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**1. WBU Online**

**School of Christian Studies**

**2. Wayland Baptist University Mission Statement:** Wayland Baptist University exists to educate students in an academically challenging, learning-focused and distinctively Christian environment for professional success, and service to God and humankind.

**3. Course Prefix, Number, & Name/Title: MNST 5160 VC01**

**4. Term and Year: Fall 2; October 11 – December 11, 2021**

**5. Full Name of Instructor: Don Ashley, Ph.D.**

**6. Office Phone and WBU Email Address: 907-333-2277x508, cell 907-529-5791; ashleyd@wbu.edu**

**7. Office Hours, Building, and Location:** Monday1 pm – 4 pm; Tuesday/Thursday Noon – 6 pm

Parkside Center Room 112, Anchorage, Alaska

**8. Class Meeting Time and Location**: Online

**9. Catalog Description:** Introduction to one or more spiritual disciplines of the Christian life, discussed and practiced within a weekly spiritual formation small group. Note: May be repeated when content varies.

**10. Prerequisite:** [MNST 5301](https://catalog.wbu.edu/search_advanced.php?cur_cat_oid=11&search_database=Search&search_db=Search&cpage=1&ecpage=1&ppage=1&spage=1&tpage=1&location=33&filter%5Bkeyword%5D=MNST+5160#tt880) or [THST 5301](https://catalog.wbu.edu/search_advanced.php?cur_cat_oid=11&search_database=Search&search_db=Search&cpage=1&ecpage=1&ppage=1&spage=1&tpage=1&location=33&filter%5Bkeyword%5D=MNST+5160#tt4954) or similar undergraduate course

**11. Required Textbook and Resources**: (Fill in from approved textbook list, with ISBN.)

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Title** | **Editor/Author** | **Publisher** | **Ed** | **Year** | **ISBN** |
| *The Way of the Heart:**Desert Spirituality and Contemporary Ministry* | Henri Nouwen | Seabury Press | 1st | 1981 | 978-0816404797 |
| *Hearing God Videos*  | Dallas Willard | IVP | 1st | 2012 | 978-0830835683 |

**This course includes an Automatic eBook.  Opt out date is the 8th day of class (second Monday of the session).  Click on the menu link for more details.**

**12. Optional Materials:** None

**13. Course Outcome Competencies**:

1. Describe the spiritual significance and benefits to the Christian faith of the spiritual discipline practiced for the term.
2. Demonstrate an appreciation that Christianity is a way of life, not merely a set of beliefs or values, by the sharing of practical examples of the impact of the spiritual discipline upon daily life.
3. Reflect on how the spiritual discipline impacts their lives in their daily decisions and relationships.

**14. Attendance Requirements**: As stated in the Wayland Catalog, students enrolled at one of the University’s external campuses should make every effort to attend all class meetings. All absences must be explained to the instructor, who will then determine whether the omitted work may be made up. When a student reaches that number of absences considered by the instructor to be excessive, the instructor will so advise the student and file an unsatisfactory progress report with the campus executive director. Any student who misses 25 percent or more of the regularly scheduled class meetings may receive a grade of F in the course. Additional attendance policies for each course, as defined by the instructor in the course syllabus, are considered a part of the University’s attendance policy.

**15. Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty**: <http://catalog.wbu.edu/content.php?catoid=7&navoid=446>

**16. Disability Statement**: “In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), it is the policy of Wayland Baptist University that no otherwise qualified person with a disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any educational program or activity in the university. The Coordinator of Counseling Services serves as the coordinator of students with a disability and should be contacted concerning accommodation requests at (806) 291- 3765. Documentation of a disability must accompany any request for accommodations.”

