Risk Management in Christian Ministry CEAM 6308
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Christian Education Division

Professor Name
Professor Title
Your.email@nobts.edu
Office: (504) 282-4455 ext.xxxx
Home: (xxx) xxx-xxxx (optional.)

Grader’s Name
Grader email
Teaching Assistant
(***) xxx-xxxx(before 9:00 p.m.)

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.

Purpose of the Course
The purpose of this course is to provide a risk management competency for Christian ministers.

Core Value Focus
Doctrinal Integrity – Knowing that the Bible is the Word of God, we believe it, teach it, proclaim it, and submit to it. The doctrinal statements used in our evaluations are our Articles of Religious Belief and the Baptist Faith and Message Statement.
Spiritual Vitality – We are a worshiping community, with both personal spirituality and gathering together as a Seminary for the praise and adoration of God and instruction in His Word.
Mission Focus – We are not here merely to get an education or to give one. We are here to change the world by fulfilling the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.
Characteristic Excellence – What we do, we do to the utmost of our abilities and resources as a testimony to the glory of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
Servant Leadership – We follow the model of Jesus and exert leadership and influence through the nurture and encouragement of those around us.
Annually, the President will designate a core value that will become the focus of pedagogy for the year. For 2013-2014 academic year that Core Value is Doctrinal Integrity.

Curriculum Competencies Addressed
This course will address the following curriculum competencies: (Include only those competencies address in your course.)

1. Theological and historical perspective: A biblical perspective of personal and corporate alertness and protection is explored.
2. Effective servant leadership: An analysis of cooperative and participative leadership as well as significant factors that lead to effective and efficient staff relationships.
3. **Interpersonal relationships:** The course seeks to establish the foundation for a harmonious as well as effective organization to conduct the work of the church.
4. **Disciple making:** Useful and professional tools are developed to ensure proper, safe, and appropriate ministry is conducted.

**Course Description**

This course provides an investigation into the contemporary influence of risk management in the ministry of the local church and Christian organization. Students will review and evaluate critical areas of risk management such as; personnel risk management, property risk administration, financial and fiduciary risk, and general congregational and program risk management. Issues of safety, security, insurance and legal mandates placed on religious nonprofit organizations will be discussed.

**Learning Objectives**

The student involved in this course should be able to accomplish the following:

1. Apply knowledge and understanding of basic risk management issues and strategies to implications for the safe and secure practice of Christian ministry in the local church or religious organization.

2. Value the implications for risk management in the ministry of the local church or Christian based organization

3. Develop a risk management strategy and document for a facet of ministry in the local church or Christian organization.

**Required Readings**

The following texts and resources are required reading for class discussions and are to be read in their entirety unless otherwise specified.

**Required Texts**


**Optional Texts**

See Bibliography
Course Teaching Methodology

Units of Study
Unit I The Biblical and Theological Foundation for Risk Management
Unit II Safety Issues in the Ministry: Personnel, Fiscal, Property
Unit III Security Issues in the Ministry: Personnel, Fiscal, Property
Unit IV Insurance Issues in the Ministry: Personnel, Fiscal, Property
Unit V Risk Management issues in Program and Ministry

Teaching Method. This course will be the combination of lecture, case study analysis, student interaction, research and reporting by the student.

Assignments and Evaluation Criteria

Assignments:
1. The student will conduct a safety assessment of a church or Christian organization using an instrument provided by the professor and present their findings during class discussion periods.
2. The student will explain appropriate risk management response to cases study analysis that describe situations or issues of crisis or calamity in the church or Christian organization.
3. The student will research a facet of church ministry and from the perspective of safety, security, and insurance create a document that explains policy and procedure relating to risk management for that area of ministerial management.

Course Policies

All papers will be typed and placed in proper Turabian 6th edition format. All work will be due the date specified. Late work will be penalized for each academic day late. Absences will impact the student’s grade in two ways: first, since the class is interactive by using case studies, the students will not be given credit for participating in the case study of the day. Secondly, while Seminary policy allows only a certain number of days of excused absence there will be a penalty assessed for days of unexcused absence. Students are expected to adhere to Seminary code with regard to dress, use of electronic media in the classroom, and participation.

Netiquette: Appropriate Online Behavior. Each student is expected to demonstrate appropriate Christian behavior when working online on Discussion Boards or whenever interaction occurs through web, digital, or other electronic medium. The student is expected to interact with other students in a fashion that will promote learning and respect for the opinions of others in the course. A spirit of Christian charity is expected at all times in the online environment.

Academic Honesty Policy

All graduate and undergraduate NOBTS students, whether on-campus, internet, or extension center students, are expected to adhere to the highest Christian standard of honesty and integrity when completing academic assignments for all courses in every delivery system format. The Bible provides our standard for academic integrity and honesty. This standard applies whether a student is taking tests, quizzes, exams, writing papers, completing Discussion Boards, or any other course requirement.
Course Schedule

**Week One:**
Biblical and Theological Foundations
Church/Ministry Documents

**Week Two:**
Safety Issues in Personnel Matters
Safety Issues in Fiscal Matters

**Week Three:**
Safety Issues in Property Matters
Security Issues in Personnel Matters

**Week Four:**
Security Issues in Fiscal Matters
Security Issues in Property Matters

**Week Five:**
Quiz One
Insurance Issues in Personnel Matters

**Week Six:**
Insurance Issues in Fiscal Matters
Insurance Issues in Property Matters

**Week Seven:**
Ministerial Issues in Pastoral

**Week Eight:**
Quiz Two
Ministerial Issues in Crisis Management

**Week Nine:**
Ministerial Issues in Misconduct and Harassment

**Week Ten:**
Ministerial Issues with regard to Children and Youth

**Week Eleven:**
Malpractice, theft, and violence

**Week Twelve:**
Copyright and Document Management

**Week Thirteen:**
Political Action

**Week Fourteen:**
Community Relationships

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**Selected Bibliography**

**Publications:**


**Unpublished work:**


**Websites:**


*Church Risk Management, Inc.* (www.churchrisk.com)

*GuideOne Center for Risk Management* (www.guideonecenter.com)

*Lifeway Christian Resources* (www.lifeway.com)

*Media Services Group, Risk/Crisis Response Team* (www.msget.com/churchpr/crisis.htm)

*Peacemaker Ministries* (www.hispeace.org)