

THE GENERAL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

PT7/AT307 Course Syllabus Addiction: The Church's Role in Recovery

An intensive module within the Easter term 2017

Class Meetings: February 10 & 11
Beginning on Friday at 9:30 a.m.
and Ending on Saturday at 4:30 p.m.

Instructor: The Rev. Stuart H. Hoke, Th.D.
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Course Description:

Because of its impact on all facets of parish life and ministry, this course addresses the dynamics of alcoholism and addictive illness with an emphasis on the history, spirituality and practice of 12-step recovery as developed and articulated by Alcoholics Anonymous. In addition to a didactic presentation of materials, students will hear first-hand the "stories" of recovering individuals; attend a sampling of 12-step meetings; and acquire an understanding of recognizing the "disease" and responding to those who suffer with it.

Learning Goals:

- Increase awareness of the disease of alcoholism
- Recognize signs and symptoms of addiction.
- Identify resources and modalities for treatment
- Introduce 12-step recovery by attending meetings.

Requirements:

1. Attendance at 3 meetings (AA, Al-Anon, S meetings, DA, NA, CA, OA, GA, DA) with a one-page single-spaced reaction/response for each. Viewing of two movies.
2. Classroom attendance & participation.
3. Anonymity: Whom you see here, what you hear here, when you leave here, let it stay here.

Resources:

**Alcoholics Anonymous, aka the Big Book (4th edition)*

**How Al-Anon Works for Families and Friends of Alcoholics*

Depending on the Grace of God: a Spiritual Journey through the 12 Steps, by Chilton Knudsen and Nancy Platt

Thirst: God & the Alcoholic Experience, by James Nelson

The Real Dope on Dealing with an Addict, by Meredith Powell and Beth Brand

Varieties of Religious Experience, by William James

I'll Quit Tomorrow, by Vernon E. Johnson

Not-God: A History of Alcoholics Anonymous, by Ernest Kurtz

Spirituality of Imperfection, by Ernest Kurtz

The Velvet Rage: Growing up Gay in a Straight Man's World, by Alan Downes

Adult Children of Alcoholics, by Janet Woititz

The Recovery Book, by Mooney and Eisenberg

Beautiful Boy, by David Sheff

Addiction and Grace, by Gerald May

Daring Greatly, by Brene Brown

Movies:

“28 Days”

“Angela's Ashes”

“Clean and Sober”

“Days of Wine and Roses”

“The Lost Weekend”

“Bill W” (documentary of 2013)

“When a Man loves a Woman”

“Leaving Los Vegas”

“Sideways”

“Flight”

“Rachel getting Married”

“Who's Afraid of Virginia Wolf”

“My Name is Bill W”

“I'm Dancing as Fast as I can”

“Long Days Journey into Night”

“Crazy Heart”

“Ironweed”

“When Love is not Enough” (Lois W's story)

“Tender Mercies”
“Barfly”
“Smashed”
“The Girl on the Train”
“The Wolf of Wall Street”
“Magnolia”

Classroom Schedule & Content for Friday, February 10

9:30—10:20	“Setting the Stage” (introduction, syllabus, assignments)
10:30—11:20	“History of the 12 Step Movement”
11:30—12:20	“Spirituality of the 12 Steps”
12:30 p.m.	Lunch
1:30—2:20	Speaker
2:30—3:20	“Alcoholism (and addictive illness): Cunning, Baffling, Powerful, Chronic, Progressive, & Fatal)”
3:30 *	<i>Movie: “When a Man Loves a Woman”</i>

HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT: Attendance at a 12step meetings

Classroom Schedule & Content for Saturday, February 11

9:30—10:20	“Family Disease of Addictive Illness”
10:30—11:20	Speaker
11:30—12:20	“Adult Children of Addictive Illness”
12:30—1:30 p.m.	Lunch
1:30—2:20	“Rehabilitation, Recovery, Redemption”
2:30—3:20	Speaker
3:30*	<i>Movie/Documentary: “Bill W”</i>

** This class is scheduled to end at 3:30 p.m. The viewing of the two movies at this time on Friday and Saturday can be done at this time, or at your convenience.*

Meeting Lists:

AA	www.nyintergroup.org
Al-Anon	www.nycalanon.org
OA	www.oanyc.org
DA	www.danyc.org
SCA	www.sca-recovery.org