

## MISS5331 Disaster Relief Training and Experience

Dr. Loretta Rivers  
Professor of Social Work  
Office: LMCCC 104-B  
Phone: (504) 282-4455, ext. 3211  
Email: lrivers@nobts.edu

Dr. Ken Taylor  
Professor of Urban Missions  
Office: Dodd Bld, 100  
Phone 504-816-8015  
Email: ktaylor@nobts.edu

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### **Seminary Mission Statement**

The mission of the 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.

### **Course Description**

This course provides training in disaster response and experience in disaster preparedness and/or disaster response. Attention will be given to preparing local churches to respond in positive ways to disaster situations and to opportunities to expand God's Kingdom in a variety of ministry settings.

### **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. The Core Value this academic year is *Character Excellence* - This value is at the center of this course. Involvement in disaster relief training opens many doors for missions.

Servant Leadership- This class prepares the student to lead in serving in difficult situations.

2. 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.

Core Competencies- The class will address five of the seven competencies.

1. Christian Theological Heritage- Students will consider the recent history of Southern Baptist involvement in disaster relief.

2. Disciple Making- Students will grow in their discipleship as they learn how to help those that are hurting.

3. Interpersonal Skills- Students will learn how effective interpersonal skills can be used to help those who have experienced disaster..

4. Servant Leadership- Students will learn to lead by serving in disaster situations.

5. Spiritual and Character Formation- Involvement in disaster relief will help students grow in

their Christlikeness.

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

1. Students will gain an understanding of the biblical and theological foundations for disaster relief.
2. Students will demonstrate an awareness of and appreciation for the recent history of disaster relief ministry.
3. Students will develop an increased awareness of the need to share hope and comfort with individuals who have experienced disaster and loss.
4. Students will gain experience in disaster relief preparation.
5. Student will develop competencies that will encourage mobilization of churches for disaster relief.
6. Students will become familiar with varied types of ministry, mission, relief, and recovery activities being carried on in the world.
7. Students will become motivated to be involved in disaster relief ministry.

### **Textbook**

Aten, Jamie and David M. Boan. *Disaster Ministry Handbook*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2015.

### **Course Requirements**

1. Read the textbook by Jamie Aten and submit in class a 5-7 page book review at the beginning of the first day of class. The review should follow Turabian style as to margins, double-spacing, etc. Be sure to include reflection on how the book has impacted your ideas about urban ministry.
2. Interview two individuals who have experienced a disaster (the kinds of disasters discussed in this class). For each interview submit a double-spaced 1-2 page report. In the papers, discuss things like the individual's reflections on their losses, experiences during and after the losses, and the recovery process, including the person's attitude toward the future. Discuss efforts of others to help them during and after the disaster. Submit on Blackboard by June 2.
3. During the week of the workshop attempt to share the gospel with at least two people. Discuss these encounters in the Blackboard discussion board set up for this. This discussion should be posted by May 31.
4. Prepare a disaster plan for your church and for your family. In the section on the church prepare for potential disaster on your church field and plan for the involvement of your church members to be involved in disaster relief efforts in other disaster locations. Include potentialities for both natural disasters and epidemics. Submit on the appropriate Blackboard assignment site by June 7.
5. Each student must enroll in the **Blackboard** part of this course **and maintain a valid e-mail address recorded in your Blackboard account at all times.**

## Evaluation

Aten Textbook Reading and Discussion	20%
Interview Papers	30%
Gospel Sharing Encounters Discussion	15%
Church and Family Disaster Preparedness Plan	35%

**NOTE: Assignments turned in late will receive an automatic 15 point deduction. There will be a 10 point deduction for each additional weekday the assignment is late.**

**ALL ASSIGNMENTS MUST BE COMPLETED IN ORDER TO PASS THE COURSE.**

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