****

**WBUOnline Campus**

**School of Christian Studies**

## 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.

## COURSE NUMBER & NAME:

MNST/THST 5160 The Practice of Spiritual Disciplines: Selected Works of Henri Nouwen

## TERM:

Spring, 2023 Session 2 (March 27-May 20, 2023)

## INSTRUCTOR:

Michael Dain Ph.D.

## CONTACT INFORMATION:

Office: 806-742-957

WBU Email: dainm@wbu.edu

## OFFICE HOURS, BUILDING & LOCATION:

This is an online class. You may reach me via email, phone or zoom meeting if necessary

## COURSE MEETING TIME & LOCATION:

Asynchronous online delivery

## 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.

## PREREQUISITE:

MNST 5301 or THST 5301 or similar undergraduate courses

## REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND RESOURCE MATERIAL:

Henri Nouwen, *The Return of the Prodigal Son.* 1994 Image Press. ISBN 9780385473071

Henri Nouwen, *Reaching Out: The Three Movements of the Spiritual Life.* 1986 Image Press. ISBN 9780385236829

## OPTIONAL MATERIALS

Provided by the Instructor

## COURSE OUTCOMES AND COMPETENCIES:

The student will

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.

## 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.

## STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM & ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:

Wayland Baptist University observes a zero tolerance policy regarding academic dishonesty. Per university policy as described in the academic catalog, all cases of academic dishonesty will be reported and second offenses will result in suspension from the university.

## 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.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS and GRADING CRITERIA:

1. *Discussion Boards*. Students will read assigned chapters and participate in discussion with classmates and professor each week.
2. *Weekly Journal*. Students will complete a weekly journal on assigned readings.
3. *Final Paper*. A final reflective paper of 2500 words will be required. Instructions provided week one of the term.

## GRADING CRITERIA

**University Grading Scale**

Cr Credit

NCr No Credit

**Computation of Final Grade**

a. Weekly Discussion: 35%

b. Journal Entries and Interactions: 35%

c. Final Reflective Paper: 30%

The grade for the capstone course is Credit/Non-credit. The grade for each individual assignment, however, will be based on the university grading scale. There is no format to allow late submissions of material and evaluations on the self and peer assessment tool, so timely work is essential. Students must complete the course with a minimum average of 70 for the assignments.

**Grade Appeal Statement**: “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/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.”

## TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Week of March 22

Week of March 29

Week of April 5

Week of April 12

Week of April 19

Week of April 26

Week of May 3

Week of May 10

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Faculty may add additional information if desired.