Praxis: Personal & Community Formation
PAX 507
Fall 2020
CJP Synchronous Online Course
Fridays, 1-2 p.m. EST

INSTRUCTORS’ INFORMATION:

Talibah Aquil, M.A.
Talibah.Aquil@emu.edu
Meetings by appointment

Sidney Morgan, M.A. candidate
Graduate Teaching Assistant
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Meetings by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
This pass/fail course for MA in Transformation Leadership (MATL) students contributes to creating a foundation for the student’s personal development and supports the development of the learning community that supports students throughout their time at CJP and beyond. Learning in a community is a key brand differentiator for CJP. This course supports that community process while also supporting each student individually. This online course will include some one-on-one coaching from the instructors, as well as small group and class reflection and learning activities. This course will explore themes of identity, vocation, purpose, community creation and professional development.

COURSE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:
● What is my purpose / vocation and how am I working (or not) to fulfill this vocation/purpose?
● How do I bring my gifts and talents to meet the needs of this world?
● What are my personal and professional goals for this semester? Beyond this semester?
● What does discernment mean? How do I personally engage in discernment?
● What are my personal values and how do I “show up” in my various communities
REQUIRED TEXTS AND OTHER RESOURCES:
Required readings will be posted on course Moodle site for each week. For personal and professional development, students may choose to purchase the following books used in this course:

- Ruth, King (2018). *Mindful of Race: Transforming Racism from the inside out*. Denver, CO: Sounds True Publisher. (p.23-34,45-70,73-77)
  
  **Read**: White identified students: Chapt. 1, 4,7,12 & 16
  
  **Read**: Black identified/POC Students: Chapt. 1, 5,12,18 &15

REQUIRED ASSIGNMENTS:
Weekly responses to the assigned readings using the 4 A’s Protocol Provided in Moodle
In this course we want you to consider in depth, the readings. We want you to develop a critical lens for your identity and the work you are doing in the world. The 4 A’s protocol is developed for you to go deeper in the assigned reading, and offer your personal responses, as well as responding to at least two other students in the course.

Final Arts Based Presentation
Create a 6-10 minute presentation telling your story using the themes from this course.

These are brief descriptions of required graded assignments for the course. More details for each assignment can be found on the “Guidance Notes” that will be provided in class.

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SCHEDULE AND TOPICS:
A general outline of the course schedule and topics follows. Specific reading assignments will be on the course Moodle site.

Week 1: September 4 — Identity
Week 2: September 11 — Belonging, purpose, self-assessment, Love
Week 3: September 18 — Self-care, racial affinity space
Week 4: September 25 — Community
Week 5: October 2 — Culture, Introduction to Emergent Strategy
Week 6: October 9 — Pod Mapping activity
Week 7: October 16 — Leadership: Adaptive model
Week 8: October 23 — Fall Break
Week 9: October 30 — Continue Conversation around Leadership
Week 10: November 6 — Strategies and stories from the Transformative Justice Movement
Week 11: November 13 — Story-Telling
Week 12: November 20 — Final Assignment Discussion
Week 13: November 27 — Thanksgiving Recess
Week 14: December 4 — Final Presentations
Week 15: December 11 — Final Presentations
Week 16: December 18 — Live Closing Circle
Supplemental Information for Course Syllabi: Last updated August 2020

Turnitin:
Students are accountable for the integrity of the work they submit. Thus, you should be familiar with EMU’s Academic Integrity Policy (see above) in order to meet the academic expectations concerning appropriate documentation of sources. In addition, EMU is using Turnitin, a learning tool and plagiarism prevention system. For CJP classes, you may be asked to submit your papers to Turnitin from Moodle.

Moodle:
Moodle is the online learning platform that EMU has chosen to provide to faculty, administrators and students. Students will have access to course information within Moodle for any class they are registered for in a given term. The amount of time a student has access to information before and after the class is somewhat dependent on the access given to students by the individual faculty member. However, please note that courses are not in Moodle permanently – after two years the class will no longer be accessible. Please be sure to download resources from Moodle that you wish to have ongoing access to.

