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DS502 Anglican Diaconal Ministry Course Outline

This is a required course for the Diploma in Anglican Diaconal Studies, and as such focuses primarily on the ordained diaconate in the Anglican Church of Canada but will also cover the history and theology of *diakonia* throughout the Christian church. The course will cover the development of the diaconate from the early church onward, with particular focus on the restoration of the permanent diaconate, and current issues related to the role and ministry of the ordained deacon.

COMPETENCE OBJECTIVES

1. demonstrate understanding of the role of the deacon as it has developed throughout Christian history
2. demonstrate theological understanding of the ministry of *diakonia* and the role of the ordained deacon in supporting the diaconal ministry of all the baptised
3. be able to describe the liturgical role of the deacon and the theological rationale for the various tasks
4. be clear on the expectations of the relationship of the deacon within a parish and to the diocese
5. can identify some of the current issues facing the church and how a deacon relates to those issues today and with regard toward the future.

FORMAT AND CONTENT

This class, scheduled for the January Interterm, will meet January 6-8 and January 11-13, 2021 from 2-5:30 pm. The entire class will be offered synchronously via zoom due to covid restrictions.

Content will include:

- history and role of the deacon in scripture and the early church and throughout christendom
- the expression of the diaconate through the 19th and 20th centuries leading to the

- restoration of the permanent diaconate in the late 20th century
- deacons in the liturgy in the Anglican Church of Canada
 - the role of the deacon in relation to the church and to the world
 - deacons and pastoral care
 - ordination vows, relationship to the bishop and to priests, and expectations of deacons from the Anglican church of Canada

READING

There are two required texts for the course:

(all books are available for purchase online as paperback or downloaded)

1. *Being a Deacon Today: Exploring a distinctive ministry in the Church and in the World.* By Rosalind Brown, Published in Norwich, UK: Canterbury Press, 2005
2. *Many Servants: An Introduction to Deacons,* By Ormonde Plater
Lanham, Maryland, USA: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2004

A third book is recommended but not required.

3. *Unexpected Consequences: The Diaconate Renewed,* By Susanne Watson Epting
New York, NY: Morehouse Publishing, 2015

Pre-reading required:

Being a Deacon Today, chapters 1 – 3, and chapters 7 - 9

Many Servants - Intro, chapters 1 &2

EVALUATION:

1. Interview of a Deacon and written summary of the interview
(due January 11)
2. Mapping Your Parish Neighbourhood (due January 29)
3. Term Paper (details to be given in class) due March 1

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

The Diaconate: A Full and Equal Order by James Monroe Barnett

The Servant Church: Diaconal Ministry and the Episcopal Church by John E. Booty

Being a Deacon Today by Rosalind Brown

The Deacon in the Church: Past and Future Edward P. Echlin

The Iona Report: The Diaconate in the Anglican Church of Canada, General Synod of the ACC, 2016

The Deacon's Ministry, Christine Hall, editor.

The Deacon: Ministry through Words of Faith and Acts of Love by Ben. L. Hartley and Paul E. Van Buren,

All Who Minister: New Ways of Serving God's People, edited by Maylanne Maybee

Deacons in the Liturgy by Ormonde Plater Morehouse Publishing: Harrisburg, Penn. 1992.