DPLS 776 Leadership, Authenticity, & Hospitality Retreat
Gonzaga University
Doctoral Program in Leadership Studies

3 Credits Fall 2013
Location: St. Joseph Family Center: http://www.stjosephfamilycenter.org
Date/Time: Friday, October 11, at 8 a.m. – Sunday, October 13, at 5 p.m.
Instructor: Rev. Dr. Silvia Behrend
Office hours: by appointment: 360-943-9591
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Conceptual Framework

There is a pervasive form of contemporary violence. . . [and that is] activism and overwork. The rush and pressure of modern life are a form, perhaps the most common form, of its innate violence.

To allow oneself to be carried away by a multitude of conflicting concerns, to surrender to too many demands, to commit oneself to too many projects, to want to help everyone in everything is to succumb to violence.

The frenzy of our activism neutralizes our work for peace. It destroys our own inner capacity for peace. It destroys the fruitfulness of our own work, because it kills the root of inner wisdom which makes work fruitful.

– Thomas Merton

Trappist monk, social activist, mystic, priest and monk, Thomas Merton points out the violence we do to ourselves when we fail to take time for retreat and sanctuary (Heifetz 1994) to refresh spirit, mind and soul. If, indeed, as our mission statement states, our work is to “develop the critical imagination required to embrace individual, organizational, and global change from a stance of hope and courage” (Mission Statement), we must find ways to rest and renew. Effective leaders need a place and a time to consider their inner life and find inspiration to continue the difficult work of leading to transform the world.

This class is designed to provide a structure for rest and contemplation based on Judaism’s understanding that the Sabbath is more than simply a time to rest from secular work, it is an obligation to enter sacred time, devoted to learning and discussion of what is core to the community. Because hospitality is a central value to the community, the subject of discussion for the Sabbath will be our understanding of servant and transformational leadership in a multicultural, technologically mobile and diverse world. The retreat offers time for spiritual attention to what is most sacred to each person in a non-denominational manner.
Some of the questions we will address are:

- What are our implicit notions of self and others which determine our authenticity and ability to offer hospitality, both to self and others?
- What does authenticity require of us/others in a multiplicity of settings?
- What does hospitality require of us/others in a multiplicity of settings?
- Who is the stranger in our organizations, families, internal dialogues?
- What is the nature of hospitality and what are the requirements of both offering and accepting hospitality?
- How do we welcome those aspects of ourselves that have been rejected?
- Where does power reside in the host/guest relationship and what are some ramifications and implications for organizations?
- How do we create communities in a multicultural environment?
- How does globalization affect our notions of hospitality?
- How do we create welcome environments using information technology?

The retreat will be held at St. Joseph Family Center (http://www.stjosephfamilycenter.org) starting **Friday, October 11, at 8 a.m. and ends on Sunday, October 13, at 5 p.m.** We will stay in two houses with 17 bedrooms, and each person will have their own room. We will have use of the kitchen, conference room, laundry facilities, etc. The activity fee of $250 will cover the use of the facility, two overnight stays, and all meals for three full days. This fee is payable to Silvia Behrend on Friday night before the retreat starts. (No money exchanged on the Sabbath!) This retreat is limited to 17 participants.

**Required Readings**

Molz, J. & Gibson, S. (Eds.) (2007). *Mobilizing Hospitality: The Ethics of Social Relations in a Mobile World.* The reading will be posted on BB.


There will be several articles posted on BB by September 1, 2013, to supplement this reading list. You are responsible for checking your account. I will send an email to all registered students when the articles are posted.

**Assignments**

**September 1 – October 10, 2013**


Wayne Muller suggests activities, exercises, and options to develop a rhythm of rest and work. As you read the book, choose those that appeal to your sensibility and maintain a weekly written journal of your experience for the six weeks. The entries are to be no fewer than one (1) page or more than three (3) pages in length per day for the entire six weeks. I encourage you to use a paper journal instead of typing into the computer. Feel free to use any art form: colored pencils,
markers, collage, watercolor, etc. This journal will be due on Friday, October 11, at 8 a.m. Please include a self-addressed mailer to have the journal sent to you if it is not in digital form. If you have any questions about this assignment, feel free to email me at behrend@gonzaga.edu or call me at 360-943-9591.

October 4, 2013
The introduction of the book offers an overview of the myriad issues involved in hospitality. Read the introduction and choose one of the themes that is most relevant to your organizational/work experience. Research that theme and write a 5-7 page paper that addresses the issues in your own life/work/experience. This is to be in APA format. It may include narrative and personal material as pertinent to the ethical questions addressed by the authors. Email your paper to behrend@gonzaga.edu. If you have any questions, you can also call me at 360-259-3971.

By October 11, 2013
Read and be ready to discuss throughout the retreat.

November 14, 2013
Final Assignment:
Write a 10-page paper integrating the pre-retreat journaling, the retreat experience itself with issues of hospitality in your work/organizational/personal life. What are the conflicting issues of hospitality and authenticity that need to be addressed? We will discuss this final in more detail at the retreat.

Information About the Retreat
The retreat takes place at the St Joseph Family Center, begins promptly at 8 a.m. on Friday, March 11, and ends at 5 p.m. on Sunday, October 13. We will gather for breakfast at 8 a.m. The cost covers overnight stays on Friday and Saturday. If you wish to arrive on Thursday, please contact Sharon Eklund (509-483-6495) to arrange for your Thursday night stay separately. The overnight rate is $40.

This is an overnight retreat, please bring appropriate sleeping clothing and personal hygiene material. Each person will have her or his own bedroom.

We will cook in teams and clean up in teams. We are responsible for leaving the center clean.

This class is specifically designed as a retreat, therefore, it is crucial that students be prepared to participate fully and be prepared to discuss the material assigned. Unless you are on call for specific reasons, phones and other forms of communication are strongly discouraged.

The cost per person is $250 includes two overnight stay, all meals, material and refreshments. The fee is payable to Silvia Behrend before the beginning of our time together.
Grading
This class is highly participatory, and your grade is contingent on your participation both in class discussions and turning in your assignments on time and in the proper academic format. The journal is an experiential, stream of consciousness format, while the assigned paper and final is to be in APA format.

I assume that:
- Students in this and any other doctoral level class have the required expertise to comply with Gonzaga’s and the Doctoral Leadership Studies Program grading and honor system.
- Students are able to write cogently, accurately, and in accordance to the APA guidelines and the DPLS Academic Papers Rubric.
- I follow departmental policies regarding absences. This is an intensive three-day retreat and participation in all activities is required. Please plan on staying the entire time, if there is an emergency that arises, please contact me as soon as possible.
- Students know whether they are putting forth their best, good, or mediocre efforts in terms of attendance and participation.
- We all know what excellent work looks like (A), what good work looks like (B), and what more marginal work looks like (C). Failure to turn in your work in a timely manner will affect your grade.
- I am available to discuss students’ progress at any time during the course.

References