Technology Requirements and Communication (if joining a class by zoom):
Communication will largely be accomplished via the Moodle platform utilized by EMU and your EMU email. Check both frequently during the semester. In addition, during class synchronous sessions, it will be expected that you will use a noise-reducing headset to minimize background noise and disruption. Remember to keep your headsets UNMUTED during the sessions and avoid moving, brushing, touching or fumbling with them as it creates unwanted noise in the class space.

Regarding feedback on papers/projects: Students can expect to receive papers/assignments back in a class with faculty feedback before the next paper/assignment is due. This commitment from faculty assumes that the student has turned the paper in on the agreed upon due date.

Library
The Hartzler Library offers research support (via e-mail, chat, phone, or SSC campus) and the library home page offers subject guides to help start your research.

Office of Academic Access:
If you have a physical, psychological, medical or learning disability that may impact your work in this course, it is your responsibility to contact the Office of Academic Access in the Academic Success Center on the third floor of the Hartzler Library. They will work with you to establish eligibility and to coordinate reasonable accommodations. All information and documentation is treated confidentially.

Class Attendance:
Students are expected to attend all class meetings. If unusual or emergency circumstances prevent class attendance, the student should notify the professor in advance if possible. Multiple absences from class will result in lower grades. The student is responsible for the material presented in classes missed (from EMU Graduate Catalog). Students should be aware of the importance of regular class attendance, particularly in the case of CJP classes that only meet once a week or over several weekends. Being absent for more than one class leads to a student missing a large portion of the class content. In addition to consistent class attendance, students should make every effort to arrive to class on time out of respect for the learning process, fellow students and faculty.
Course Extensions and Outstanding Grades:
For fall and spring semesters, all coursework is due by the end of the semester. If a student will not be able to complete a course on time, the student must submit a request one week before the end of the semester for an extension (up to 6 months), by emailing the instructor, academic advisor and the Academic Program Coordinator. If the request is granted the student will receive an “I” (incomplete) for the course which will later be replaced by a final grade when the work has been turned in on the agreed upon date. If the request for an extension is denied, the student will receive a grade for the work that has been completed up until the time the course was expected to have been completed. If no work has been submitted, the final grade will be an F (or W under unusual circumstances and with permission of the Program Director). Extensions will be given only for legitimate and unusual situations. Extensions are contracted by the student with the program for up to a maximum of 6 months after the deadline for the course work. PLEASE NOTE: Grades for coursework submitted late may be reduced at the instructor’s discretion and in line with their course policy on turning in coursework after the due date. If the extension deadline is not met, the instructor will submit the final grade based on what has been received to date.

Inclusive, Community-Creating Language Policy:
Eastern Mennonite University expects all its faculty, staff, and students to adopt inclusive written and spoken language that welcomes everyone regardless of race or ethnicity, gender, disabilities, age, and sexual orientation. We will use respectful and welcoming language in all our official departmental documents and correspondence, including those put forth by way of Internet communication, and throughout all academic coursework, inclusive of classroom presentations and conversations, course syllabi, and both written and oral student assessment materials (see CJP Student Resources moodle page or request a complete copy along with best practices from the Academic Program Coordinator).

Title IX:
The following policy applies to any incidents that occur (on or off campus) while you are a student registered at EMU. It does not apply if you are talking about incidents that happened prior your enrollment at EMU. It is important for you to know that all faculty and staff members are required to report known or alleged incidents of sexual violence (including sexual assault, domestic/relationship violence, stalking). That means that faculty and staff members cannot keep information about sexual violence confidential if you share that information with them. For example, if you inform a faculty or staff member of an issue of sexual harassment, sexual assault, or discrimination he/she will keep the information as private as he/she can, but is required to bring it to the attention of the institution’s Title IX Coordinator. You can also report incidents or complaints through the online portal. You may report, confidentially, incidents of sexual violence if you speak to Counseling Services counselors, Campus Ministries’ pastors, or Health Services personnel providing clinical care. These individuals, as well as the Title IX Coordinator, can provide you with information on both internal & external support resources. Please refer to the Student Handbook for additional policies, information, and resources available to you.

