

**ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY OF AFRICA
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**

Course: CHMN 643: Christian Professional Ethics
Credits: 3 Semester Credits
Date: 19 May – 7 June, 2016
Venue: Babcock University
Instructor: Efe M. Ehioghae, PhD

Purpose of the Course

To enable students to critically examine and evaluate ethical concepts and principles, and to motivate them to apply them in their various professions.

Course Objectives

By the end of the course, students will:

1. Be able to critically analyze various speculative moral theories as bases of professional life, decision-making and practice.
2. Identify and evaluate major ethical concepts in professional ethics in the light of biblical ethical foundations.
3. Develop biblical principles and guidelines for professional ethical living and decision-making.

Course Content

- A. An introductory synopsis that addresses the need for ethics in our contemporary society in the light of:
 1. The moral vacuum after the traditional African taboos are gone
 2. Competing ideologies and philosophies that may seek to fill the moral vacuum and crowd out the genuine Christian philosophy of morality
 3. The high stakes which are connected with authentic Christian witness in a world that seeks to know God
- B. A brief survey of traditional African world-view in contrast with other world-views that inform choice-making. This includes a brief examination of:
 1. Erosion of African traditional values
 2. The pull of the emerging culture's values of importance
 3. Selected moral theories
- C. A brief examination of biblical foundations for responsible Christian decision-making, working and relating to include:
 1. Significance of call to ministry
 2. The Covenant Motif in scripture
 3. Selected images that inform ministerial identity and function
- D. An inquiry into role expectations on the part of the minister by:
 1. The minister himself/herself
 2. The Church which is shaped by the minister

3. The general public to be witnessed to
4. The administrative unit which employs the minister
- E. Exploration of knotty problems and ethical issues that confront the Church and clergy in Africa today like the following:
 1. Counselling difficult clients
 2. Dealing with those who fear mystical powers and witchcraft
 3. “Sex in forbidden zones”
 4. Tribalism, ethnocentrism etc
 5. Ambition and Zebedee Syndrome
 6. Financial accountability and responsibility
 7. Academic freedom and accountability
 8. Symbolic powers of the professional/pastoral person
 9. Professional relations—peers, superiors/subordinates, opposite gender and employers.
 10. Professional duties and obligations

Teaching Methodologies

1. Lectures
2. Group discussions
3. Group projects and case studies
4. Use of audiovisuals

Instructional Materials/Equipment

1. Textbooks, anthology and library resources
2. PowerPoint and LCD projector
3. Audiovisuals, e.g. DVDs and CDs

AUA GRADING SYSTEM

Percent	Letter Grade	Performance Description	Quality Points
93-100	A	Outstanding	4.00
90-92	A-	Excellent	3.67
87-89	B+	Above Average	3.33
83-86	B	Average	3.00
80-82	B-	Below Average	2.67
77-79	C+	Weak	2.33
73-76	C		2.00
70-72	C-	Poor	1.67
60-69	D		1.00
0-59	F	Fail	0.00

Course Assessment

1.	2 Examinations	60%
2.	Position paper	10%
3.	Group project	10%
4.	Case Analyses	10%
5.	Reading	10%
	Total	100%

Textbooks

MacArther, J.F. *The Power of Integrity*. Crossway Book Inc. 1997.

Magesa, Laurenti. *Christian Ethics in Africa*. Nairobi, Acton Publishers. 2002.

Trull, J.E. and Carter, J.E. *Ministerial Ethics: Moral Formation for Church Leaders*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academics, 2004.

Wamue, G. and Theuri, M. Eds. *Quest for Integrity in Africa*. Nairobi, Acton Publishers, 2003.

Reference Materials

Boyajian, J.A. *Ethical Issues in the Practice of Ministry*. Minneapolis: United Theological Seminary, 1984.

Browning, D.S. *Religious Ethics and Pastoral Care*. Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1983.

Camenisch, P.F. "Are Pastors Professionals?" *The Christian Ministry*. 16 (July 1985): 12-13.

Ehioghae, E. M. *Godliness is Great Gain: Discovering a Better Way to Live*. Ibadan: Positive Press, 2014.

Glasse, J. D. *Profession: Minister*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1978.

Hammar, R.R. "Ministerial Ethics and the Law." *The Christian Ministry*. 15 (May 1984): 7-10.

Harmon, N.B. *Ministerial Ethics and Etiquette*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1978.

Hasselbarth, H. *Christian Ethics in the African Context*. Nairobi: Uzima Press, 2004.

Kemper, R.G. *The New Shape of Ministry—Taking Accountability Seriously*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1979.

Long, E. Jr. *A Survey of Recent Christian Ethics*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1982.

Mueller, F.F. and Hartshorne, H. *Ethical Dilemmas of Ministers*. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1973.

