DS9207W Leading Contemplative Groups: Exploring the Work of Parker J. Palmer

Offered: 2017: Intensive – June / July (through WellSpring Centre, Ashburton)

This unit will explore both the principles and practice of inner spiritual growth through the model of Parker Palmer’s *Hidden Wholeness* and contemplative group reflection through story, poem, art and reflection. Participants will learn through lectures, discussion, contemplative group work and a retreat experience.

Upon successful completion of this unit, it is expected that students will be able to:

1. Examine and evaluate their personal approach to exploring the inner spiritual landscape
2. Demonstrate both an understanding and integration of Parker Palmer’s approach to the spiritual life
3. Establish and design a contemplative circle
4. Lead a contemplative group
5. Integrate personal spiritual experience with ancient and contemporary contemplative knowledge through the group process

Pre-requisites: Nil

Class Time: 5 days plus one residential weekend retreat

Assessment:

- One essay (3,000 words) (50%)
- One tutorial paper (1,500 words) (25%)
- One report on a Contemplative Circle (1,500 words) (25%)

Faculty: Christopher Page

Recommended Reading:

* = set texts recommended for purchase


