

## **I.S. 4 - Middler Year Integrative Seminar**

<b>Instructor:</b>	The Rev. Gabe Lamazares Vicar, All Saints Church, Sunnyside, Queens
<b>Contacts:</b>	glamazares@gts.edu
<b>Meetings:</b>	Wednesdays each week, 3:15p-5:15p
<b>Co-requisite:</b>	TFE 2, or permission of the instructor
<b>Pre-requisites:</b>	TFE 1 & IS3, or permission of the instructor

### **Course Description**

The goal of the sequence of integrative courses, when paired with field education, is to enable students to integrate what they are learning in the course of their classroom theological education, with what they experience in various field sites; and to develop a strong and consistent priestly identity.

The focus of I.S. 4 in the 2016-2017 academic year is to introduce students to a variety of concepts, resources, and best practices in multiple areas of practical competency. Through theological reflection and engagement with guest practitioners, students will also explore theological and theoretical questions facing the church today (approached through the lens of the parish context).

### **Course Activities and Expectations**

I.S. 4 is an active-learning classroom, meaning that this course (and all integrative seminars) requires a high degree of participation from you, the students. We will engage in role play, case studies, student-led discussion, in-class collaborative work, and self-assessment. Guest practitioners will work with the instructor to develop similar teaching methods.

What this means for students, is that you will be expected and encouraged to participate actively and fully each week. This class requires thorough preparation - reading assignments are chosen for their utility, and it is expected that you will complete each reading assignment before class. Additionally, homework will be moderate and consistent, and late weekly assignments will not be accepted, as they are to be done in preparation for class that day.

Finally, you are expected to be thoroughly familiar with the CAMS system (where most reading assignments will be posted) to access digital resources.

### **End-of-the-Semester Paper / Project Work**

Throughout the semester, the instructor will monitor the class's engagement and interest; by the week following Spring Break, a final paper or project description will be provided to the class. The final paper is due on 05/16/17 at midnight via email. Extensions may be granted upon 48-hr advance written request, and will result in a 5% per day project grade reduction.

## Weekly Work

Most weeks, you will be assigned a moderate amount of preparatory reading for the following class, plus a brief theological reflection paper or other small project that will form the basis of your participation for the upcoming week.

Most reading will not be reviewed via lecture in class - instead, it will support learning and discussion, rather than serve as the primary topic.

## Instructor Feedback

Each week, the instructor will collect your written work at the end of class, will read it, and will return it to you the following week with written feedback.

## Grading

50% - Weekly Work  
25% - Final Parish Profile Project  
15% - Attendance  
10% - Participation

## Relationship to TFE2

IS4, while corequisite with TFE2, is a separate course from TFE2. This means that you will have separate TFE2 assignments throughout the semester which will determine your TFE2 pass / fail grade. All TFE2 requirements will be communicated to you directly via email by the Director of Integrative Studies.

## Classroom Policies

**Attendance:** You are expected to attend all classes. An excused absence truly will only be granted due to a death, or to a serious illness (or a sick child), a required diocesan meeting, or a funeral. If you or your child are ill, you must let the instructor know ahead of time, in writing (email or text is fine), and are still expected to turn in your weekly work prior to the start of class that day (via email or through a classmate). One unexcused absence will drop your overall course grade by 5%; two will drop your grade by 10%.

**Technology:** Note-taking is for personal use only (and not for testing) and therefore computers will not be necessary to take notes - please bring a notebook or looseleaf paper to take notes. Phones are, obviously, prohibited (except during break). If you are waiting for an important phone call (for example, from your bishop), please inform the instructor before class.

**Breaks:** We will all need a break - this will be hard work! We will take a 10-minute break at approximately 4:15 each Wednesday, though break-time will vary

according to the day. This is your time to use the restroom, check your email, etc. This will not allow time to leave campus - please bring coffee with you!

**Plagiarism:** Plagiarism consists of “the appropriating and presenting as one’s own work, the writings of work of another person ... without acknowledgment.” It is academic dishonesty and bad scholarship, and therefore may result in failure of this class, and other penalties “up to and including dismissal from the seminary.” (GTS Catalog 2016-2017, “Academic Honesty”)

**Accommodations:** If you have a disability that requires any modification of class activities or requirements, please contact the seminary’s Registrar, Stacie Waring (registrar@gts.edu), before the second class session to register the disability officially. The Registrar will then authorize me to provide any modifications needed for your participation in the course.

**Communication:** All communication outside of class, particularly email, should reflect our dual academic and professional contexts. Email is the instructor’s primary mode of communication; text should only be used in an urgent situation, such as sudden illness.

