

C. John Weberg Center for Spiritual Direction
North Park Theological Seminary
Chicago, IL

**Spiritual Direction: “Listening to the Movement of God
in the Church and the World”
SPFM 7505-Three Credits
Course #5 of the Certificate in Spiritual Direction**

COURSE SYLLABUS

Contact Persons:

Rob Peterson, Center Director rbpeterson@northpark.edu 773.244.5216

Luke Palmerlee, Center Administrator lrpalmerlee@northpark.edu 773.244.5240

Course Description

The final course in the certificate in spiritual direction equips participants to embrace the call to the ministry of spiritual direction. A combination of self-evaluation and Center staff evaluation will be components in the final discernment process of engaging the church and the world as a trained spiritual director. Participants will also receive instruction and practice in Group Spiritual Direction. The course will begin with a silent retreat and end with a consecration service and the awarding of certificates.

Course Objectives

1. Gain competence in the field of group spiritual direction.
2. Receive further training in topics relevant to spiritual directors: setting up a ministry practice, leading retreats, prayer practices, dream work, and direction across cultures.
3. Develop-a plan for one’s continued formation as a spiritual director that includes a “Professional Rule of Life” (attached).
4. Deepen skills as a spiritual director with two additional triad practice sessions.

Required Texts

Editors Sherry Bryant-Johnson, Rosalie Norman-McNaney, and Therese Taylor-Stinson.
Embodied Spirits: Stories of Spiritual Directors of Color. Morehouse, 2014.

Fryling, Alice. Seeking God Together: An Introduction to Group Spiritual Direction.
IVP, 2009.

Vest, Norvene (Ed.). Still Listening: New Horizons in Spiritual Direction. Morehouse,
2000.

Course Requirements

1. Will be present, attentive, and engaged in all sessions and course material beginning July 26th. See detailed schedule below.
2. Complete the required readings before arriving on campus.
3. Bring written notes on two dreams that you have had, along with your reflections. This will be used at the Dream Workshop with Mel Ryley.
4. **BOOK DISCUSSION:** Prepare a 2-page reflection paper (NOT a book review) on the Fryling book on Group Spiritual Direction from the required reading list above. This will be used on Wed, July 28. Include your response to these themes: What attracts you to group spiritual direction? What resistance do you feel to this type of spiritual direction? Include 3 or 4 short quotes from book and your personal reaction to them.
5. Prepare a 2-page (Double-spaced) cover letter on the topic of “A Personal Journey as a Spiritual Director”. You will read it to the class on Saturday morning. Include the following items: personal strengths and giftings as a spiritual director; growing edges or weaknesses as a spiritual director and areas for further study.

HAVE FUN WITH THIS. You may choose to write it as a cover letter for a job interview to the following “ministry”.

To the Discernment Committee
Listening to the Movement Institute
12345 Noticing Way
Directionville, NV 09876

Dear Committee Chair,

Please send this electronically to Rob before class time on Saturday.

6. For your personal reflection on Saturday Morning, prepare two items:
 - Spiritual Director Rule of Life (form at end of syllabus)
 - Supervisor’s evaluation and your personal evaluation from 7504

The attached Rule of Life is to be filled in with a bent toward developing your ministry of spiritual direction. For example, some students have put down “create business cards” for a September box. This is meant to help you embrace your call and put some dreams on paper.

Grading

Grading is Pass/Fail and is based on participation and completing all course requirements. In order to pass students must complete assignments within the allotted time frame unless they have received prior approval for an extension from the professor. If you encounter any challenges in completing assignments, please reach out to Rob Peterson as soon as possible. All components of the course must be completed satisfactorily in order to earn a “Pass” and receive your Certificate at the consecration service.

COURSE SCHEDULE: July 26 to August 1, 2021

MONDAY Retreat Day at St Mary of the Lake, Mundelein, IL

8:00 Car Pooling from NPU-Luke will email you.
9:00 Introductions with Cohort 17
 Gathering Circle with Cohort 15 and 17
9:30 Checking in and Cohort 15 Sharing
12:00 Lunch

12:30 SILENT RETREAT BEGINS

A detailed schedule will be provided for the retreat, which will include time for solitude, individual spiritual direction, group prayers, and multiple options for rest and relaxation.

