Celebration of Discipline: The Path to Spiritual Growth

Spring 2025 Syllabus

Course Information

Instructor Information

Instructor: DeColle Abbott Office Hours: Mondays & Tuesdays, 7pm – 9pm Office Telephone: 216-242-9451 E-mail: decollemcnair@gmail.com

Course Description

Celebration of Disciplines explores the classic "Disciplines", or central spiritual practices of the Christian faith. For it is only by and through these practices that we can find a true path to spiritual growth. The Disciplines are divided into three movements of the spirit, the Inward Disciplines, the Outward Disciplines and the Corporate Disciplines, and show how they contribute to a balanced spiritual life.

Textbook & Course Materials

Required Text

- Celebration of Discipline: The Path to Spiritual Growth by Richard J. Foster (ISBN: 9780062803887)
- Study Guide for Celebration of Discipline: A Resource for Individuals and Groups by Richard J. Foster (ISBN: 9780060628338)

Course Requirements

- Internet connection (DSL, LAN, or cable connection desirable)
- Zoom capability

Course Structure

The course will be delivered in lecture form via ZOOM. Each 1-hour session will consist of a lecture (30-45 minutes) and a discussion following.

Student Learning Outcomes

The student learning outcomes/objectives for this course can be found below:

- The student will learn what boundaries are and the importance of setting them.
- The student will learn how to identify the boundaries they already have and determine whether they are effective.
- The student will learn how sound boundaries give you the freedom to walk as the loving, giving, and fulfilled individual God created you to be.

You will meet the objectives listed above through a combination of the following activities in this course:

- Attending class regularly.
- Completing assignments weekly and being prepared to discuss.
- Completing a take-home exam.
- Participating in class discussions and asking questions.

Topic Outline/Schedule

• March 6, 2025:

- Introduction pgs. xix xxvii
- Chapter 1 The Spiritual Disciplines: Door to Liberation pgs. 1-11
- Chapter 2 The Discipline of Meditation pgs. 15-32
- Chapter 3 The Discipline of Prayer pgs. 33-46
- March 20, 2025:
 - Chapter 4 The Discipline of Fasting pgs. 47-61
 - Chapter 5 The Discipline of Study pgs. 62-76
- April 3, 2025:
 - Chapter 6 The Discipline of Simplicity pgs. 79-95
 - Chapter 7 The Discipline of Solitude pgs. 96-109
- April 17, 2025:
 - Good Friday Service
- April 24, 2025:
 - \circ Chapter 8 The Discipline of Submission pgs. 110-125
 - Chapter 9 The Discipline of Service pgs. 126-140
- May 8, 2025:
 - Chapter 10 The Discipline of Confession pgs. 143-157
 - \circ Chapter 11 The Discipline of Worship pgs. 158-174
- May 22, 2025:
 - Chapter 12 The Discipline of Guidance pgs. 175-189
 - $\circ~$ Chapter 13 The Discipline of Celebration pgs. 190-201

Grading Policy

Graded Course Activities

Points	Description
N/A	Workbook Assignments as assigned

Late Work Policy

Be sure to pay close attention to deadlines—there will be no make-up assignments or late work accepted without a serious and compelling reason and instructor approval.

Letter Grade Assignment

N/A

Course Policies

Attend Class

Students are expected to attend all class sessions as listed on the course calendar.

Participate

Participation through discussion will be monitored, tracked, and scored. Therefore, discussions, chat sessions, and/or assignments will be used to monitor your participation in the course.

Build Rapport

If you find that you have any trouble keeping up with assignments or other aspects of the course, make sure you let your instructor know as early as possible. As you will find, building rapport and effective relationships are key to becoming an effective professional. Make sure that you are proactive in informing your instructor when difficulties arise during the semester so that they can help you find a solution.

Complete Assignments

All assignments for this course will be submitted electronically through email unless otherwise instructed. Assignments must be submitted by the given deadline or special permission must be requested from instructor **before the due date**. Extensions will not be given beyond the next assignment except under extreme circumstances.

All discussion assignments must be completed by the assignment due date and time. Late or missing discussion assignments will affect the student's grade.

Commit to Integrity

As a student in this course, you are expected to maintain high degrees of professionalism, commitment to active learning and participation in this class and also integrity in your behavior in and out of the classroom.

Important Note: Any form of academic dishonesty, including cheating and plagiarism, may be reported to the office of student affairs.