Academic Program Policies:
For EMU graduate program policies and more CJP-specific graduate program policies, please see the complete graduate catalog.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>A excellent</th>
<th>B adequate expectations</th>
<th>C below expectations</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Content</strong> (quality of the information, ideas and supporting details)</td>
<td>• shows clarity of purpose • offers depth of content • applies insight and represents original thinking • follows guidelines for content</td>
<td>• shows some clarity of purpose • offers some depth of content • applies some insight and some original thinking • mostly follows guidelines for content</td>
<td>• shows minimal clarity of purpose • offers minimal depth of content or incorrect content • applies minimal insight and original thinking • does not follow guidelines for content</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Structure</strong> (logical order or sequence of the writing)</td>
<td>• shows coherence, and logically developed paragraphs • uses very effective transitions between ideas and sections • constructs appropriate introduction and conclusion</td>
<td>• shows some coherence and some logically developed paragraphs • uses some effective transitions between ideas &amp; sections • shows some construction of appropriate introduction and conclusion</td>
<td>• shows minimal coherence and logically developed paragraphs • uses minimal transitions between ideas and sections</td>
<td>• shows minimal construction of appropriate introduction and conclusion</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Rhetoric and Style</strong> (appropriate attention to audience)</td>
<td>• is concise, eloquent and rhetorically effective • effectively uses correct, varied and concise sentence structure • is engaging to read • writes appropriately for audience and purpose</td>
<td>• is somewhat concise, eloquent, and rhetorically effective • generally uses correct, varied, and concise sentence structure • is somewhat engaging to read • generally writes appropriately for audience and purpose</td>
<td>• shows minimal conciseness, eloquence, and rhetorical effectiveness • uses incorrect, monotonous or simplistic sentence structure</td>
<td>• is not engaging to read • lacks appropriate writing for audience and purpose • uses inappropriate jargon and clichés</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Information Literacy</strong> (locating, evaluating, and using effectively the needed information as appropriate to assignment)</td>
<td>• uses academic and reliable sources • chooses sources from many types of resources • chooses timely resources for the topic • integrates references and quotations to support ideas fully</td>
<td>• uses mostly academic and reliable sources • chooses sources from a moderate variety of types of resources • chooses resources with mostly appropriate dates • integrates references and quotations to provide some support for ideas</td>
<td>• lacks academic and reliable sources • chooses sources from a few types of resources • chooses a few resources with inappropriate dates • integrates references or quotations that are loosely linked to the ideas of the paper</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Source Integrity</strong> (appropriate acknowledgment of sources used in research)</td>
<td>• correctly cites sources for all quotations • cites paraphrases correctly and credibly • includes reference page • makes virtually no errors in documentation style • makes virtually no errors in formatting • incorporates feedback given in previous written assignments</td>
<td>• correctly cites sources for most quotations • usually cites paraphrases correctly and credibly • includes reference page with some errors • makes some errors in documentation style • makes some errors in formatting • incorporates some feedback given in previous written assignments</td>
<td>• provides minimal sources for quotations • sometimes cites paraphrases correctly and credibly • includes reference page with many errors • makes many errors in documentation style • makes many errors in formatting • lacks incorporation of feedback given in previous written assignments</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Conventions</strong> (adherence to grammar rules: usage, spelling &amp; mechanics of Standard Edited English or SEE)</td>
<td>• makes virtually no errors in SEE conventions • makes accurate word choices</td>
<td>• makes some errors SEE conventions • almost always makes accurate word choices</td>
<td>• makes many errors in SEE conventions • makes many inaccurate word choices</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The weighting of each of the six areas is dependent on the specific written assignment and the teacher’s preference. Plagiarism occurs when one presents as one’s own “someone else’s language, ideas, or other original (not common-knowledge) material without acknowledging its source” (adapted from Council of Writing Program Administrators).

