

Introduction to Ministry: CMCM 1310-01
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

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Course Description

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the philosophical and theological aspects of ministry. The primary thrust of the course is to help students develop a practical approach and skills which will enable them to function as under shepherds in various ministry settings. Lectures are devoted to emphasizing a team orientation to the organization and administration of pastoral nurturing. This course is a prerequisite for all other pastoral care classes.

Course Objectives

At the conclusion of this course, the student will:

1. Understand the general theological and philosophical assertions which are foundational to Christian ministry.
2. Be acquainted with the basic concepts, methodologies, and resources pertaining to contemporary Christian ministry.
3. Gain personal insight concerning how one's calling, character, spiritual gifts, and personality qualities contribute to Christian ministry.
4. Learn the basic theories, techniques, and leadership methods related to the organization and administration of Christian nurturing.
5. Develop a practical approach and skills for functioning as an under-shepherd in a range of ministry contexts.

Course Textbooks

Required texts:

Hughes, Kent and Barbara. *Liberating Ministry from the Success Syndrome*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 2008.

Stowell, Joseph M. *Shepherding the Church*. Chicago: Moody Press, 1997.

Optional texts:

Blackaby, Henry and Richard. *Spiritual Leadership*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman Publishers, 2001.

Cothen, Joe H. *Equipped for Good Work*. Gretna, LA: Pelican Publishing Co., 1996.

Course Methodology

This course will consist of assigned readings, lectures, class discussion, typed assignments, and PowerPoint presentations.

Course Requirements

Attendance

Class attendance is essential for effective learning. Students are responsible for being in the classroom on time, reading any assigned materials and participating in class discussions. Presence and class participation will have a determining factor upon your final grade.

Assignment Parameters

All course assignments must be completed in order to receive credit for the course. The student is responsible for scheduling any make-up work. A student must notify the professor as soon as possible before the exam that the exam cannot be taken.

Grade Designations

- A: (100–93)
- B: (92–85)
- C: (84–77)
- D: (76–70)
- F: (69– Below)

Assignments

1. Class Participation: Each student will be expected to participate in class discussion.
2. Book Reviews: Each student will read both required textbooks and complete a 3-5 page book review for each book.
3. Notebook: Each student will compile a notebook containing the information covered in class; class notes, articles, services (wedding, funeral, and ordination), etc.
4. Theology of Ministry Paper: Each student will write a 7 page paper explaining their theology of ministry.

Course Evaluation

- Attendance and Participation 20%
- Book Reviews 25%
- Notebook 25%
- Theology of Ministry Paper 30%

Course Schedule

- February 2
 - A Theology of Ministry
 - Life and Character
 - The Call and The Calling
- February 16
 - Goals and Priorities
 - Devotional Life and Prayer
 - Study: Reading and Writing
- March 2
 - Preaching
 - Pastoral Care
 - Weddings, Funerals, Ordinations
- March 16
 - Leading and Delegating
 - Family and Leisure Time
 - The Perils of Ministry

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Anderson, Leith. *Dying for Change*. Minneapolis: Bethany House, 1990.

Bailey, Robert W. *The Minister and Grief*. New York: Hawthorn Books, Inc., 1976.

Barker, Joel Arthur. *Future Edge: Discovering the New Paradigms of Success*. New York: William Morrow and Company, 1992.

Barlow, Jerry N. *Pastoral Care PM 0351: A Study Guide*. Nashville: The Seminary Extension of the Southern Baptist Seminaries, 2000.

Bisagno, John R. *Letters to Timothy: A Handbook for Pastors*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 2001.

Campbell, Barry. *Toolbox for [Busy] Pastors*. Nashville: Convention Press, 1998.

Cothen, Joe H. *Equipped for Good Work: A Guide for Pastors*. 2d ed. Revised by Joe H. Cothen and Jerry N. Barlow. Gretna: Pelican, 2002.

_____. *The Pulpit Is Waiting*. Gretna: Pelican, 1998.

Criswell, W.A. *Criswell's Guidebook for Pastors*. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1980.

- Dale, Robert D. *Pastoral Leadership: A Handbook of Resources for Effective Congregational Leadership*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1986.
- Duduit, Michael, ed. *Handbook of Contemporary Preaching*. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1992.
- Farris, Stephen. *Preaching that Matters*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1998.
- Fisher, David. *The 21st Century Pastor*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House, 1996.
- Goodman, Thomas. *The Intentional Minister*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 1994.
- Hemphill, Ken. *The Antioch Effect*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 1994.
- _____. *The Official Rule Book for the New Church Game*. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1990.
- Hester, Dennis J. *Pastor, We Need to Talk!* Shelby, NC: His Way Publishing, 2001.
- Hiscox, Edward T. *The Star Book for Ministers*, 2d rev. ed. Valley Forge, PA: Judson Press, 1994.
- Hybels, Lynne and Bill Hybels. *Rediscovering Church*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1995.
- Lawrenz, Mel. *The Dynamics of Spiritual Formation*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2000.
- Lutzer, Erwin. *Pastor to Pastor: Tackling the Problems of Ministry*. Grand Rapids: Kregel Publications, 1998.
- MacArthur, John, Jr. *Rediscovering Pastoral Ministry*. Dallas: Word Publishing, 1995.
- Macchia, Stephen A. *Becoming a Healthy Church: 10 Characteristics*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1999.
- Malphurs, Aubrey. *Developing a Vision for Ministry in the 21st Century*, 2d ed. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1999.
- _____. *Doing Church: A Biblical Guide for Leading Ministries through Change*. Grand Rapids: Kregel Publications, 1999.
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- Maxwell, John. *Developing the Leader Within You*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1993.

- McCalep, George O., Jr. *Faithful Over a Few Things: Seven Critical Church Growth Principles*. Lithonia, GA: Orman Press, 1996.
- Means, James E. *Effective Pastors for a New Century*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1993.
- Miller, Calvin. *The Empowered Communicator*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 1994.
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- Pearce, J. Winston. *Planning Your Preaching*. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1967.
- Prime, Derek and Alistair Begg. *On Being A Pastor*. Chicago: Moody, 1989.
- Rainer, Thom S. *Eating the Elephant*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman Publishers, 1994.
- Segler, Franklin M. *The Broadman Minister's Manual*. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1968.
- Stanfield, V.L. *The Christian Worshiping*. Nashville: Convention Press, 1965.
- Stowell, Joseph M. *Shepherding the Church in the 21st Century*. Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1994.
- Sweet, Leonard. *Aqua Church*. Loveland, CO: Group Publishing, 1999.
- _____. *A Cup of Coffee at the Soul Café*. Broadman and Holman Publishers, 1998.
- Warren, Rick. *The Purpose Driven Church*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1995.
- Wiersbe, David W. *The Dynamics of Pastoral Care*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2000.
- Willhite, Keith, and Scott M. Gibson. *The Big Idea of Biblical Preaching*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1998.