonstrate spiritual growth through the use of spiritual disciplines.
2. Explain Scripture in an exegetically and theologically sound manner from an Adventist perspective.
3. Engage in biblical and theological reflection as the basis for spiritual growth.
4. Experience enrichment of personal and family life.

MA in Youth and Young Adult Ministry (MAYYAM) Program Outcomes
1. Engages consistently in biblical devotional habits to be open to the transforming work of the Holy Spirit in his or her life.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLO): The student should be able to:
1. Develop greater personal biblical and spiritual growth.
2. Practice the characteristics of basic Christian spiritual disciplines such as devotion and worship and Bible study.
3. Create a narrative that reflects the character of Christ and exemplifies personal integrity and professional ethics.
4. Define the theological, psychological, and sociological foundations for growth in the Christian life.
5. Identifies the unique contributions of Seventh-day Adventist theology to the practice and theology of the spiritual life: e.g., Sabbath, intercession of Christ, healthful living.
6. Understanding that the depth of their relationship with God will be expressed in their relationships with others: their family, friends, work associates, retail clerks, people in need, etc.
7. Participate effectively in spiritual retreats and small groups for spiritual growth and accountability.
### Schedule for class meetings: July 19-23, 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Class Topic</th>
<th>Assignments Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>July 19</td>
<td>Introduction/Definition/Overall View of Spiritual Growth</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>July 20</td>
<td>Worldview, Core Values, &amp; Rule of Life</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>July 20</td>
<td>Sin, Repentance, Confession, Forgiveness</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>July 22</td>
<td>Worship</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>July 22</td>
<td>Scripture &amp; Journaling</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-session</td>
<td></td>
<td>Guest lectures to be viewed on-line (to be discussed in class)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Running total:
- Sunday: 3 hours
- Monday: 12 hours
- Tuesday: 21 hours
- Wednesday: 30 hours
- Thursday: 39 hours
- Pre-session: 6 hours
- Total: 45 hours
GRADING AND ASSESSMENT

Credit-Hour Definitions
A professional 3-credit course taken at the SDA Theological Seminary requires a total of 135 hours for course lectures, reading requirements and written assignments. For this course, the instructor estimates that this total of 135 hours will be distributed in the following activities:

- Class Lectures during the Intensive: 39 hours
- Lectures on line: 6 hours
- Reading: 30 hours
- Devotional Report: 30 hours
- Retreat: 5 hours
- Written Assignments: 10 hours
- Reflection Paper: 12 hours
- Notebook: 3 hours
- Total: 135 hours

Criteria for Grades
How your grade will be determined:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading Reports</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Devotional Reports</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reflection Paper</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notebook and class notes</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Assignments that require a passing grade to pass the course (e.g., examinations and projects):
- Reading Reports
- Devotional Reports
- Retreat
- Reflection Paper
- Notebook
- Passing grade is B.

Assessment Submission
Please submit all assignments on a CD or notebook to Dr. Joseph Kidder, Christian Ministry Department, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI 49104-1510. All requirements are due November 10, 2015.
Late Submission
Penalties for late submission:
Assignments will be submitted on **November 10, 2015** for reading reports and devotional reports. Late assignments incur a 10% daily penalty.

**Grading Scale:**

- **A** = 94%+
- **B** = 83–86%
- **C** = 65–74%
- **A-** = 90–93%
- **B-** = 80–82%
- **C-** = 60–64%
- **B+** = 87–89%
- **C+** = 75–79%
- **D** = 50–59%

**Class Requirements**

1. **Attendance:** Spiritual growth involves the mastery of basic concepts such as prayer, Bible study, worship, etc., participation with fellow believers in corporate fellowship, and the practice of personal spiritual disciplines. The class time provides opportunity for concept mastery and corporate fellowship. Therefore, regular attendance is a primary course requirement.

2. Attend and participate in all scheduled classes. Work on project which may be assigned.

3. **Spiritual Retreat:** In order to introduce students to the value of spiritual retreat, discipleship, small groups, and bonding to like-minded spiritual pilgrims, all students are required to take part in a one day spiritual retreat. This class cannot be passed unless there is full participation in the retreat. Details of the retreat will be furnished in a separate document. The date for the retreat will be announced later and will be all day. **There will be no excuse for missing the retreat. If you fail to come or come in late, you will have to drop the class.**

4. **Small Groups:** As part of spiritual growth we need community. Every student will participate in small groups throughout the semester and hopefully beyond the class. The small groups will meet during class time. During this time you will be engaged in prayer, study of the Word, accountability, and other exercises that the professor might assign. **The student is to submit a short report indicating that he has done so and the spiritual benefits gained from it.**

5. The students must take full notes and submit them to the instructor in the CD or notebook portfolio by **November 10, 2015**.

