

DS3006W Table Spirituality: Hospitality, Community and Mission

Offered: 2018: Semester 1

In this unit students will explore the significance of the shared meal to the Christian experience of faith. Drawing upon perspectives of theology, biblical studies, missiology, sociology and psychology, we will consider the central role eating together plays in the Christian tradition of hospitality, the nature of Christian community, and as metaphor and method in the mission of the church. Throughout, participants will be encouraged to consider the daily routines, rituals and rites of passage celebrated at the table as rich resources for spiritual formation, both individually and corporately.

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

1. analyse the relevant biblical, historical, and contemporary perspectives on a ritual of daily life;
2. critique dominant patterns of social and familial interaction, expressions of community, and cultural norms and practices; and
3. evaluate ways in which daily routines, rituals and rites of passage can be celebrated at the table as rich resources for spiritual formation.

Pre-requisites: 30 points

Class Time: Three hours per week

Assessment:	Reflection/tutorial presentation (1,000 words)	(20%)
	Critical review of film (1,000) words	(20%)
	One essay (3,000 words)	(60%)

Faculty: Simon Holt

Recommended Reading:

* = set texts recommended for purchase

Ayres, Jennifer R. *Good Food: Grounded Practical Theology*. Waco: Baylor University Press, 2013.

Brahanson, Fred. *Soil and Sacrament: A Spiritual Memoir of Food and Faith*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2013.

Brasher-Cunningham, Milton. *Keeping the feast: Metaphors for the Meal*. New York: Moorehouse, 2012.

Byrne, Brendan. *The Hospitality of God: A Reading of Luke's Gospel*. Strathfield: St Paul's, 2000

Capon, Robert F. *The Supper of the Lamb*. New York: Doubleday, 1969

Juengst, Sara C. *Breaking Bread: The Spiritual Significance of Food*. Louisville: Westminster/John Knox, 1992

Jung, L. Shannon. *Food for Life: The Spirituality and Ethics of Eating*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2004

Karris, Robert J. *Eating Your Way through Luke's Gospel*. Collegeville: Liturgical Press, 2006

Koenig, John. *Soul Banquets: How Meals become Mission in the Local Congregation*. Harrisburg: Morehouse Publishing, 2007

Luard, Elizabeth. *Sacred Food: Cooking for Spiritual Nourishment*. London: MQ Publications, 2001

Miles, Sara. *Take this Bread: A Radical Conversion*. New York: Ballantine, 2007

Pohl, Christine D. *Making Room: Recovering Hospitality as a Christian Tradition*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1999

Wirzba, Norman. *Food and faith: A theology of Eating*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2011.