

Continuing Studies Seminar in Family and Congregational Systems

Applying Bowen Family Systems Theory in the arenas of family, faith, community, and society

Synchronous online, October 2023 - May 2024



OBJECTIVES

Bowen theory has attracted increasing attention from leaders serving in congregations and faith-based organizations who seek to utilize systems thinking in their practice of care and counseling, congregational leadership, and within their own family units. Systems theory offers a different way to observe and analyze human relationships. Developing a deeper understanding of one's own family system propels on-going development and effectiveness in other relationship systems, including in one's leadership in organizations.

PROGRAM

The Continuing Studies Seminar is intended for those with some acquaintance with Bowen Theory who wish to deepen their learning. The program includes:

- monthly topical Zoom lectures and discussion
- monthly facilitated group discussion & participant presentations
- monthly individual coaching/consultation sessions
- Readings, video recordings, & writing prompts to integrate learning with practice

FOCUS TOPICS

- Family Emotional Process and the Self
- Nuclear Family Emotional System
- The (not so) Simple Emotional Triangle
- Family Projection Process and Sibling Position
- The Multigenerational Transmission Process
- Subtle Layers of Distance and Cutoff
- The Process of Differentiation of Self
- Bowen Theory, Faith, and Functioning

TUITION

Thanks to the generous support of the Lilly Foundation's Thriving in Ministry Grant, students' reduced rate is only **\$360** (70% discount of full \$1200 cost).

APPLICATION

Please direct questions and application requests to Dr. Kenton Derstine, (derstine@emu.edu) or visit emu.edu/seminary/continuing-ed

MORE INFO



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