#### **Required Text**

None

#### **Schedule, Topics, and Assignments**

*Note: The schedule is subject to change, depending on class progress, weather, curricular adjustments, and a number of other factors. A new version will be issued in hard copy, and posted on CAMS, in the event of a major change (for example, a total change of topic or presenter for a given day). Any minor changes (for example, modification of a reading assignment) will be announced verbally in class and posted on CAMS.*

#### **Wednesday, February 01st**

**Topic:** Introductions and Expectations  
**Guest:** Caitlin Stamm (final part of class)  
**Pre-Reading:** N/A  
**Due Today:** N/A

#### **Wednesday, February 08th**

**Unit:** Parish Administration  
**Topic:** Human Resources - Interviews and Resumes  
**Guest:** Trecia Sullivan and Jonathan Silver

**Pre-Reading:** ECF Vital Practices, 'The Five Steps in a Search Process, Parts 1-7'  
**Due Today:** Resume Tailored for Position of Choice

**Wednesday, February 15th**

**Unit:** Congregational Growth / Future I  
**Topic:** Parish Restart Case Study  
**Guest:** The Rev. Gabe Lamazares)  
**Pre-Reading:** TBD (by GL)  
**Due Today:** TBD (by GL)

**Wednesday, February 22nd**

**Unit:** Congregational Growth / Future II  
**Guest:** The Rev. Jacob Smith  
**Topic:** Congregational Growth Case Study  
**Pre-Reading:** TBD (by JS)  
**Due Today:** 1 Page Reflection: Church Growth (Is an average ASA of 50 parishioners acceptable in NYC for a church intended for 500? Why?)

**NOTE:** Gabe Out Today

**Wednesday, March 01st**

**NO CLASS - ASH WEDNESDAY**

**Wednesday, March 08th**

**Unit:** Parish Administration I  
**Topic:** Church Finance  
**Guest:** The Rev. Jerry Keucher, former CFO, DioceseNY (*to be confirmed*)  
**Pre-Reading:** TBD (by JK)  
**Due Today:** 1 Page Reflection: Money (Why Should People Give Money to their Episcopal Parish, and How Much Should They Give?)

**Wednesday, March 15th**

**NO CLASS - SPRING BREAK**

**Wednesday, March 22nd**

**Unit:** Congregational Growth / Future III  
**Topic:** Hospitality and Newcomer Welcome  
**Guest:** Mary Parmer, Invite / Welcome / Connect  
**Pre-Reading:** TBD (by MP)

**Due Today:** Supervisor Interview: Newcomers / Church Growth  
**Notes:** Final Paper Topic to be Distributed Today (by GL)

### Wednesday, March 29th

**Unit:** Congregational Growth / Future IV  
**Guest:** The Rev. Emily Scott, St. Lydia's  
**Topic:** Enculturated Leadership: Building Ministry that Grows from Local Spiritual "Hungers"  
**Pre-Reading:** TBD (by ES)  
**Due Today:** TBD (by ES)

### Wednesday, April 05th

**Unit:** Congregational Growth / Future V  
**Guest:** The Rev. Emily Scott, St. Lydia's  
**Topic:** Nurturing Spiritual Gifts in Liturgy and Leadership  
**Pre-Reading:** TBD (by ES)  
**Due Today:** TBD (by ES)

### Wednesday, April 12th

**Unit:** Outreach and Church Mission I  
**Topic:** Prison Ministry, Small Groups  
**Guest:** The Rev. Steve Chinlund  
**Pre-Reading:** *Prison Transformations: The System, The Prisoners, and Me (Chapters TBD)*  
**Due Today:** TBD (by GL)

### Wednesday, April 19th

**Unit:** Congregational Growth / Future VI  
**Topic:** A Diocesan / Polity Perspective  
**Guest:** The Rev. Canon Greg Jacobs, Canon to the Ordinary, Diocese of Newark  
**Pre-Reading:** (TBD, GJ)  
**Due Today:** (TBD, GJ)

### Wednesday, April 26th

**Unit:** Outreach and Church Mission II  
**Topic:** Community Organizing and Homelessness  
**Guest:** The Rev. Winnie Varghese, Trinity Wall Street (*to be confirmed*)  
**Pre-Reading:** 'Dasani,' NYT Series  
**Due Today:** Supervisor Interview: Outreach / Mission

### Wednesday, May 01st

**Final Class, Wrap-Up, Course Evaluation, Paper Discussion**

**FINAL PAPER:** Due Tuesday, May 16th at Midnight (via email)  
2,500 - 3,000 words, i.e. 10-12 Pages  
Topic TBD (by GL)