Discipleship Strategies DISC 5260
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  Teaching Assistant
Grader email       (xxx) 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 quality theological education for students in the area of discipleship strategies in the context of the local church.

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. Interpersonal Skills: Understand how to build relationships with other ministry leaders within the local church.

2. Servant Leadership: Determine how the Senior Pastor, staff members, and lay leaders can serve one another while still providing the appropriate leadership required.
3. **Spiritual and Character Formation:** As a leadership team intentionally “grow up in all things into Him who is the head – Christ” (Eph. 4:15b, NKJV).

**Course Description**
This course is designed to equip students for leading discipleship ministries in a local church by exploring a variety of methods and approaches used in a response to the Great Commission mandate in churches today. Students are exposed to select and different materials and methods of discipleship in correlation to the Bible Study programs in local churches to provide basis for future adaptation. The student is also introduced to developmental processes currently available.

**Learning Objectives**
This course is designed to introduce students to the basic principles, procedures, guidelines, and available resources for discipleship strategies within the local church. The student involved in this process should be able to accomplish the following:

- Examine a variety of discipleship strategies that can be utilized in local church praxis.
- Understand and be able to discuss foundational concepts related to current developmental processes for various age groups.
- Value/Appreciate the importance of the discipleship mandate given to all believers in Scripture.
- Develop a discipleship strategy, which can be implemented in the student’s specific ministry setting.

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

**Required Texts**


Course Teaching Methodology
This course will utilize lecture, group discussion, and an interactive discovery-learning format.

Assignments and Evaluation Criteria

Biblical Overview of Discipleship Paper – 20%
Write 10 page paper discussing the Biblical mandate for discipleship. Include an overview of Old Testament and New Testament examples of discipleship. Examine how this mandate and the examples included are applicable to the local church. Use at least 10 sources not including the Bible and the course texts, preferably scholarly works.

Annotated Bibliography –15%
Create a two or three sentence single-spaced annotation for each of the course texts to meet the reading requirement. Each Annotated Reference List should contain the correct format as cited in Turabian 9.36 with the addition of the number of pages of the referenced work at the end of the citation. Each annotation that follows should contain of your appraisal and considerations on the text not just a synopsis of the text. Following the annotation, indicate whether or not you read the text in its entirety.

Profile for Discipleship Strategy Context Paper – 30%
Create a profile identifying the context for the development of a discipleship strategy (the upcoming assignment). Include a detailed description of the setting for the strategy (geographic location, ministry setting, needs, etc.) and a detailed description of the individuals involved in the process (age, developmental needs, gender, etc.). This profile should guide your understanding, evaluation, research, and development of your discipleship strategy. Present your findings in a 10 page paper. Pay close attention to the Assignment Formatting section of this syllabus!

Discipleship Strategy Development – 25%
Based on the discipleship strategies and the foundational concepts of development laid in class, the Biblical foundations and mandates of discipleship discussed in your Biblical Overview of Discipleship paper, the context profile you created, and personal research, develop a discipleship strategy which can be implemented in your specific ministry setting. Write a 6-page paper, which provides an overview, explanation and rationale for your strategy. An 8-week detailed description for how to implement your strategy (which can either include planning processes or curriculum and content materials, etc.) should be included in this paper. Further directions regarding this assignment will be provided during class.

Classroom Decorum – 10%
Participation is required for every course session due to the interactive learning format of the course. A positive attitude can only enhance the learning experience. Therefore, for the purposes of this class, a positive attitude and participation are defined as productive and interactive engagement with classroom presentations and classroom dialogues throughout a full course session. You cannot participate effectively if you are not focused on the subject matter while in the classroom. Consequently, the student is expected:
• To come class with a constructive point of view, prepared to interact with the readings and resources on the course topic in discussion groups and classroom dialogues.
• To dress appropriately and in accordance with the NOBTS Student Handbook. *This means no flip-flops and no ball caps!*
• To turn off cell phones and to not accept any phone calls during class.
• To use laptops appropriately.

Final Examination
The professor reserves the right to administer a final exam if the class fails to participate in a manner that is engaging and acceptable.

Course Policies

Late Assignments
Assignments not submitted *on the due dates* are considered late and will be automatically penalized 10% for each date late including weekends. Late assignments will not be accepted one week beyond the original due date, *no exceptions*. *No grades of Incomplete will be issued for this course. If a late assignment is not received, a grade of “F” is automatically earned for the course.*

Grading Scale
Your final grade will be based on your total accumulation of points as indicated under the *Learning Activities and Assessments* section of this syllabus according to the grading scale in the NOBTS 2011-2012 catalog.

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

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
A schedule of class meetings and topics to be addressed at each meeting.

Selected Bibliography


