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 the student an opportunity for attendance in conferences, seminars, professional meetings, and other types of short term events and gain academic credit for participation.

**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. **Biblical exposition:** Facets of biblical critical analysis will be explored as it relates to the topic of study.  
2. **Theological and historical perspective:** Elements of how the subject relate to the church or Christian environment will be examined.  
3. **Effective servant leadership:** How the topic relates to the function of the church and the interrelationships of leadership and ministry will be analyzed.
4. **Interpersonal relationships:** The integration of effective and efficient ministry will be coupled with critical elements of how the Body of Christ functions as a whole will be determined.

5. **Disciple making:** How Christian ministry relates to and responds to the call of the Great Commission will be examined.

6. **Worship leadership:** Facets of individual and corporate worship will be described and explored from the perspective of Christian Education.

7. **Spiritual and character formation:** Transformational growth will be the focus of the learning experience.

### Course Description

This learning experience melds the opportunity to attend a seminar, retreat, professional meeting, or other extra-curricular activity related to a specific discipline of study. Only one special topics event may be allowed per degree and/or concentration for credit. Prior to the regular registration cycle for the semester, the student will petition to the appropriate professor of the academic discipline for the attendance to the event. The application will include the scope of the event, the title, place, leadership, and other pertinent information to inform the professor about the relevance of the event to the curriculum of study the student is pursuing. Prior to the event the professor will establish the expected pre- and post-event academic requirements. The faculty member will establish the criteria for the completion of the project. The special topics event will require a minimum of two faculty-to-student meetings. The evaluation of the student’s involvement in the event will be the responsibility of the academic professor who established the criteria for attendance.

### Learning Objectives

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

1. The student will gain knowledge and understanding of the topic of study.
2. The student will develop an appreciation and value for the topic of study.
3. The student will gain skills and practical application of the topic of study.

### 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

As defined by the individual professor in the proposal of study below.

### Course Teaching Methodology

In cooperation with the approved Faculty member, the student will complete the following application for proposal of study:

**Proposal for Credit by Participating in a Special Topics in _______________**

CEXX 61/2/392 Special Topics in _______________

### Statement of Purpose

(Provide a complete introduction of the special event the student has chosen to attend or participate in. Critical information as date, times, location, society or group sponsoring the event, costs, and individuals who will lead the event. Include knowledge, perspective, and skill goals in this section.)

### Rationale

(Include the purpose for attending this program of study. The rationale for the study should include how the seminar, event, conference, etc. will contribute to degree/concentration success.)

### Description of the Proposed Special Topics Event Outcome

(Provide a detailed description of the pre-event, event, and post-event assignments prescribed by the professor. Units of study, directed reading, and outcome expectations should be clearly identified. While the student might suggest topics or focus of
anticipated outcome, the acceptance of the special topics event rests with the requirements as defined by the academic professor.)

**Name and Credentials of Individual(s) who will Provide Direct Supervision**
(If the event has leadership other than the NOBTS academic professor, include the name of the organization and/or person who will be principals in the event. If the event is under the auspices of a sponsoring leader, that person must meet academic criteria for graduate scholarship as approved by the faculty member whose approval is made for the course.)

**Time Commitment**
(Include the time commitment to be made by the student. Include the dates of the event. All work relating to the special topics event must be completed one week prior to the end of the semester or summer term.)

**Evaluation**
(List the grading percentages for each assignment given in the Description section.)

**Instructions to the Faculty Member**
1. Modify and/or change proposal to meet degree/concentration goals and approve.
2. Complete coversheet and attach the proposal.
3. Note on coversheet how this Special Topics event satisfies degree/concentration requirements. Forward to the CE Division Office two days before the end of registration for classes.

**Additional Student Instructions and Information**
1. Refer to the Academic Catalog for policy regarding individualized study by the student.
2. Upon notification of approval, verify the Special Topics course number with Registrar’s Office.
3. Forward payment to Registrar’s Office or notify them that you will be utilizing money on your Seminary account.
4. Failure to register for the approved Special Topics course by the registration deadline will result in a late fee charge if the study is approved.
5. Unless the Special Topics event is a Seminary sponsored event that has a program of registration and fee payment, the student is responsible for all necessary arrangements, applications, costs, transportation, and other incidentals regarding the attendance at the event.

**Assignments and Evaluation Criteria**
Evaluation of the course will be defined in the Proposal of Study approved by the Dean, Graduate Studies.

**Course Policies**
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.

The proposal of for attendance at the event will be initiated by the student in cooperation with the CE Division Faculty member. The following document will be submitted as a coversheet for submission to the Dean, Graduate Studies for approval:
Proposal for Special Topics in

(Insert course number and title from the Catalog here)

(This Special Topics event satisfies the requirements for the degree: ___ or concentration in ___)

Dr. Jerry N. Barlow,
Dean of Graduate Studies
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
by
(Student’s Name)

Approved (please sign on the line provided):

(Chairperson’s name here)(date signed)
(Division’s name here)_________________

(Professor’s name here)(date signed)
Professor Directing the STE

___________________________
Dr. Jerry N. Barlow,
Dean of Graduate Studies

___________________________
(Student’s name here)(date signed)
Phone
Email
Address

Semester or Summer Term

NOBTS ID. #

Projected Academic Credit

I am currently a student at:
_____ the New Orleans Main Campus
_____ an Extension Center

Date of Final Approval

Date ST event Approval Mailed to Professor,
Registrar, and Student

(Revised 2008)
Course Schedule
A schedule for completion of the Special Topics event will be part of the Proposal for attendance at the selected event as submitted by the student and approved by the Dean, Graduate Studies.

Selected Bibliography
A syllabus will be provided by the CE Faculty to assist the student in accomplishing the Special Topics event.