

SYLLABUS

Leadership and Healthy Church Growth PMEV 8301

**A Professional Doctoral Seminar
Dr. Steve Echols
July 30- August 1, 2008**

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NOBTS Mission Statement

The mission of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is to equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

NOBTS Core Purpose, Core Values, and Curriculum Competencies Addressed

The purpose of this course is to carry out the mission of NOBTS as is reflected through the core values and the core competencies in the following ways:

Core Values

1. Doctrinal Integrity- The course will follow the confessional commitments that are outlined in the Articles of Religious Belief and the Baptist Faith and Message 2000.
2. Spiritual Vitality- The professor will teach that leadership without spiritual vitality is ineffective for the Kingdom of God.
3. Mission focus- The mission focus of the course will center on leadership in the local church.
4. Characteristic Excellence- The professor will teach that leadership is a service to Christ and therefore should be rendered with characteristic excellence.
5. Servant Leadership- The professor will teach that servant leadership is the supreme model of leadership.

Core Competencies- The seminar will address four of the seven competencies.

1. Biblical Exposition- The students will utilize biblical principles in evaluating leadership models.
2. Disciple Making- Students will consider the importance of the discipleship in leadership.
3. Interpersonal Skills- The professor will challenge students to see the vital connection between interpersonal skills and leadership.
4. Servant Leadership- Students will examine leadership styles in light of the revelation of servant leadership as taught by Jesus.

Course Description

The purpose of this seminar is to lead students to explore biblical and contextual factors of leadership with specific application to the setting of the local church. Seminar participants will assess their own leadership qualities and the leadership designs of their church in order to develop strategies for improving the effectiveness of both.

Course Objectives

At the conclusion of this seminar students will have demonstrated competency to:

1. Apply selected issues of leadership that affect healthy church growth to their own ministry setting through knowledge of course texts and other seminar content.
2. Understand contextual factors of leadership that are specific to a local church setting.
3. Reflect theologically in developing biblical responses to leadership issues that affect healthy church growth.
4. Develop an action plan for enhancing leadership as it relates to healthy church growth in a particular local church setting.

Course Methodology and Information

The course will utilize the textbooks, book reviews, case studies, seminar presentations by the professor and students, and integrated subject papers to create learning opportunities for practical applications of the course materials to the various ministry settings of the students.

Required Textbooks:

Students may contact the LifeWay store on the NOBTS campus for assistance in getting the following books at the student discount rate. The number is 504-282-2626. If for some reason they are not available at the LifeWay store on the NOBTS campus in New Orleans, then students will find them available at various online book services. Since time is very limited before the seminar starts, students are urged to secure these books immediately.

Blackaby, Henry and Richard Blackaby. *Spiritual Leadership: Moving People on to God's Agenda*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 2001 ISBN- 080541845-8

Getz, Gene A. *The Measure of a Healthy Church: How God Defines Greatness in a Church*. Chicago: Moody Pub., 2007 ISBN 13-978-8024-5124-8

Herrington, Jim, Mike Bonem, and James H. Furr. *Leading Congregational Change: A Practical Guide for the Transformational Journey*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2000. ISBN- 0-7879-4765-2

Nappa, Mike. *Who Moved My Church?* Tulsa, Ok., RiverOak Pub., 2001. ISBN 1-58919-990-1

Young, Ed. *The Creative Leader: Unleashing the Power of Your Creative Potential*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 2006. ISBN 978-0-8054-3177-3.

*****The following workbook is required only for directed study students.*****

Furr, James H., Mike Bonem, and Jim Herrington. *Leading Congregational Change Workbook*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2000. ISBN 0-7879-4885-3

Course Requirements

Note: Due to office time and copying cost, assignments **will not be accepted** (except assignment number 3) by e-mail. They must be mailed in with a postmark no later than the due date. **Students desiring to receive papers back will need to provide a large self-addressed postage-paid envelope.** Send all assignments to: **Dr. Steve Echols, 304 Brookhaven Way, Canton, Ga. 30114**

Pre-Seminar Assignments:

- 1) Students will read *Spiritual Leadership: Moving People on to God's Agenda* by Henry and Richard Blackaby, and *The Creative Leader* by Ed Young, Jr. and be prepared to discuss these books in the seminar.
- 2) Students will write a four-page (double-spaced) application of *Leading Congregational Change* by Herrington, Bonem, and Furr to their ministry settings. This paper is not to be a summary but should deal with how the principles in the book do or do not apply to your ministry setting. Do not put any information about the authors. Use Turabian format but first person is permitted. **Due Date: Postmarked by July 18.**
- (3) The student will write a one-page (double-spaced) case study out of the student's ministry experience that relates to the topics covered in any or all of the course textbooks. The student should be prepared to present this case study. **Due Date: Bring a copy to the seminar and email to sechols@nobts.edu by July 25.**
- 4) The student will read *Who Moved My Church?* and will write a one-page (double-spaced) case study of an incident from the student's personal experience or one that the student is acquainted with that relates to the textbook. The student will have great freedom in deciding what to use as a case study. Obviously, any example of a reluctance or willingness to change would be ideal. The student should be prepared to present this case study in the seminar. This assignment may be done in informal style. **Due Date: Postmarked by July 18.**
- 5) The student will read *The Measure of a Healthy Church* and will write a four-page evaluation of how their church relates to the topics that Getz discusses in each of the ten chapters. Response to each chapter can vary in length but there should be at least four of five sentences for each chapter. **Due Date: Postmarked by July 18.**

