

**PITTSBURGH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY / ANTIOCHIAN
HOUSE OF STUDIES
BOLIVAR, PA**

SYLLABUS

ETHICS AND MORALITY

Father Michel Najim, instructor

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

This course is the core course in the Doctor of Ministry Program (D. Min.) entitled "ETHICS AND MORALITY," offered by the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary and the Antiochian House of Studies. This is one of six required courses of the program offered at the Antiochian House of Studies in Bolivar, PA.

This course is scheduled as a one week seminar, beginning at 9.00 AM on Monday of the scheduled week, and ending with lunch on the following Friday. There will be three sessions each day-morning, afternoon and evening-thereby totaling one semester's class hour sessions (12-13 sessions).

OBJECTIVE OF COURSE

This course seeks to explore the roots of Eastern Spirituality and to study the contemporary moral issues from three perspectives:

- 1) Spirituality/morality in the Eastern Tradition.
- 2) Practicing morality in modern society.
- 3) Facing contemporary moral issues.

REQUIREMENTS OF COURSE

1. Attendance at all sessions.
2. Completing the recommended reading in advance of the course.
3. Preparing a brief reflection (2-3 pages only) on one of the themes from each of the required readings in advance of the class. These "briefs," which should reflect a contemporary moral problem facing your ministry, will be used for discussion and exploration by the class at each afternoon session.

4. A final paper of no more than eight (8) pages reviewing the material from the courses in terms of its potential impact on the practices of the ministry of the Church at large. This paper is to be submitted to the instructor no later than 2 months after last class. The address of the instructor is: 915 Gaillard St. Azusa, CA 91702.

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

Classes will be held each day according to the following pattern:

Morning Sessions, 9:00 AM: Spirituality/morality in the Eastern Tradition.

Afternoon Sessions, 2:00 PM: Practicing morality in modern society.

Evening Sessions, 7:00 PM: Facing contemporary moral issues.

The last session, held on Friday morning, will be used as a summarization session. Lunch will be a "working lunch" to discuss the future of the students' program.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Recommended Reading

Allen Joseph, *The Inner Way, Toward a rebirth of Eastern Christian Spiritual Direction*, Grand Rapids, Michigan, William Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1994.

Harakas Stanely, *Toward Transfigured Life*, Minneapolis: Light and life Publishing Co., 1983.

-*Living the Faith*, Minneapolis: Light and life Publishing Co., 1992.

Breck John, *The Sacred Gift of Life*, St Valdimir's Seminary Press, 1998.

Engelhardt Tristram, *The Foundations of Christian Bioethics*, Swets & Zeitlinger, 1992