**Learning Agreement -- Contract**

**Guidelines:**

I will provide each student written feedback on assignments, but all students will evaluate their own work in the course and assign themselves a grade. By the end of the second week you should have a clearer picture of the expectations of this course. Use the Learning Agreement Assessment Tool (next page) to construct your learning agreement contract.

This is a narrative description of your intentions for fulfilling all of the course requirements as they are delineated in the syllabus.

After reading the syllabus and course assignments, reflect upon how you will be engaged in this class, what you want to learn, and how you want to approach each project. Use the Learning Agreement Assessment Tool (next page) to describe how you will evaluate what you have done in each of these areas by the end of the course.

This agreement is not written in stone. It is a statement of intention. It is normal if your intentions change. If there is significant change or confusion on your part about fulfilling these intentions, all you need to do is communicate with me.

**One of the principals that I abide by is that we have the opportunity to practice now how we want to be in the future. So being engaged in class is a way of practicing how you want to be engaged in your life and as a community leader. Thus, I encourage you to include in your learning agreement personal challenge goals around being an engaged student (for example: time management, more insightful participation in discussions, listening more, critical reflection on what you are learning, journaling).**

The learning agreement will serve as a learning contract between you and me, and with yourself.**This learning agreement can be as long or as short as you wish in order to communicate your intentions.** You may not be completely sure of how you will approach each project, but you can indicate what you want to be leaning. At the end of the tool, please tell me what grade you intend to achieve. Your agreement is not complete unless you indicate the grade you intend to achieve.

Note: For your reference, I have provided percentages for the various course requirements. These percentages are based on a 100 percent grading system. In a traditional class, these percentages would translate to the following letter grade evaluation. You can use this as a reference point in your goal setting and in evaluating yourself, if you find it useful.

**1) Substantive Class Engagement       30%**   **2) Vital Theme Presentation 10%**

**3) Faith Formation Resource                   20%**

**4) Questions                                               10%**

**4) Final Paper                                         30%   
Total:                                                       100%**

Suggested Grade Scale based on 100%

A 100 – 95 “A” Work of exceptionally high or superior quality

A- 94 – 90

B+ 89 – 86 “B” Good, not just average or adequate quality

B 85 – 82

B- 81 – 79

C+ 78 – 75

C 74 – 71 “C” Adequate, average or passing

C- 70 – 67

D 66 “D” Only meets minimal requirements, but shows potential for growth

F 55 “F” Doesn’t meet minimal standards and/or plagiarized work

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**Learning Agreement Assessment Tool:**

Review the course requirements and assignments to help you think about what goals you have for your learning in this course:

**Course Requirements/Assignments**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. Prepare to critically engage each week by completing assigned readings | No % but critical for other engagement |
| 1. Weekly Substantive Engagement in Discussions: Participate in weekly discussion forums by establishing a regular and respectful online presence, including integrating reading into your responses and responding to your peers in ways that contribute to dialogue. Help contribute to the intellectual and spiritual space through sharing thoughts and getting to know others. | 30% |
| 1. Vital Theme Presentation: | 10% |
| 1. Faith Formation Resource: | 10% |
| 1. Mid Term Paper | 20% |
| 1. Final Paper | 30% |
| 1. Learning Agreement and Final Self Evaluation | No % but required for final grade |

**Learning Agreement -- Contract: Due Week 2**

Write a brief narrative regarding your intention in each area and any personal goals you have. You may use the following questions if they help you.

Prompt Questions for Learning Goals:

* What is your intention regarding each course requirement?
* What do you want to learn and how will you achieve that goal?
* How will you how you will evaluate how you have done?
* What personal goals do you have that will help you achieve these goals?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| What is your Goal for Final Percentage/Grade  (What grade do you intend to earn?) |  |