6. **Practice of the Devotional Life:** The student will spend 3 hours each week (1/2 hour each day) in the practice of spiritual disciplines spread over 6 days. Factors that should be kept in mind are:

   You are free to complete the 3 hours doing whatever devotional things you like, such as Bible reading, prayer, etc., that you find valuable. Your class reading will give you some new ideas, but it does not count as devotional time. This is a wonderful opportunity to experiment with new ways of meeting God. Since prayer and Bible reading is so crucial for the Christian, we urge that students try to spend at least 3 to 4 hours weekly in prayer and Bible study. Unless there is some special reason for change, the 3-hour time period should be spread out over at least six days during the week.
At the beginning of each week, you should decide what your specific daily plan is for each time you have devotions that week and write it down.

You should keep a careful log of your time with God. A sheet is provided for you in this syllabus. Make sure for each devotional time you have, you record: a) Date, i.e., month and day; b) Time (duration), i.e., 7:00 a.m. – 7:45 a.m.; c) A brief 1-2 sentence summary of how things went. Did you follow your plan? At the end of the week the total time spent must be calculated and recorded. Include all these reports on the CD or notebook portfolio to be turned in on November 10, 2015.

NOTE: While for some it may seem a bit artificial to keep track of devotional time, it helps us stay honest with ourselves and God and, in the end, most students thank us for the experience. Keeping such records is a time-honored practice devoted Christians have often followed.

7. Reading Reports: Please read the required books listed and write weekly reports using the form in the syllabus. Please include a summary of what you read, a positive reaction, a negative reaction, and an application to your personal life. Include all the book reports on the CD or notebook portfolio or note book to be turned in on November 10, 2015.

8. Fasting: Every student is to fast for one day from food or TV or Facebook and write a one-page report on it evaluating the experience.

9. Reflection Paper: Each student is to write an 8-9 pages reflection paper covering three subjects:
   a. The first part is to synthesize your spiritual experience from August 2015 through October 2015. In what ways have you grown spiritually? What have you learned about yourself during this time? What you have learned about God? This section is to be 2-3 pages in length, typed, and double-spaced.
   b. The second part is to give a full treatment of your Core Values and Worldview. This section is to be 2-3 pages in length, typed, and double-spaced. See class materials.
   c. The third section is to give an in-depth treatment of your vision for the future. What is your plan to grow spiritually? This section is to be 2-3 pages in length, typed, and double-spaced. The paper needs to be included on the CD or notebook, due on November 10, 2015.

10. Assignment Due Dates: the reading reports and the spiritual discipline reports must be completed every week and then submitted on the CD or notebook portfolio and mailed in to the teacher no later than November 10, 2015.

11. Portfolio Notebook: There will be no final exam. A CD or notebook portfolio containing all class notes, reading reports, small group reports, weekly reports, the devotional reports, retreat reports, and reflection paper will be in place of a final. Also include the Assignment Breakdown. This should be submitted to the instructor by November 10, 2015. Grades will be given based on neatness, order, and completeness. Notebooks should contain all material passed out in class, and all the students’ notes and completed assignments. Be sure to include material from the retreat.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Very Good 20, 19 (95%)</th>
<th>Average 16, 15 (75%)</th>
<th>Poor 12 (60%)</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adventist perspective on spiritual life</td>
<td>Clearly articulates an Adventist perspective of intentional spiritual life</td>
<td>Somewhat articulates an Adventist perspective of . . .</td>
<td>A deficient articulation of an Adventist perspective of . . .</td>
<td>/20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understanding of devotional habits</td>
<td>Clearly demonstrates understanding of devotional habits</td>
<td>Demonstrates some understanding of devotional habits</td>
<td>Is quite vague about what constitutes devotional habits</td>
<td>/20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal spiritual practices</td>
<td>This semester intentionally and consistently practiced devotional habits</td>
<td>This semester inconsistently practiced personal spiritual habits</td>
<td>This semester was inconsistent and had very little intentional devotional time</td>
<td>/20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commitment to balanced living</td>
<td>Reflects on lifestyle and makes commitment to discipline and balance</td>
<td>Reflects on lifestyle and discusses some aspects of future balanced living</td>
<td>Reflects little on personal life or does not make commitment to future lifestyle</td>
<td>/20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evaluation of specific and overall course experience</td>
<td>Evaluates specific and overall course experience</td>
<td>Discusses course experience but with little or no evaluation</td>
<td>Makes little reference to course experience</td>
<td>Divide score in half /10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper presentation</td>
<td>Paper is presented neatly, with correct grammar, spelling and punctuation</td>
<td>Paper somewhat displays neatness, correct grammar, spelling and punctuation</td>
<td>Paper poorly displays neatness, correct grammar, spelling and punctuation</td>
<td>Divide score in half /10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>/100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DSRE541 Foundations of Biblical Spirituality

