

**Theological Field Education
Syllabus**Fall Semester 2020
The Rev. Canon Allisyn Thomas

**Course Description:** Theological Field Education (TFE) seeks to integrate and expand upon students’ academic studies; their understanding of mission, ministry and leadership in the church; and personal journey of faith with hands on experience in a field placement setting.

**Course Mission:** Through on-site experience and classroom exploration, TFE seeks to make theology, and by extension, God real

**Course Objectives:** 1. To help students gain hands on ministry experience through placement at a religious site other than their sponsoring parish for 5 hours a week, including worship; 2) To critically engage reading material aimed at helping students grow in their ability to serve God’s mission and the church in these times; 3) To help students further develop their leadership capacities; 4) To help students in their own discernment as to where God is calling them to serve.

**Reading:** *Canoeing the Mountains, Christian Leadership in Unchartered Territory* (expanded version) by Tod Bolsinger. InterVaristy Press, 2015

*Uproar, Calm Leadership in Anxious Times* by Peter L. Steinke. Rowman & Littlefield, 2019.

Prior to each class session, students shall submit a 1 paper to the Director of TFE indicating what they saw as the key concept(s) in the reading and how, if at all, the materials spoke to them given their field placement sites.

# Procedures and Grading: There will be 8 class sessions at a time convenient to the students and Director of Field Education. Each class will be 2 hours and held by Zoom. Grading will be based on completion of Learning Goals developed between the student and supervisor at the field education site, approved by the Director of Field Education; completion of the reading and class assignments, class participation, and a final paper.

**Part One:
Week of September 5:** *Canoeing the Mountains,* Chapters 1-4

**Week of September 19:** *Canoeing the Mountains,* Chapters 5-8

**Week of October 3:** *Canoeing the Mountains,* Chapters 9-12

**Week of October 17:** *Canoeing the Mountains,* Chapters 13-Epilogue

**Part Two:
Week of October 31:** *Uproar,* Introduction—Part 1

**Week of November 14:** *Uproar,* Part 2

**Week of November 28:** *Uproar,* Part 3

**Week of December 5:** *Uproar,* Part 4 and Postscript

**Final:** Given the field education experience and class materials, each student is to write a 5 to 7 page reflection paper outlining what the student sees as the primary leadership challenges facing the church at this time and how they can be addressed. This is to be a practical paper with concrete examples.

The Rev. Canon Allisyn Thomas
athomas@stbartschurch.org
619.829.2887