Noyce, G. *Pastoral Ethics*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1988.

Wind, J.P. "Clergy Ethics: A Neglected Discipline." *The Christian Ministry*. 16 (July 1985): 5-7.

Counseling

Beauchamp, T.L. *Philosophical Ethics*. New York: McGraw Hill, 1982.

Bergin, A.E. "The Effects of Psychotherapy: Negative Effects Revisited." *Journal of Counseling Psychology*. 10 (1983): 244-249

Biggs, D. and Blocher, D. *Foundations of Ethical Counseling*. New York: Springer, 1987,

Blackham, H.J. ed. *Ethical Standards in Counseling*. London: Bedford Square Press, 1974.

Blocher, D.H. *The Professional Counsellor*. New York: MacMillan, 1987.

Cavanagh, M.E. *The Counselling Experience*. Monterey, Cal: Books/Cole Publishing Co., 1982.

Corey, G., Corey, M., and Callahan, P. *Professional and Ethical Issues in Counseling and Psychotherapy*.

Nelson, B. "Efforts Widen to Curb Sexual Abuse in Therapy." *New York Times*. November 23, 1982. C1, C3.

Patterson, C.H. *Counseling and Psychotherapy: Theory and Practice*. New York: Harper and Brothers, 1959.

Siegal, M. "Privacy, Ethics, and Confidentiality." *Professional Psychology*. 10: (1979): 249-258.

Steininger, M., Newell, J.D. and Garcia, L. *Ethical Issues in Psychology*. Homewood, IL: Dorsey Press, 1984.

Woods, K.M. and McNamera, J.R. "Confidentiality: Its Effects on Interview Behavior." *Professional Psychology*. 11 (1980): 714-721.

Motivation

Buber, M. *I and Thou*. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1955.

Cheydleur, J. "The Idea Behind Motivation." *Leadership*. I (Summer 1980): 57-62.

Jacobsen, W. "Crosses for Sale." *Leadership*. 6 (Fall 1985): 30-36.

- McDonough, R.M. *Keys to Effective Motivation*. Nashville: Broadman, 1979.
- Niebhur, H.R. *The Responsible Self: An Essay in Christian Moral Philosophy*. New York: Harper and Row, 1963.
- Senter, R. "The Missing Link to Church Recruitment." *Leadership*. I (Summer 1980): 35-40.
- Shostrom, E.L. *Man, the Manipulator*. Nashville, Abingdon, 1967.
- Smith, F. "The Manipulation Game." *Leadership*. 6 (Fall 1985): 110-116.
- Thompson, R. "Fueling the Faith." *Leadership*. 6 (Fall 1985): 78-85.

Preaching

- Buckingham, J. "Pulpit Plagiarism." *Leadership*. 4 (Summer 1983) 61-66.
- Davis, H.G. *Design for Preaching*. Philadelphia: Muhlenberg, 1958.
- Ford, L. *The Christian Persuader*. New York: Harper and Row. 1966.
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- Rueter, A.L. "Ethics in the Pulpit." *Word and World*: 8 (Spring 1988): 173-78.
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- Sleeth, R.E. *Persuasive Preaching*. New York: Harper and Brothers, 1956.
- Sweazey, G.E. *Preaching the Good News*. New Jersey: Prentice-Hall, 1976.

Power

- Blizzard, S.W. *The Protestant Parish Minister: A Behavioral Science Interpretation*, 1985.
- Bockle, F. and Pohier, J. *Power and the Word of God*. New York: Herder and Herder, 1973.

- Boillat, M. "Evangelism and Proselytism." *Christian Heritage*. 27 (January 1966): 13-32.
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- Congar, Y. *Power and Poverty in the Church*. Baltimore: Helicon Press, 1965.
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- Engstrom, T. *The Making of a Christian Leader*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1976.
- Hadden, J.K. *The Gathering Storm in the Churches*. New York: Doubleday and Company, 1969.
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- Hughes, K. and B. *Liberating Ministry from the Success Syndrome*. Wheaton, Ill: Tyndale House, 1987.
- Lindgren, A.J. and Shawchurck, N. *Let My People God*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1982.
- McKenzie, J.L. *Authority in the Church*. New York: Sheed and Ward, 1966
- Ministerial Association. *Perils of Power*. Silver Spring, MD: General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, 2000.
- Niles, D.T. *The Preacher's Calling to Be Servant*. New York: Harper and Brothers, 1959.
- Oswald, R.M. *Power Analysis of a Congregation*. Mount St. Alban, Washington DC: The Alban Institute, 1981.
- Powell, C.H. *The Biblical Concept of Power*. London: The Epworth Press, 1963.
- Schaller, L.E. *Getting Things Done—Concepts and Skills for Leaders*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1986.