Devotional Weekly Record and Evaluation

Name __________________________________ Date ________ Report # ____________

Plan for the week:______________________________________________________________

Daily Record

I have attended my small group meeting this week _____ Yes _____ No

Day__________________ Time of day ________________ Day’s total time _______________

Activities: ____________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________

Evaluation or experience with God:______________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________

Day__________________ Time of day ________________ Day’s total time ____________

Activities: ____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________

Evaluation: ____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
Comment or prayer request, prayer answer, praise, or thanksgiving:

DSRE541 Weekly Reading Report

Name _________________________________________ Date __________ Week #______

Book Read:

Time Spent:

Plan:

Summary:

Reflection and Evaluation:
Assignment Breakdown

(Please fill this out & submit it with your last assignment)

Student’s Name: ___________________________________________________

1. Attendance
   1  2  3  4  5  (For five days starting Sunday and ending on Thursday.)

2. Weekly devotion report (Only 10 reports required):
   1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9  10

3. Small groups in class.
   1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9  10  11  12  13  14  15

4. Weekly reading report:
   1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9  10

I have finished reading the following books (total pages read about 600, total hours required to read them about 30):

   - *The Big Four* ______
   - *Steps to Christ* ______
   - *Majesty* ______
   - *Desire of Ages (Only the last 200 pages)* ______

5. The Retreat
   - □ Yes, I have attended the retreat

6. I was able to fast for one day: _____ Yes   _____ No

7. Reflection paper ______ Yes, I have handed in the reflection paper

8. Notebook____ Yes, I have turned in the notebook
SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. **General**


2. **Autobiography Devotional**


3. **Temperament and Spirituality**


4. **Worship**


5. **Confession and Repentance**


6. **Prayer**


7. **Bible Study**


8. **Journaling**


9. **Life Style/Simplicity**


10. **Spiritual Direction**

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY


11. **Videos**


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**CLASS POLICIES**

**Academic Integrity**

“In harmony with the mission statement (p.18), Andrews University expects that students will demonstrate the ability to think clearly for themselves and exhibit personal and moral integrity in every sphere of life. Thus, students are expected to display honesty in all academic matters.

Academic dishonesty includes (but is not limited to) the following acts: falsifying official documents; plagiarizing, which includes copying others’ published work, and/or failing to give credit properly to other authors and creators; misusing copyrighted material and/or violating licensing agreements (actions that may result in legal action in addition to disciplinary action taken by the University); using media from any source or medium, including the Internet (e.g., print, visual images, music) with the intent to mislead, deceive or defraud; presenting another’s work as one’s own (e.g., placement exams, homework, assignments); using material during a quiz or examination other than
those specifically allowed by the teacher or program; stealing, accepting, or studying from stolen quizzes or examination materials; copying from another student during a regular or take-home test or quiz; assisting another in acts of academic dishonesty (e.g., falsifying attendance records, providing unauthorized course materials).

Andrews University takes seriously all acts of academic dishonesty. Such acts as described above are subject to incremental discipline for multiple offenses and severe penalties for some offenses. These acts are tracked in the office of the Provost. Repeated and/or flagrant offenses will be referred to the Committee for Academic Integrity for recommendations on further penalties. Consequences may include denial of admission, revocation of admission, warning from a teacher with or without formal documentation, warning from a chair or academic dean with formal documentation, receipt of a reduced or failing grade with or without notation of the reason on the transcript, suspension or dismissal from the course, suspension or dismissal from the program, expulsion from the university, or degree cancellation. Disciplinary action may be retroactive if academic dishonesty becomes apparent after the student leaves the course, program or university.

