COURSE DESCRIPTION

An investigation and critique of metaphor in its broad definition as symbol, image, story and myth; the application of metaphor as a tool for approaching clients’ issues in living. Includes metaphors as they relate to issues of thinking, feeling, and the experience of spirituality. Class includes lecture, discussion, role play, demonstrations by students and instructor. Major emphasis is on analyzing and synthesizing self-awareness and the unique entity known as client.

RELATIONSHIP OF COURSE TO THE COUNSELOR TRAINING PROGRAM

The course includes readings and the gathering of new information. The course includes the use of metaphors as a technique or an intervention, however, the major purpose of HEALING METAPHORS is to sharpen awareness and skills already in place; to underscore the part being played by metaphoric processes in both clients and in counselors.

COURSE GOALS

1. Students will experientially become more aware of their own metaphoric packaging of past and present experiences and the consequent perceptions of past and present experiences.

2. Students will apply their growing perceptions of the metaphoric process to their counseling as this process is both reigned in and urged onward by empirical evidence and by sound theory, as well as by their own self-ordered course correction. In short, to know and to apply a process of analyzing and of synthesizing metaphoric communication in the service of client growth.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. To analyze metaphors in literature and in non-religious literature, and to work experientially with some of these identified metaphors.

2. To define, compare, and contrast various kinds of metaphors.

3. To experience and to conceptualize the force of metaphoric language and forms in the language of philosophy and of theology.

4. To experience and to conceptualize the significance of client-generated metaphors.
5. To develop guidelines for using metaphors in the counseling or treatment process.

6. To recognize, encourage, and utilize client-generated metaphors as roads to changes in client perceiving and behaving.

EVALUATION

Evaluation is based largely on student participation in class, and on written feedback as assigned.

BIBLIOGRAPHY FOR METAPHOR COURSE


Humard, H. (1993). *Hinds’ feet on high places: An allegory dramatizing the journey each of us must take before we can live in “high places”*. Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House.


### Course Objectives Related to MAC Student Learning Outcomes

In order to measure the success of the MAC curriculum, RTS has defined the following as the intended outcomes of the student learning process. Each course contributes to these overall outcomes. This rubric shows the contribution of this course to the MAC outcomes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAC Student Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Rubric</th>
<th>Mini-Justification</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Articulation</strong></td>
<td>Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks.</td>
<td>Minimal</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Scripture</strong></td>
<td>Significant knowledge of the original meaning of Scripture. Also, the concepts for and skill to research further into the original meaning of Scripture and to apply Scripture to a variety of modern circumstances. (Includes appropriate use of original languages and hermeneutics; and integrates theological, historical, and cultural/global perspectives.)</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reformed Theology</strong></td>
<td>Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.</td>
<td>None</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sanctification</strong></td>
<td>Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student’s sanctification.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Desire for Worldview</strong></td>
<td>Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Winsomely Reformed</strong></td>
<td>Embraces a winsomely Reformed ethos. (Includes an appropriate ecumenical spirit with other Christians, especially Evangelicals; a concern to present the Gospel in a God-honoring manner to non-Christians; and a truth-in-love attitude in disagreements.)</td>
<td>Minimal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Preach</strong></td>
<td>Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.</td>
<td>None</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Worship</strong></td>
<td>Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service.</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Shepherd</strong></td>
<td>Ability to shepherd the local congregation: aiding in spiritual maturity; promoting use of gifts and callings; and encouraging a concern for non-Christians, both in America and worldwide.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Church/World</strong></td>
<td>Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.</td>
<td>None</td>
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</tbody>
</table>