Hermeneutics and Communication

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Omega Graduate School

October 7, 2023

Professor

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Assignment #4 – Course Learning Journal

The journal is a written reflection of your learning journey while working in each course. The Learning Journal integrates the essential elements of the course within your professional field of interest. The objective of the course journal is to produce a degree of acculturation, integrating new ideas into your existing knowledge of each course. This is also an opportunity to communicate with your professor insights gained as a result of the course. The course learning journal should be 3-5 pages in length and should include the following sections:

1. Introduction –Summarize the intent of the course, how it fits into the graduate

program as a whole, and the relevance of its position in the curricular sequence.

2. Personal Growth - Describe your personal growth–how the course stretched or

challenged you– and your progress in mastery of course content and skills during

the week and through subsequent readings – what new insights or skills you gained.

3. Reflective Entry - Add a reflective entry that describes the contextualization (or

adaptation and relevant application) of new learning in your professional field.

What questions or concerns have surfaced about your professional field as a result of your study?

4. Conclusion – Evaluate the effectiveness of the course in meeting your professional, religious, and educational goals.

**1. Introduction**

The main intent of the course in Hermeneutics and Communications is to provide an orientation to the history, methodologies and main issues of Hermeneutics, which is the science of interpretation. The methodology of interpretation, principles and approaches of Hermeneutics are applied to Scripture interpretation, general interpretation of literary discourse, and hermeneutics of any cultural production including works of art.

The position of the course in the curricular sequence and engaging workshops, seminars, assignments and materials are relevant for achieving the outcomes of the graduate program. Studying the methodology of interpretation and engaging hermeneutics assumptions, analyzing its approaches, and applying the principles of interpretation in relevant assignments and through reading scholarly and research literature effectively contribute to developing and increasing skills of understanding and interpreting texts and written discourse, as well as critical thinking skills, that are essential for applying Christian worldview and social science to identify social issues, trends and problems in the professional field that can be resolved or transformed through "the positive influence of religious truths, values, and principles." (Omega Graduate School, 2023)

**2. Personal Growth**

As for personal growth, to begin with, I would like to say that I have been familiar with the principles of hermeneutics before, as the principles of interpretation are closely related to the theory of Russian literature. "The research methodology, presented in the Serial Scientific Edition Hermeneutics of Old Russian Literature, is based primarily on the explanation of phenomena, their connection with social thought, the psychology of literary creativity, history..." (Russian Academy of Sciences, 2021). But, the key difference is that a hermeneutic perspective involves understanding a phenomenon, event or text within its context, and recognizing that interpretation is influenced and shaped by personal pre-judgements, assumptions and pre-understanding, which for me are related to Christian truths and values, whereas in the theory of Russian literature, it is suggested that in the interpretation one should heed the arguments and views formulated by the authorities or the media which are generally interrelated. For me a new insight is that there are recognized and respected academics who share my point of view.

**3. Reflective Entry**

With regard to my practice and academic research, there are problems and questions of evidence that we have to provide in support of arguments and interpretation. When we turn to a historical example or event, it is very important to study it thoroughly and interpret an event hermeneutically considering its historical context, personalities involved, their worldviews, and taking into account any pre-judgements. In this respect, we need to refer to and study primary sources carefully to avoid being held hostage by the wrong opinion. This requires a lot of time, effort and hard work.

**4.** **Conclusion**

With regard to meeting my professional, religious, and educational goals, the course is highly effective. The most important thing is that I feel responsible for every word addressed to an audience. Every idea, statement and argument should be based on beliefs, facts and true interpretations, as it is only then that our words and statements will reach the goal and hearts and minds of our listeners.

**WORKS CITED**

Omega Graduate School (2023) COM 803-22 Syllabus. Hermeneutics and Communications. Fall 2023.

Russian Academy of Sciences - A.M. Gorky Institute of World Literature (2021) *The serial scientific edition Hermeneutics of old Russian literature*. <https://www.scimagojr.com/journalsearch.php?q=21101079111&tip=sid&clean=0>