

CT1010W Youth Spirituality: Theology and Practice

Offered: 2018: Semester 2
[Unit offered alternatively as DP1010W]

This unit on the spirituality of youth (teens through to young adults) introduces students to significant developments in youth spirituality research, and assists them to begin to formulate their own mature theological (christological, anthropological, soteriological, and ecclesiological) and pastoral responses to the subjects of such.

The unit is suitable for, although not limited to, those seeking to develop skills for working with or among young people in churches, schools, and/or other community-based settings.

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

1. Articulate a theological understanding of human personhood, spirituality, and spiritual formation, particularly as these relate to youth;
2. Identify and critically evaluate key factors influencing the content and expressions of youth spirituality;
3. Critically appraise a variety of pastoral responses intended to assist young people develop and express their spirituality;
4. Formulate a preferred approach to nurturing spirituality in young people.

Prerequisites: Nil

Class Time: Three hours per week

Assessment: One minor essay (750 words) (25%)
One tutorial paper (750 words) (25%)
One major essay (2,500 words) (50%)

Faculty: Rowan Lewis

Recommended Reading:

* = set texts recommended for purchase

Balswick, J. O., P. E. King, and K. S. Reimer. *The Reciprocating Self: Human Development in Theological Perspective*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2005.

De Souza, M. and W. Lamb. *Children, Adolescents and Spirituality*. Adelaide: ATF Press, 2008.

Dean, K. C., C. Clark, and D. Rahn. *Starting Right: Thinking Theologically About Youth Ministry*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan/Youth Specialties, 2001.

Fowler, J. W. *Stages of Faith: The Psychology of Human Development and the Quest for Meaning*. Blackburn: Collins Dove, 1981.

Holt, B. *Brief History of Christian Spirituality*. Oxford: Lion Publishing, 1997.

Hughes, P. J. *Putting Life Together: Findings from Australian Youth Spirituality Research*. Fairfield: Fairfield Press, 2007.

Roehkepartain, E. C., P. E. King, L. Wagener, and P. L. Benson. *The Handbook of Spiritual Development in Childhood and Adolescence*. London: Sage Publications, 2005.

Root, A. and K. C. Dean. *The Theological Turn in Youth Ministry*. Downers Grove: IVP Books, 2011.

Smith, C. and P. Snell. *Souls in Transition: The Religious and Spiritual Lives of Emerging Adults*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2009.

Tacey, D. *The Spirituality Revolution: The Emergence of Contemporary Spirituality*. Sydney: Harper Collins, 2004.

Ward, G. *Unbelievable: Why We Believe and Why We Don't*. New York: IB Tauris, 2014.

Warren, A. E., R. Lerner, and E. Phelps (eds.). *Thriving and Spirituality Among Youth: Research Perspectives and Future Possibilities*. Hoboken: John Wiley & Sons, 2011.

Welker, M. (ed.). *The Depth of the Human Person: A Multidisciplinary Approach*. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans, 2014.