Post-seminar Assignments:

- (6) The student will write a three-page (double-spaced) response to *Spiritual Leadership: Moving People on to God's Agenda* by Henry and Richard Blackaby. This is not to be a summary, but instead note how the material in the book related to your own ministry leadership strengths and weaknesses. Do not give any information about the authors. Use Turabian format but first person is permitted. **Due Date: Postmarked by August 29.**
- 7) Students will write a three-page(double spaced) reaction to how the principles in *The Creative Leader* would work or not work in their current ministry setting. Do not give any information about the author. Use Turabian format but first person is permitted. **Due Date: Read the book by the Thursday meeting of the seminar (July 26). Send in review with other post-seminar assignments to be postmarked by August 29.**

- 8) The student will write a six to eight-page (double spaced) action plan in regard to some of the issues of leadership that affect healthy church growth that were addressed in the seminar. The format will include goals, a rationale for each goal, specific objectives for each goal, and a time frame and a plan to implement each specific objective. **The assignment must be postmarked by August 29.**

- 9) The student will send in a reading report form listing all reading done for this course. Including the textbooks, the minimum number of pages to be read is twelve hundred. Readings must be from the bibliography listed unless given prior approval by the professor. **The assignment must be postmarked by August 29.**

Directed Study Requirements: THESE REQUIREMENTS ARE ONLY FOR THE STUDENTS THAT ARE TAKING THE SEMINAR BY DIRECTED STUDY (THOSE STUDENTS WHO ARE NOT ATTENDING THE SEMINAR SESSIONS). THESE ASSIGNMENTS ARE NOT FOR THOSE WHO ARE ATTENDING THE SEMINAR SESSIONS

- (1) Directed study students will complete all pre-seminar assignments and will postmark them by the listed due date.

- (2) Directed study students will omit the action plan post-seminar assignment but instead will utilize the *Leading Congregational Change Workbook* for the following assignment: The student will utilize the materials in the workbook to do a comprehensive analysis of the change process in his or her setting of ministry. Each chapter should be addressed with a minimum of one or two paragraphs as to its relevance to the student's ministry. For those chapters that are particularly pertinent to the student's ministry, specific activities at the end of the chapters should be selectively employed. If there is a lack of time for implementation, the student should simply report on the intended plan for carrying out the action. (When answering questions, please restate the questions and note their location in the workbook.) This assignment should be a minimum of twenty-five double spaced pages (including the questions which can be restated or rephrased). This assignment must be postmarked no later than August 29.

- (3) Directed study students will also send in a reading report with a minimum of twelve hundred pages read for the course (including the textbooks). However, directed study students must also turn in two additional book reviews other than the textbooks. These reviews must come from the attached bibliography. These are to be a minimum of three pages each and are to be reviewed according to their relevance to the student's ministry field. This assignment must be postmarked no later than August 29.

Course Evaluation

In Residence Seminar Students:

Reading Report and Case Studies	15%
Response to Young	15%
Response to Blackabys	15%
Herrington Application	15%
Getz Application	15%
Post-seminar Paper	25%

Directed Study Seminar Students:

Reading Report and Case Studies	10%
Herrington Application	10%
Response to Blackaby	10%
Response to	10%
Response to Getz	15%
2 Post-Seminar Book Reviews	20%
Work Book Assignment	25%

ALL ASSIGNMENTS TURNED IN LATE WILL RECEIVE A MINIMUM OF A ONE LETTER GRADE REDUCTION

Selected Bibliography

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Anderson, Leith. *Leadership That Works: Hope and Direction for Church and Parachurch Leaders in Today's Complex World*. Minneapolis: Bethany House Publishers, 1999.

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Ashhenas, Ron, Dave Ulrich, Todd Jich, and Steve Herr. *The Boundaryless Organization: Breaking the Chains of Organizational Structure*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass Publishers, 1995.

Augsburger, David. *Caring Enough to Confront*. Pennsylvania, Scottdale: Herald Press, 1981.

Barna, George, ed. *Leaders on Leadership: Wisdom, Advice and Encouragement on the Art of Leading God's People*. Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 1997.

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Bass, Benard M. *Bass and Stogdill's Handbook of Leadership: Theory, Research, and Managerial Applications*. (3rd ed.). New York: Free Press, 1990.

Beck, John D.W. and Neil M. Yeager. *The Leader's Window: Mastering the Four Styles of Leadership to Build High-Performing Teams*. New York: John Wiley, 1994.

Bennis, Warren. *On Becoming a Leader*. Reading: Addison-Wesley Publishing Company, Inc., 1989.

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Bennis, Warren and Joan Goldsmith. *Learning to Lead: A Workbook on Becoming a Leader*. Reading: Addison-Wesley, 1994.

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Clinton, Robert J. *Leadership Series: A Short History of Leadership Theory*. Altadena CA: Barnabas Publishers, 1992.

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- Dalziel, Murray M. *Changing Ways: A Practical Tool for Implementing Change Within Organizations*. New York: American Management Association, 1988.
- Damazio, Frank. *The Making of a Leader: Biblical Leadership Principles for Today's Leaders*. Portland: City Bible Publishing, 1988.
- DePree, Max. *Leadership is an Art*. New York: Doubleday, 1989.
- _____. *Leadership Jazz*. New York: Currency Doubleday, 1992.
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