

## DS2012W Discerning Personal Vocation (Extended)

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**Offered:** 2018: Semester 1 – 2 (unit runs for whole year)  
(delivered in combination with BS1006W under the NEXT<sup>2</sup> program)

This unit will assist students to explore, identify and focus their personal sense of vocation within the Christian tradition. Various practices of vocational discernment (individual and communal) will be critically engaged and applied within the student's own context. Theological reflection and participation in intentional practices of discernment will support this process. Students will also develop and engage in practices that assist others in the discernment and exploration of vocation.

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

1. actively participate in historic Christian practices of discernment; prayer, meditation, reading and direction;
2. utilize models of theological reflection that integrate theory, experience and practice;
3. formulate an individually appropriate model for vocational decision-making reflective of an encounter with the wisdom and direction of God;
4. critically reflect upon their own developing sense of calling/vocation and its integration into everyday realities;
5. critically evaluate historic Christian practices of discernment; and
6. develop and describe discernment strategies to guide others toward vocational clarity in individual and communal settings.

**Prerequisites:** Nil

**Prohibited combination:** DS1/2011W Discerning Personal Vocation

**Class Time:** Three hours per week (for whole year, in conjunction with BS1006W)

<b>Assessment:</b>	Research essay (1,500 words)	(20%)
	Vocational portfolio (4,000 words)	(40%)
	Tutorial paper (1,000 words)	(20%)
	Journal/reflection reports (4 x 400 words)	(20%)

**Faculty:** Joel McKerrow

### Recommended Reading:

\* = set texts recommended for purchase

Herbert Alphonso. *Discovering Your Personal Vocation: The Search for Meaning Through the Spiritual Exercises*, Mahwah, NJ: Paulist Press, 2001

Brennfleck, K. *Live Your Calling*. Jossey Bassey. 2004.

Coombs, Marie Theresa, and Nemeck, F K., *Called by God: A Theology of Vocation and Lifelong Commitment*, Eugene, OR: Wipf and Stock, 2001.

Garber, Steven. *Visions of Vocation: Common Grace for the Common Good*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2010.

Green, T. *Weeds Among the Wheat*. Notre Dame: Ave Maria, 1984.

Graham, Elaine, Heather Walton, and Frances Ward. *Theological Reflection: Methods*. London: SCM Press, 2005

Miller, D. *A Million Miles in a Thousand Years*. Thomas Nelson. 2011.

Mottola, A. (trans) *The Spiritual Exercises* by Ignatius Loyola, New York: Doubleday, 1989

Nouwen, H. *In the Name of Jesus*. London: St Paul's, 1999.

Palmer, Parker. *Let your life speak: Listening for the voice of vocation*. San Francisco: Jossey Bass, 2000

Palmer, Parker, *A Hidden Wholeness: The Journey Toward An Undivided Life*. John Wiley and Sons. 2004.

Schuurman, D. *Vocation: Discerning Our Callings in Life*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2003.

Smith, G.T. *The Voice of Jesus: Discernment, Prayer and the Witness of the Spirit*. Downers Grove: NPress, 2003.

Stevens, P. *Work Matters*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2012.

Veith, Gene Edward. *God At Work: Your Christian Vocation in All of Life*. Vol. Focal point series. Wheaton, Ill.: Crossway Books, 2002.

Evelyn E. Whitehead and Whitehead, J.D., *Seasons of Strength: New Visions of Adult Christian Maturing*, Lincoln, NE: St Mary's Press, 2003

Williard, D. *In Search of Guidance*. Eugene: Wipf, 1997.