

WESTERN SEMINARY SACRAMENTO
LOVING GOD AND OTHERS
SFS 501M; 2 credit hours
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SYLLABUS

Course Dates: Sept. 14, 28; Oct 12, 26; Nov 9, 30, Dec 14

Time: 5:55 – 10:00 p.m.

Course Description

SFS 501 Learning to Love God and Others. The theological and practical dynamics of evangelical spirituality will be examined to provide a solid foundation for rich fellowship with the Triune God and for living out of the Great Commandments. The nature of spiritual maturity will be examined (including a biblically-balanced model of priorities) and practical experiences for nurturing that maturity will be provided.

Course Goals

1. The student will understand the Biblical goal of discipleship.
2. The student will be able to define love and its applications.
3. The student will understand the major relationships of life and God's positive direction in each.
4. The student will be able to evaluate a Christian's progress towards real godliness
5. The student will have practical Biblical tools to change people's life for the better.
6. The student will have experienced the power of living Christ's love.
7. The students will work through the 10 major relationships in life and what God defines as the way to love the other person in that relationship.
8. The students will be presented with Biblical actions of love for each relationship in life and how to incorporate that into their life.
9. The student will also be shown ways to develop new levels of love in others through the church.

Required Texts

Please support your seminary by using the following link for all your Amazon purchases – a minimum of 4% comes to Western Seminary. Click [here](#) to order texts and other products.

Carnegie, Dale. *How to Win Friends and Influence People*. New York: Pocket Books, 1998.
ISBN: 978-0671027032.

Scazzero, Peter. *The Emotionally Healthy Church*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2003.
ISBN: 978-0310246541.

Stieglitz, Gil. *Becoming a Godly Husband*. Winepress, 2003. ISBN: 978-1579214487.

Stieglitz, Gil & Stieglitz, Dana. *Becoming a Godly Wife*. Cleveland, TN: Pathway Press, 2005.
ISBN: 978-1596841575.

Tozer, A.W. *The Knowledge of the Holy*. Chester, UK: Authentic Classics, 2008.
ISBN: 978-1850786214

Optional Workbook:

Loving God and Others Workbook by Dr. Gil Stieglitz

Provided by the professor on the first day of class and filled out as the class progresses.

Cost \$ 20.00

Reading

Assigned reading is listed in the course outline

According to Western Seminary standards there are two levels

Familiarity level. This level assumes knowledge of the material assigned and leads to accountability in class. (45 pages per hour).

Mastery level. Reading at this level will average about 20 pages per hour and assumes careful reflective interaction with the ideas, note taking, and will lead to accountability in class, and papers at a mastery level (1000 pages = 50 hours).

These are intended to serve as flexible guidelines or rules of thumb; they are not thought to be rigid. It is certainly understood that books are printed with varying numbers of words per page and written to varying reading levels.

Each assignment **should be completed before the class session** so that you will be able to participate in and benefit from the class discussions.

The material will be read on the Familiarity level.

Emotionally Healthy Spirituality by Pete Scazzero

The Friendship Factor by Alan McGinnis

Course Requirements:

1. Fill out a Major Relationships Loving Actions Sheet at the beginning and end of the class
2. Attend all scheduled classes.
3. Practice one new aspect of love after each lecture on a new relationship
4. Write a one page reaction to what took place when you added this new element of love.
5. Read *Knowledge of the Holy* before the 2nd session of class
6. Write a one page summary of *Knowledge of the Holy*
7. Read *The Emotionally Healthy Church* by the 3rd session
8. Write a one page reaction to *The Emotionally Healthy church* by the 3rd session
9. Read *Becoming a Godly Husband* and *Becoming a Godly Wife* before the 4th session
10. Write a one page paper on each book due by the 4th session on *Becoming a Godly Husband* and *Becoming a Godly Wife*
11. Read *How to win friends and Influence People* by the 6th session
12. Write a one page reaction to *How to Win Friends and Influence People* by the 6th Session

Grade: The grade is pass or fail.

STANDARDS FOR WRITTEN WORK (MLA)

Papers must be written to a near-thesis standard. That is, minimum format standards must be met, as defined below. English grammar, idiom, and spelling must be up to graduate level. Always include a strong introduction paragraph (declare what you intend to show the reader) and conclusion paragraph. Qualities valued include clarity, succinctness, and precision.

This course employs the MLA (Modern Language Association) style guide. The basic elements are:

- Double-spacing, except for block quotes

- Single space block quotes
- Page numbers appear at the upper right on every text page
- Use footnotes or parenthetical citations.
- Footnotes and parenthetical references follow standard format.