**17. Course Requirements and Grading Criteria:**

**The course will be composed of reading assignments and corresponding exercises/projects each week as well as interacting with fellow colleagues via Blackboard Collaborate and discussion forums, involving the areas of solitude and silence during the semester.**

**Participation (100 points) Our interaction will be split between Zoom sessions, and posting to Discussion Board forums. We’ll do one or the other in any given week, but not both (see course schedule below). Students unable to attend Zoom sessions may make up the absence by submitting a double-spaced one-page summary of the recording of the session missed. Discussion Board participation is measured by posting at least four substantial comments per forum. Comments may be replies to posted questions or to the responses of other students.**

**Weekly Journal (100 points) Throughout the course, students will read** *The Way of the Heart***, and *Hearing God* videos and complete the assigned exercises. Students will also write a brief journal entry (200 to 350 words) reflecting on the exercise for each chapter. Each week the assigned journal entry should be typed, and double-spaced and submitted as an email attachment to the professor, ashleyd@wbu.edu The Zoom sessions, and Discussion Board forums will consist of discussing themes related to weekly journal entries.**

**Course Evaluation (Method of Determining Grade)**

**Although this one-hour course is a credit/noncredit class, grading within the class will be based on the following scale: Students will have the opportunity to accumulate up to 200 points during the semester. This is how they can be earned:**

 **Zoom and Discussion Board Participation = 100 points**

 **Weekly Journal = 100 points**

**To receive credit for the class, the student must earn 140 points or higher (70%). No grades will be given except credit or noncredit.**

**University Grading System**

 **A 90-100 I INCOMPLETE\*\***

 **B 80-89 Cr FOR CREDIT**

 **C 70-79 NCr NO CREDIT**

 **D 60-69 WP WITHDRAWAL PASSING**

 **F BELOW 60 WF WITHDRAWAL FAILING**

 **W WITHDRAWAL**

**18. Students shall have protection through orderly procedures against prejudices or capricious academic evaluation. A student who believes that he or she has not been held to realistic academic standards, just evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course by using the student grade appeal process described in the Academic Catalog. Appeals may not be made for advanced placement examinations or course bypass examinations. Appeals are limited to the final course grade, which may be upheld, raised, or lowered at any stage of the appeal process. Any recommendation to lower a course grade must be submitted through the vice president of academic affairs to the Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee for review and approval. The Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee may instruct that the course grade be upheld, raised, or lowered to a more proper evaluation.**

**19. Tentative Schedule**:

October 11 - 16

Interact via Discussion Board forum. First posting due by October 13. Subsequent posts due by October 30 at 11:59 pm Central Time.

Read: *The Way of the Heart* Epilogue and Solitude

Journal Entry for *The Way of the Heart*, due October 16 @ 11:59 pm Central Time.

October 18 - 23

Zoom Session, date and time to be determined.

Read: *The Way of the Heart* Silence

Journal Entry for *The Way of the Heart*, due October 20 @ 11:59 pm Central Time.

October 25 - 30

Interact via Discussion Board forum. First posting due by October 27. Subsequent posts due by October 30 at 11:59 pm central time.

Read: *The Way of the Heart* Prayer, Epilogue

View: *Hearing God* Session 1

Journal Entry for *The Way of the Heart* and *Hearing God*, due October 30 @ 11:59 pm Central Time.

November 1 – 6

Zoom Session, date and time to be determined.

View: *Hearing God* Session 2

Journal Entry for *Hearing God*, due November 3 @ 11:59 pm Central Time.

November 8 - 13

Interact via Discussion Board forum. First posting due by November 10. Subsequent posts due by November 13 at 11:59 pm central time.

View: *Hearing God* Session 3

Journal Entry for *Hearing God*, due November 13 @ 11:59 pm Central Time.

November 15 – 20

Zoom Session, date and time to be determined.

View: *Hearing God* Session 4

Journal Entry for *Hearing God*, due November 17 @ 11:59 pm Central Time.

Thanksgiving Break November 22 – 27

November 29 – December 4

Interact via Discussion Board forum. First posting due by December 1. Subsequent posts due by December 4 at 11:59 pm central time.

View: *Hearing God* Session 5

Journal Entry for *Hearing God*, due December 4 @ 11:59 pm Central Time.

December 6 - 11

Zoom Session, date and time to be determined.

View: *Hearing God* Session 6

Journal Entry for *Hearing God*, due December 8 @ 11:59 pm Central Time.