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CRITERIA</th>
<th>A – Excellent</th>
<th>B – Minimal expectations</th>
<th>C – Below expectations</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Goals &amp; Audience</td>
<td>-audience &amp; goals/learning objectives clearly identified.</td>
<td>-audience and goals identified though not as clearly as they could be</td>
<td>-audience and goals inappropriate or inadequately identified</td>
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<td>-project appropriate for, and likely to meet, its goals</td>
<td>-project may meet its goals but this is not entirely clear - project is at least somewhat appropriate for, and likely to communicate to audience.</td>
<td>-project unlikely to meet its goals and/or communicate to the audience.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>-project is appropriate for specified audience</td>
<td>-project is at least somewhat appropriate for, and likely to communicate to audience.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>-project understandable to &amp; likely to engage and/or communicate to audience</td>
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<td>Methodsology</td>
<td>-project incorporates &amp; incorporates inquiry methods required by the assignnment</td>
<td>-methodology basically appropriate to the project and appropriately used, but could be strengthened</td>
<td>-methodology inadequate and/or inadequately articulated.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>-all methodologies &amp; technologies have been appropriately used, with attention to ethical and methodological issues</td>
<td>-sources and methods identified but not as fully as they could be</td>
<td>-sources not appropriately identified</td>
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<td></td>
<td>-if intended as intervention or advocacy, project has given adequate thought to implementation - sources &amp; methods are adequately identified</td>
<td>-more thought should be given to implementation issues</td>
<td>-inadequate attention to implementation issues</td>
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<tr>
<td>Analysis</td>
<td>- evidence of critical thinking about methods, sources, information and analysis or editing.</td>
<td>- some evidence of critical thinking but could be stronger</td>
<td>-inadequate evidence of critical thinking</td>
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<td></td>
<td>-uses analysis/editing methods appropriate for the project - method of analysis or editing is adequately articulated</td>
<td>-analytical approach and the analysis itself is basically appropriate but could be stronger and/or articulated better.</td>
<td>-analysis lacking or inadequate</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>-analytic approach inappropriate or inadequately specified</td>
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<tr>
<td>Craft &amp; Coherence</td>
<td>- level of craft is clearly adequate for the audience &amp; to meet project goals (whether or not it meets “artistic” standards)</td>
<td>-level of craft is minimally adequate for the audience and goals</td>
<td>-level of craft inadequate for purposes and/or audience</td>
<td>-project is not coherent</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>-project coherence could be stronger</td>
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Criteria for Evaluating Arts-Based Peacebuilding Projects

Background notes:

- Arts approaches can be used in several different stages of a project:
  1. To gain or create knowledge. (For example, research “subjects” or participants might be engaged in an arts-based project as a way of soliciting information or encouraging insight.)
  2. To add complexity or nuance to created knowledge. (For example, an arts practice may serve as one method in a multi-method research project, creating an integrated, reflective methodology for the project. Alternatively, an arts practice could be used to analyze and/or interpret data collected by conventional methods.)
  3. To test knowledge. (For example, researchers might verify their interpretation of findings from a more traditional research process by creating a play or exhibit and testing it for resonance with their subjects.)
  4. To share findings. (For example, a play or exhibit might be created to (re)-present data collected or analyzed via conventional methods in order to impart the particular kinds of meaning the researcher considers important, and as a way to reach and engage a broader audience.)
  5. As a form of intervention. (For example, a project might be designed to raise awareness of an issue or conflict, to promote dialogue on a contested issue, or to advocate for a cause.)

- Arts-based products often do not specify methodologies used. Thus it may be important for a project to be accompanied by a short paper discussing analysis, theory of change, audience, goals, and methods used.

- Patricia Leavy, in “Method Meets Art: Arts-based Research Practice” (New York: Guilford Press) 2009, argues that “[t]raditional conceptions of validity and reliability, which developed out of positivism, are inappropriate for evaluating artistic inquiry.” (p. 15). She suggests that authenticity, trustworthiness, and validity can be assessed through attention to such elements as aesthetics, resonance, and vigor.

- For a discussion of standards, see “Method Meets Art” (Leavy, 2009: 15ff and Chapter 8).

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| Specified goals and audience? Did it involve an appropriate amount of work? Does the final product have coherence and “resonance?” | - project is coherent & likely to resonate with the intended audience  
- product shows an appropriate amount of effort for this assignment | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Content Is the content appropriate & adequate, given the goals, audience & assignment? Is there evidence of insight, originality &/or creativity? | - information conveyed is clearly adequate for goals, audience & assignment - shows depth & breadth of content - shows insight, originality &/or creativity | - information conveyed is adequate but could be strengthened  
- some evidence of insight, originality, or creativity | - inadequate information  
- little or no evidence of insight, originality and/or creativity |