Relationship Skills for Women  CEWM 5167  
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary  
Christian Education Division  

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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 an understanding of the importance of relationship skills in ministry to women.

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:

1. Biblical Exposition: The student will explore biblical teachings about healthy relationships among women.
2. **Christian Theological Heritage:** The student will explore theological and historical background for interpersonal relationships.

3. **Disciple Making:** The student will learn to facilitate spiritual growth in Christian women.

4. **Interpersonal Skills:** The student will improve interpersonal and communication skills.

5. **Servant Leadership:** The student will discover how to lead others toward spiritual maturity and effective interpersonal relationships.

6. **Spiritual and Character Formation:** The student will develop personal and spiritual maturity as she improves her relationship skills.

7. **Worship Leadership:** The student will increase skills for relating to others in leadership.

**Course Description**

This course is designed to enhance personal relational skills which are important to women and to train leaders to build those relationships through church. Various teaching methods will be utilized including group discussions, lectures, educational films, and role-play.

**Learning Objectives**

By the completion of this course, the student should be able to accomplish the following:

1. Understand nurturing and unhealthy relationships.
2. Recognize the components of nurturing relationships.
3. Enhance her skills in developing relationships.
4. Practice initiating relationships.
5. Identify roles in relationships.

**Required Readings**

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


**Course Teaching Methodology**

**Units of Study.** Topics will include:

1. Components of Relationships
2. Self-Concept
3. Understanding Ourselves  
4. Self-evaluation  
5. Group Discussions  
6. Family Relationships  
7. Communication  
8. Listening Skills  
9. Assertion Skills  
10. Difficult People  
11. Small Groups  
12. Decision Making  
13. Conflict Management  
14. Celebration/Termination

**Teaching Method.** This course will utilize lecture and interactive discovery-learning and will be team-taught. The student should expect different presentation formats to enhance the learning motif.

**Assignments and Evaluation Criteria**

1. Students will attend class as stated in the graduate catalog.  
2. Students will participate in class discussion including one separate session for graduate students.  
3. Students will read the textbooks and provide a written statement of completion.  
4. Students will write a critical review of *Interpersonal Relationship Skills for Ministers* (2 pages of summary and 2 pages of reaction).  
5. Students will write an evaluative report of the student’s skills in present relationships including:
   - relationships with church staff  
   - relationships with women in ministry  
   - relationships with family

   The evaluation should be based on personal reflections and information gained from Skills Evaluation Forms (form will be provided in class) completed by a minimum of two people in each of the groups previously identified. In addition to evaluation of interpersonal relationship skills, students will make recommendations for personal improvement of skills.

6. Students will develop a project (retreat, seminar, learning experience) for women involving personal relationships. The written report should include the following section headings: purpose, content, rationale (reasons for), goals and objectives, and evaluation procedures.

Mail the written statement, critical review, evaluative report, and project to Dr. Rhonda Kelley, N.O.B.T.S., 3939 Gentilly Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70126 or email it to rkelley@nobts.edu.
Requirements must be received by the end of each semester or the student will receive a course grade of an “F”. Students may request an incomplete in the course in case of emergency. Please see the Graduate catalog for details about the request process.

Course Evaluation
This course will follow the grading system for the Graduate School.

A = 93 - 100
B = 85 - 92
C = 77 - 84
D = 70 - 76
F = 69 and below

1/4 = Class Attendance/Class Participation
1/4 = Textbook Reading/ Critical Review
1/4 = Evaluative Report
1/4 = Relationship Skills Project

Course Policies
The student will be expected to have access to online resources to download teaching and presentation documents in the Seminary’s BlackBoard system.

Students who choose to present assignments via electronic mediums need to present those documents in a Microsoft Word (.doc or .docx) format. WordPerfect and PDF files will not be accepted for grade via electronic format.

The absence policy of the Seminary will be strictly enforced. For a 3-hour course, the student may miss no more than 9 hours of instruction. Examinations and case studies will be given and graded on the days announced. The concept of a make-up examination does not exist.

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
Session One
- Welcome//Registration
- Introduction
- Components of Relationships
Session Two  
Self-Concept  

Session Three  
Understanding Ourselves  

Session Four  
Self-evaluation  

Session Five  
Group Discussions  

Session Six  
Family Relationships  

Session Seven  
Communication  

Session Eight  
Listening Skills  

Session Nine  
Assertion Skills  

Session Ten  
Difficult People  

Session Eleven  
Small Groups  

Session Twelve  
Decision Making  

Session Thirteen  
Conflict Management  

Session Fourteen  
Celebration/Termination  

**Selected Bibliography**


