Course Syllabus
Leadership in the Local Church
Dr. Steve Echols
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Doctor of Ministry Seminar – CESE 8304-01
Spring Trimester, 2006
Special Event Held in Conjunction with Leadership Training at Ridgecrest Conference Center- This year it is during Discipleship Week, July 3-7, 2006

Seminary Mission Statement
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.

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. 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.
2. Spiritual Vitality- The professor will teach that leadership without spiritual vitality is ineffective for the Kingdom of God.
3. Mission focus- The mission focus of the course will center on leadership in the local church.
4. Characteristic Excellence- The professor will teach that leadership is a service to Christ and therefore should be rendered with characteristic excellence.
5. Servant Leadership- The professor will teach that servant leadership is the supreme model of leadership.
Core Competencies- The seminar will address four of the seven competencies.
1. Biblical Exposition- The students will utilize biblical principles in evaluating leadership models.
2. Disciple Making- Students will consider the importance of the discipleship in leadership.
3. Interpersonal Skills- The professor will challenge students to see the vital connection between interpersonal skills and leadership.
4. Servant Leadership- Students will examine leadership styles in light of the revelation of servant leadership as taught by Jesus.

Course Description
The seminar will be held at the Lifeway Conference Center at Ridgecrest, North Carolina. Students will choose from a comprehensive selection of workshops. Students can choose one specific course of study or sample a variety of training
experiences. Students will also experience worship that is dynamic, creative, and inspiring. In addition to attending the conference sessions, students will complete course requirements outlined below.

**Purpose of the Course**
This seminar is designed to offer quality training in order to enhance ministry roles. Emphasis will be given to seeking ways of implementing what is learned to current ministry positions.

**Course Objectives**
At the conclusion of this seminar students should be able to:
1. Identify current issues of leadership responsibilities in the local church.
2. Analyze and evaluate various ways to enhance specific ministries in the local church.
3. Understand the concepts of how to develop leaders in the local church.
4. Apply key concepts of leadership in the local church.

**Course Methodology and Information**
Methodology will include small group interactions, essays, and discussions as well as on-site class sessions with Dr. Echols and other seminar participants.

Students will have attendance requirements at some selected conference events as indicated in the schedule which will be distributed at the first session of the seminar on Monday night, July 3.

The students are responsible for registering for the Discipleship Week Conference (July 3-7. The seminary will not register for you. All fees, lodging, meals, etc. are the responsibility of the student and are in addition to the tuition for the course. Information and registration for the conference can be obtained through calling Ridgecrest Registration at 1-800-588-7222. The specific schedule and other information can be found at [www.lifeway.com](http://www.lifeway.com).

**Tentative Course Schedule:**
- Monday July 3 All pre seminar book reviews are due. The seminar will meet from 8:15p.m. until 9:15p.m. Students can email the professor to find the specific room once it has been assigned (approximately one month before the conference). The seminar session will be an introduction to the seminar and a discussion of *The Making of a Leader*.
- Tuesday July 4 through Friday July 7- In addition to several ProDoc class sessions, there will be some conferences that will be mandatory for the student to attend. The final schedule will be distributed at the first class session.

**Required Textbooks:**
Due to the lack of a LifeWay store operating on the main campus of NOBTS, students will have to make other arrangements. Students may try to order the various books through means of a local bookstore or online service. It is not yet determined whether the LifeWay store at Southwestern Seminary will have these books in stock. All of the textbooks are currently in print. If after exhausting all possibilities, the student for some reason cannot
secure the books, please contact the professor. Students will not be excused for late assignments on the basis of not securing the books.


**Course Requirements**

**Before the Conference**

**Textbook Readings and Critiques**: Seminar participants will read all the textbooks prior to the conference and be prepared to discuss these during class sessions. Seminar participants are to submit a four-page (double spaced) critique of each of the four required texts. The purpose of this assignment is not to summarize the books but to evaluate each author’s work in terms of how it does or does not relate to biblical truths and ministry application. Students should suggest possible application of each text to their current ministry situation. First person may be used, but otherwise use Turabian form. Please omit any biographical data about the author. **Date Due: July 3**

**During the Conference**

**Oral Report of Conference Sessions**: During the conference, students will attend at least two of the four optional conference sessions that will be listed in the final schedule. Students are expected to attend the evening worship sessions which will also be part of the seminar discussion on the application of the conference to local church leadership. The schedule for student reports will be made during the initial session.

**Post-Seminar Assignments**

1. **Conference Application Assignment**: Students will write a paper (minimum 8 pages doubles spaced) identifying various ways they can incorporate the leadership principles learned during the conference into their church/ministry. **This assignment is to be mailed to Dr. Echols at 304 Brookhaven Way, Canton, Ga. 30114 and postmarked by August 7.**

2. **Book Critiques**: Students will read two additional books (other than the required texts). The student may select from the course bibliography or a book recommended by a conference leader or one written by one of the conference speakers. The student is to submit a three page critique of each book selected including a brief summary and potential application to the student’s ministry. First person may be used but otherwise use Turabian
form. Please omit any biographical information about the author. This assignment is to be mailed to Dr. Echols at 304 Brookhaven Way, Canton, Ga. 30114 and postmarked by August 7.

Evaluation
Textbook Critiques- 40%
Class participation and report from conference 20%
Conference Application Assignment 25%
Post seminar book reviews 15%

Selected Bibliography
Blackaby, Henry and Richard Blackaby. Spiritual Leadership: Moving People on to


Greenberg, Jerald and Robert A. Baron. Behavior in Organization: Understanding and


Lewis, Philip V. Transformational Leadership: A New Model for Total Church Involvement. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 1996.


Miller, Calvin. The Empowered Leader: 10 Keys to Servant Leadership. Nashville:
Broadman and Holman, 1995.