Helpful web sites on MLA style include:

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/>

<http://www.cws.illinois.edu/workshop/writers/citation/>

[These websites are expanded and pasted into Western Seminary’s “How to Write a Research Paper” located at <http://www.westernseminary.edu/papers/Faculty/WGuideNu.doc>]

A good website with footnote/bibliography entries is:

<http://writing.wisc.edu/Handbook/Documentation.html>

For assignments that require the use of non-course texts and include a bibliography, of the resources mentioned in the bibliography for your project/paper, two must be from a physical library. Note the physical location of each book as an addendum to each bibliographical entry.

All work must reflect master's level use of the English language. Plagiarism will result in failure of assignment.

CLASS POLICIES

Cover page: To safeguard confidentiality, provide a title page as a cover for all assignments. Include your student mailbox number in the upper right corner of the cover page.

Attendance and Late Assignments: Students are expected to attend all class meetings. Students who miss class are responsible for missed work. Unexcused absences and tardiness will impact a student’s grade. Students who anticipate an absence should discuss it in advance with the instructor. Students who miss two or more classes will not pass the course, without a request for and the completion of additional assignments. Assignments submitted after the due date and time constitutes a drop in the student’s letter grade for that assignment.

Enrichment Students: Enrichment students are encouraged, but not obligated, to participate in assignments and class discussions. Professors are not obligated to grade participation for these students, but may opt to do so depending on class size.

Incompletes: Faculty members determine their own procedures and due dates for the completion of course assignments. The final deadline for submitting all course work is the last day of the semester as noted in the Academic Calendar and in the Sacramento class schedule. In the case of serious illness, family emergency, or similar extenuating circumstances, the instructor may, **if it is initiated by the student**, grant an extension. A 1-3 week extension is typical in all except the most extreme cases, and in all cases the standard decrease of a full letter grade for late work applies. Extensions desired by the student beyond 3 weeks, with prof support, must be approved by the Sacramento Academic

Coordinator, with 5 weeks after the end of the course being the longest possible extension for work being due to the prof; for this semester that date is **Saturday, 1/23/10**. (This allows a 6th week for the grading of work and a grade change request to be filed.) A temporary notation of “I” (incomplete) is assigned until a final grade can be determined. Under no circumstances may the six-week period (allots 1 week to the prof for grading and grade change petition) be extended except by petition and approval of the Administrative Committee in Portland.

The Availability of Disability Services at Western Seminary: Western Seminary is committed to responding to the needs of students with disabilities as outlined in both the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Western students are assisted individually as their needs dictate. It is the responsibility of students with disabilities to identify themselves and the nature of the disability. Any student who has a disability should contact the seminary’s Disability (Section 504) Coordinator, Ken Epp, at 503-517-1815/1-877-517-1800, ext. 1815. His office is at the Portland campus. Students at the northern California campuses may contact Carrie Priest (Student Services Coordinator – San José) or PJ Oswald (Director of Student Development – Sacramento), or they may contact Dr. Epp directly. Appropriate forms will be provided and must be submitted to the Disability Coordinator’s office.

LIBRARY AND INTERNET RESEARCH – SACRAMENTO

All class assignments with a research element require library research annotated as such in the bibliography. A minimum of two resources must be from a physical library. Note the physical location of each resource as an addendum to each bibliographical entry.

For complete library information including: hours of operation, interlibrary loan, local library resources, etc., please:

- Visit www.westernseminary.edu/sacramento
- Click the link “Library Services” in the right navigation pane.

Reserve Collection

The library carries all required readings for this course.

Print Resources

Use the Western-Arcade Library catalog to find books and other materials. To search the library collection:

- Visit <http://www.westernseminary.edu/Library/SAC> .
- Click the link “Search the Library Collection Online”.

Periodical & Research Databases

As you complete your assignments for this course, don’t forget about the resources in the Western research databases. Remember to evaluate and cite your information too. To access the Western research databases:

- Visit <http://www.westernseminary.edu/Library/SAC> .
- Click the link “Research Databases” from the bottom menu.
- Click the link “Ebsco Host Research Databases”.

- Log in. [**User ID:** westsem / **Password:** seminary]
- Click the link “EBSCOhost Web”.
- Click the database(s) you wish to use. Start with *ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials*.

To cite your information, consider the following MLA composers:

<http://www.noodletools.com> and <http://www.citationmachine.net>

Western-Arcade Library offers a variety of ministry related software for student use including BibleWorks, Logos Bible Software, and SeminaryLibrary.

Course Packs (if applicable)

To access the course pack(s) for this course:

1. Go to the library homepage: <http://www.westernseminary.edu/Library/SAC>
2. Click the link ‘Course Packs’.

Reference and Research Contact Information

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