

**DM869 Healing Trauma**

<b>Instructor</b>	Dr. John Hayes
<b>Schedule</b>	Thur. Sept. 15 6:00-8:30 PM/Fri. Sept. 16 9:00 AM-2:30 PM Thur. Oct. 13 6:00-8:30 PM/Fri. Oct. 14 9:00 AM-2:30 PM Thur. Nov. 3 6:00-8:30 PM/Fri. Nov. 4 9:00 AM-2:30 PM Thur. Dec. 8 6:00-8:30 PM/Fri Dec. 9 9:00 AM-2:30 PM
<b>Description</b>	<p>No one gets through this life without experiencing trauma. Trauma overwhelms our capacity to cope and thrusts us into that far country of pain, confusion, and despair where sometimes only grace can reach us.</p> <p>Trauma takes many forms - natural catastrophes, the experiences of war and torture, of rape and assault, the more insidious and complex relational traumas that occur in families and intimate relationships, and trauma induced by toxic religious communities and teachings. Additionally, there are collective traumas such as the American legacy of genocide, slavery, and racial violence.</p> <p>Healing demands that we overcome fear and come to terms with the reality of the trauma and embrace unavoidable pain and grief so that we can ultimately reconnect with life in a new and vital way. Meaning destroyed has to be reconstructed rather than restored, before we can love again without fear, and trust again in life's inherent goodness. The healing of trauma is never a solo journey, but requires the unflinching, empathic witness of a caring other; often, that person is the pastor or chaplain.</p> <p>All the great religions have narratives, images, metaphors, and rituals in which to re-discover meaning and renew our connection to self, others, and God. Trauma brings the theological issues of theodicy to the fore: why does God let bad things happen to good people? Christianity uniquely has trauma as its central symbol in the narrative of the passion and death of Jesus.</p> <p>This intensive course provides an immersion in understanding the spectrum and nature of trauma and its profound assault on the brain, the psyche, and the spirit. This course begins with the psychology of trauma and then opens to theological reflection on the mystery of trauma and the human condition and the sources of healing in faith.</p>

<b>Requirements</b>	<p><b>Reading:</b> Students should expect to read about 1,500 pages of required reading and should come prepared to discuss readings in class.</p> <p><b>Films:</b> Students will be required to watch three full-length films at home in preparation for class discussion.</p> <p><b>Writing:</b> Required writing assignments: There are three assigned essays, 8-10 pages, 12 font, double-spaced, that integrate class presentations and discussions, and the film and readings assigned, into a reflection on personal experiences of trauma and pastoral experiences of caring for traumatized people. Each essay is 20% of grade.</p> <p><b>Seminar Participation:</b> At the last class meeting, students will prepare a 10-15 minute theological reflection and participate in active discussion on the relationship between the gospel account of Jesus' passion and death and a theology of trauma and its relevance for ministry. 20% of grade.</p> <p><b>Class Participation:</b> 20%</p>
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**Required Texts:**

Author and Title (Press, Year)	ISBN	Cost	Page count
<i>The Body Keeps the Score: Brain, Mind, and Body in Healing of Trauma</i> Bessel van der Kolk, Penguin. (2014)	978-0-14-312774-1	\$11.00	365
<i>Wandering in Darkness: Narrative and the Problem of Suffering</i> , Eleonore Stump. Oxford University Press. (2010)	978-0-19-965930-2	\$45.00	481 (minus notes)
<i>Treating Traumatized Children: Risk, Resilience, and Recovery</i> , Danny Brom, Ruth Pat-Horenczyk, and Julian Ford (editors) Routledge. (2008)	978-0-415-4715-0	\$49.00	276
<i>Bearing the Unbearable: Trauma, Gospel, and Pastoral Care</i> , Deborah van Deusen Hunsinger. Eerdmans. (2015)	978-0-8028-7103-9	\$18.00	148
<i>Trauma and Grace: Theology in a Ruptured World</i> , Serene Jones, 2 <sup>nd</sup> ed W/JKP. (2019)	978-0-6642-6477-2	\$20.00	189
<i>Spirit and Trauma: A Theology of Remaining</i> , Shelly Rambo and Catherine Keller. W/JKP (2010)	978-0-664-23503-1	\$24.00	172