8:00 Van/cars leave to return to campus/hotel/home

TUESDAY- Room 204

8:45 Morning Prayer
9:00 Welcome to the North Park Theological Seminary Community
9:15 **Seminar #1: “Spiritual Direction, Spectrum of Psychotherapies, and Stages of Formation” - X. Nader Sahyouni**

10:30 BREAK

10:45 **Seminar #2: Spiritual Direction**
Steve, Christina, Pia, Lina

12:15 LUNCH
1:30 Introduction to Group Spiritual Direction-**Sue Braun**
3:30 Group Spiritual Direction # 1
4:45 Self-supervision

5:00 DINNER
6:30 Book Discussion on the Fryling book - **Sue Braun**

WEDNESDAY

8:45 Morning Prayer
9:00 Group Spiritual Direction #2 - **Sue Braun**
10:15 Self Supervision
10:30 BREAK

10:45 **Seminar #3:** Spiritual Direction with those on the Margins-**Eva Sullivan-Knoff**

NOON LUNCH

1:30 Spiritual Direction Practice #1 **Team of Supervisors**
4:30 Self Supervision

FREE EVENING

THURSDAY

8:45 Morning Prayer

9:00 **Seminar #4:** Setting Up a Spiritual Direction Practice-**Ellen Kogstad**

10:30 BREAK

10:45 **Seminar #5:** Gateways to the Interior - **Mel Ryley**

NOON LUNCH

1:30 **Seminar #6:** Dreams Workshop-**Mel Ryley**

5:00 DINNER

7:00 TAIZE Prayer

FRIDAY

8:45 Morning Prayer

9:00 **Seminar #7:** Resistance in Spiritual Direction **Ken Lund**

10:30 Break

10:45 **Seminar #8:** Spiritual Direction in Retreat Settings - **Sharon Davis**

12:15 LUNCH

1:30 Spiritual Direction Practice#2 **Team of Supervisors**

4:30 Self-supervision

FREE NIGHT

SATURDAY

8:45 Morning Prayer

9:00 Peer Supervision

11:00 Break

11:15 Personal Story: Reading letter from Course Requirement #6 - Rob

12:30 LUNCH

2:00 Meeting in groups for final sharing and blessing:
Bring the following completed forms:
-Self-Evaluation and Supervisor's Evaluation (from June)
-Spiritual Director's Rule of Life (attached)

4:30 **Celebration Dinner for Cohort 15 and Instructors**
Graziano's Restaurant on Touhy Ave.

SUNDAY

9:45 Cohort 15 Pictures

10:30 Worship and Consecration Service Family and Friends are welcome.
Presentation of Certificates

NOON CELEBRATION

Title IX: Students who believe they have been harassed, discriminated against, or involved in sexual violence should contact the Seminary Dean of Students and Community Life ((773) 244-6222) or Dean of Students (773-244-5565) or Director of Human Resources (773-244-5599) for information about campus resources and support services, including confidential counseling services.

As a member of the North Park faculty, we are concerned about the well-being and development of our students and are available to discuss any concerns. Faculty are legally obligated to share information with the University's Title IX coordinator in certain situations help ensure that the student's safety and welfare is being addressed, consistent with the requirements of the law. These disclosures include but are not limited to reports of sexual assault, relational/domestic violence, and stalking.

Please refer to North Park's Safe Community site for contact information and further details.
<http://www.northpark.edu/Campus-Life-and-Services/Safe-Community>

Disabilities Accommodations

Students with disabilities who believe that they may need accommodations in this class are encouraged to contact the program's office (773-244-5619). Please do so as soon as possible to better ensure that such accommodations are implemented in a timely manner. Please review the following website: <http://www.northpark.edu/ada>

Academic Honesty

In keeping with our Christian heritage and commitment, North Park is committed to the highest possible ethical and moral standards. Just as we will constantly strive to live up to these high

standards, we expect our students to do the same. To that end, cheating of any sort will not be tolerated. Students who are discovered cheating are subject to discipline up to and including failure of a course and expulsion. Our definition of cheating includes but is not limited to:

1. Plagiarism – the use of another’s work as one’s own without giving credit to the individual. This includes using materials from the internet.
2. Copying another’s answers on an examination.
3. Deliberately allowing another to copy one’s answers or work.
4. Signing an attendance roster for another who is not present.

For further information on this subject, you may refer to the Academic Dishonesty section of the University’s online catalog.

Class Resource Personnel:

Program Assistant: Janice Kelly-Cohort 1

Center Intern: Melannie Myatt-Cohort 14

Instructors:

Sue Braun

Richla Davis (she/her)

Ellen Kogstad

Ken Lund

Mel Ryley

X. Nader Sahyouni

Lina Sanchez-Herrera

Jes Scheinpflug (they/them)

Supervisors:

Sue, Ellen, Ken, Jeanie Hoover,
Dennis Anderson, Debbie Blue

Group SD Facilitators: TBA

Further Reading Options:

Dougherty, Rose Mary. Group Spiritual Direction: Community for Discernment. Paulist Press, 1995.

Dougherty, Rose Mary. The Lived Experience of Spiritual Direction. NY: Paulist Press, 2003.

May, Gerald G. Care of the Mind/Care of the Spirit: Psychiatric Dimensions of Spiritual Direction. San Francisco, CA: Harper Collins, 1982. 00606553.

Teresa of Avila, The Way of Perfection. NY, Doubleday, 1964.

Spiritual Direction Rule of Life

	Body	Spirit/Soul	Heart/Emotions	Mind/Ministry
To 9.1.21				
To 12.1.21				
To 3.1.22				
To 6.1.22				
Daily				
Weekly				
Monthly				
Quarterly				
Yearly				