



SAS 511 – Trends in Contemporary Society – 2Credits/3ceu

Instructor Name	Rev. E. J. Niles
Office Hours	Monday and Tuesday 1-2, Thursday 9-11, or by appointment
Telephone	816-347 5528
E-Mail	nilesej@unityonline.org ; ejniles@kc.rr.com
Required Texts	Cox, Harvey (2009) <i>The Future of Faith</i> . NY: Harper Collins
Other Required Reading	Articles on reserve in the Unity Library or available on-line.
Recommended Texts	Tickle, Phyllis, (2008) <i>The Great Emergence</i> , Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books

Course Description

Contemporary social, historical and spiritual trends are explored in this course. The purpose of the course is for future ministers to see where Unity and ministry intersect with today's social milieu.

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Become aware of ways to think about the future in order to assess trends
2. Identify significant trends in contemporary culture which may impact a minister or ministry in the future
3. Analyze trends that affect current spiritually related issues in contemporary society.

Assignments

Candidates will conduct research on one aspect of a significant trend and document it in a 15 page paper, using Chicago Style format, and present their findings to the class. The candidate may choose the method of presentation.

A detailed syllabus will be available the first week of class. In preparation for the first class read pages 1-6 of the article that can be accessed online at the following website address:

<http://www.aacc.edu/future/file/Art%20of%20Foresight.pdf>