Faith-Learning Integration & Interdisciplinary Studies

Carrie Hayashida

Omega Graduate School

February 17, 2022

Professor

Dr. David Ward

Assignment #1 – Course Essential Elements

1. Select One (1) Core Essential Element from the Syllabus Outline:

a. Create a 350-word original discussion paper (with cited sources) during the first week of the term. Post this document in DIAL.

b. Professor will check for quality of content and word-count requirements. Grade assigned will be Credit or No Credit (CR/NC).

The Essential Element (EE) I have chosen is “Learning…to Change the World”, the faith-integrated learning approach that originated at OGS. Three reasons for choosing this EE include: 1) adaptability to other educational, as well as professional learning levels, 2) provides a learning process that culminates with direction to impact social change, and 3) “provides a faith-learning integrated basis for the unity of knowledge” (Ward, 2014, p.5).

As a Christian Career Coach, I consult with individuals that do not know the career they are called to. The last student I worked with was told by his high school counselor to go into computer science because he was good at math. My consultation with him found computer science was #29 on the list of careers, but identified his top career in the medical field. Another recent student, a high school junior, had taken many different assessments, but still felt lost and was “stuck” because of the high stress associated with “not knowing” what career field to choose.

Several recent studies indicate today’s youth are extremely stressed about their future. A 2023 study by Pamela Olivera, et al found “a negative relationship between academic stress and the mental health of university students” (p. 17). As I listened to Os Guinness discuss “calling”, I thought of all the students around the world that feel lost and I feel called to help people find their calling.

Since Perrin (2023) found “vocation and calling programs give students tools for helping them discern a vocation” (89), I am inspired to study students who I work with to determine if my work should be taught to others and scaled to reach more students. Perrin’s results support my belief that the work I do can reduce students' stress levels and better prepare them for college. The DSL project I plan to complete is a training program that incorporates my career coaching. I do plan to transition to the PhD program and hopefully can study the impact of my career coaching on students as a research topic. Now, I must keep “Learning… to Change the World”.

Work Cited

Córdova Olivera, P., G. G., P., Mejía, H. N., Taborga, I. L. F., Chacón, A. G, & Unzueta, A. S. (2023). Academic stress as a predictor of mental health in university students.[*Cogent Education*](https://www.proquest.com/docview/2902247354/A9454F1332864652PQ/4?accountid=40162&sourcetype=Scholarly%20Journals)*, 10*(2)<https://doi.org/10.1080/2331186X.2023.2232686>

Perrin, T. (2023). The Taylor Paper: God and Vocation in Christian Higher Education.[*Christian Scholar's Review*](https://www.proquest.com/docview/2860383876/866891BC677F4DE7PQ/1?accountid=40162&sourcetype=Scholarly%20Journals)*, 52*(4), 89-102. <https://www.proquest.com/scholarly-journals/taylor-paper-god-vocation-christian-higher/docview/2860383876/se-2>

Ward, D. C. (2014). INTERDISCIPLINARY FAITH - LEARNING INTEGRATION FOR SOCIAL CHANGE.[*Journal of Interdisciplinary Studies*](https://www.proquest.com/docview/1637740157/fulltextPDF/E0D2EB21FA90480BPQ/1?accountid=40162&sourcetype=Scholarly%20Journals)*, 26*(1), 29-56. https://www.proquest.com/scholarly-journals/interdisciplinary-faith-learning-integration/docview/1637740157/se-2