Departments or faculty members may publish additional, perhaps more stringent, penalties for academic dishonesty in specific programs or courses.” (Current AU Bulletin.)

Class Absences
“Whenever the number of absences exceeds 20% (10% for graduate classes) of the total course appointments, the teacher may give a failing grade. Merely being absent from campus does not exempt the student from this policy. Absences recorded because of late registration, suspension, and early/late vacation leaves are not excused. The class work missed may be made up only if the teacher allows. Three tardies are equal to one absence.

Registered students are considered class members until they file a Change of Registration form in the Office of Academic records.” (Current AU Bulletin.)

Class Attendance
“Regular attendance at all classes, laboratories and other academic appointments is required for each student. Faculty members are expected to keep regular attendance records. Whenever the number of absences exceeds 10% of the total course appointments, the teacher may give a failing grade. Merely being absent from campus does not exempt the student from this policy. Absences recorded because of late registration, suspension, and early/late vacation leaves are not excused. The class work missed may be made up only if the teacher allows. Three tardies are equal to one absence.” Current AU Bulletin.)

Disability Accommodations
If you qualify for accommodations under the American Disabilities Act, please see the instructor as soon as possible for referral and assistance in arranging such accommodations.

Excused Absence
“Excuses for absences due to illness are granted by the teacher. Proof of illness is required. Residence hall students are required to see a nurse on the first day of any illness which interferes with class attendance. Non-residence hall students should show written verification of illness obtained from their own physician. Excuses for absences not due to illness are issued directly to the dean’s office. Excused absences do not remove the student’s responsibility to complete all
requirements of a course. Class work is made up by permission of the teacher.” (Current AU Bulletin.)

Language and Grammar
There is an expectation that a student enrolled in a graduate program possesses advanced written language skills, particularly in the language in which the degree is acquired. Thus, no special consideration will be given to English as a second language learners or native-English speakers who have yet to obtain mastery in written English. Such students are advised to seek the assistance of the campus writing lab or procure the services of an editor prior to the submission of their assignments. Tips for success include reading your assignments aloud and having someone else do likewise prior to submission. This practice will provide you with immediate feedback on your written assignments.

Late Submission of Assessment
All late assessment will incur a 10% per week penalty.

Teacher Tardiness
“Teachers have the responsibility of getting to class on time. If a teacher is detained and will be late, the teacher must send a message to the class with directions. If after 10 minutes no message has been received, students may leave without penalty. If teacher tardiness persists, students have the right to notify the department chair, or if the teacher is the department chair, to notify the dean.” (Current AU Bulletin.)

INSTRUCTOR PROFILE

Dr. Kidder is a well-recognized authority in the area of Leadership and Church Growth, discipleship, and spiritual growth. He has invested his life in the equipping and training of pastors and the laity. He has written many articles and books on the subject of discipleship, worship, spiritual growth, leadership, and church growth.

Dr. S. Joseph Kidder has been teaching at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary for the last ten years. Prior to that, he had over 20 years of successful pastoral work. He has helped many people come to the Lord and grow in their spiritual walk.
Dr. Kidder was born in Nineveh, Iraq, and immigrated to the U.S. when he was kicked out of home and beaten almost to death by his family when he converted to the Adventist faith.

**Research/Publications**

**Scholarly/Professional Publications - Book**


*The Big Four, Secrets of a Thriving Church Life.* Hagerstown, MD: Review & Herald Publishing Association, 2012

**Scholarly Publications in the Area of Biblical Studies and History**


Scholarly Publications in the Area of Church Growth


Scholarly Publication in the Area of Spiritual Growth


Scholarly Research in the Area of Ellen G. White Studies

A review of Ellen G. White's book *Christian Service* to be published by the GC of the SDA Church in the upcoming *Adventist Encyclopedia*.

A review of Ellen G. White's book *Testimonies to Ministers* to be published by the GC of the SDA Church in the upcoming *Adventist Encyclopedia*.

Popular Publications


Elders Digest Articles


