

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
PASTORAL MINISTRY – PATH 5331
Spring 2014

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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.”

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course will aid students to develop competency in pastoral ministry through a study of being called to a church, beginning a pastoral ministry, building relationships, leading a church, and leaving a church field. Practical ministry matters, as well as theological and philosophical considerations, will include training in planning preaching, administering the ordinances, performing weddings, conducting funerals and ordinations, visiting, counseling, and sustaining spiritual growth.

COMPETENCIES ADDRESSED:

The purpose of this course is to provide quality theological education for students in the discipline of pastoral ministries. The course will address the competencies of interpersonal skills, servant leadership, spiritual and character formation, and disciple making.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Pastoral ministry is a specific and important type of Christian shepherding. While all Christians shepherd others in various roles and relationships (such as pastors, parents, friends, counselors, teachers, mentors, helpers, and supervisors), not all are involved in a pastoral ministry vocation or calling. However, while students who take this course may have a variety of ministry callings and may pursue different academic degree programs, this course is particularly designed for students with a pastoral ministry calling (such as pastors, staff members, chaplains, missionaries, and church planters).

By the end of the course, the student will:

1. Be able to apply pastoral ministry principles, concepts, methodologies, and resources to their situation of beginning and carrying out ministry in a church or in selected shepherding situations.
2. Value pastor-type shepherding as a vital part of their ministry calling and work.
3. Demonstrate acceptable proficiency in pastoral ministry functions (such as able to articulate a clear Theology and philosophy of pastoral ministry, carry out a personal prayer ministry and pastoral visitation, administer the ordinances, perform weddings and premarital counseling, conduct funerals and ordinations, do pastoral (non-licensed) counseling, manage some types of interpersonal conflict, enact people-sensitive and task-focused leadership, do basic organizational problem-solving and planning, and manage time) with the aid of course resources

CORE VALUE FOCUS:

The core value for the 2014 Spring Semester is “Doctrinal Integrity” – Doctrinal Integrity: Knowing that the Bible is the Word of God, we believe it, teach it, proclaim it, and submit to it. Our confessional commitments are outlined in the Articles of Religious Belief and the Baptist Faith and Message 2000.

COURSE METHODS:

1. Lectures and other instructional methods will be utilized to review and teach important fundamentals and principles about sermon construction, delivery, oral interpretation, and voice, as well as to present and discuss applicable print and other resources.
2. Writing assignments will be required to facilitate experiential learning and skills development in sermon building and communication.
3. Resource comparisons will be used to enhance and promote personal insights in ministry. Student interaction with peers, pastoral ministry resource persons, and the course instructor are encouraged during the duration of this class to facilitate such insights.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

In addition to required textbooks, students are encouraged to explore a variety of resources useful for pastoral ministry. The following textbooks are required:

- Bisagno, John. *Pastor's Handbook*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 2011.
- Cothen, Joe H. *Equipped for Good Work*. 2nd ed. Revised by Joe Cothen and Jerry Barlow. Gretna: Pelican, 2002.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Students are required to:

1. Submit a two page paper detailing your call to the ministry. You will be required to submit a cover page, but do not include an intervening blank page. All papers will be typed, (double spaced, 12 point, Times New Roman) according to Turabian format. **Due February 10**
2. Submit three funeral messages. Each message is not to exceed two typed pages. The messages will address the death of a young child, an unconverted adult, and a godly church member of old age. **Due February 24**
3. Submit two complete wedding ceremonies. The first will address a formal wedding ceremony and the second an informal wedding ceremony. Each paper will not exceed two typed pages. **Due March 31**
4. Submit a research paper examining the pastoral ministry. The student will interview three active pastors and compare and contrast their answers to five questions. The research paper will be a minimum of 16 pages and will not exceed 20 pages in length. A detailed explanation as to precise questions and formatting will be delivered upon the first class meeting. **Due April 28**
5. A Mid-Term and Final Exam will cover the lecture notes and include material from the required textbooks (See Course Schedule).

GRADING FOR THE COURSE

The following will be the grading system used for this course: A – 93-100; B – 85-92; C – 77-84; D – 70-76; F – Below 70 (See NOBTS Grading Scale for more information).

1. Call to Ministry Assignment	-10%
2. Funeral Service Assignment	-15%
3. Wedding Ceremony Assignment	--10%
4. Pastoral Ministry Research Assignment	-35%
5. Mid-Term & Final Exam (15% each)	-30%
Total	100%

COURSE SCHEDULE PATH5331

Classes will meet from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. on the following dates: 1/27, 2/10, 2/24, 3/10, 3/31, 4/14, 4/28, 5/12.

January

27 Introduction to course. The pastor as a person – His spiritual and personal development

February

10 The pastor and his family – his relationship with his spouse and children

24 The pastor as a pastor/shepherd – evangelism and relationship skills

March

10 **Mid-Term Exam** - The pastor as pastor/shepherd – crisis management and pastoral ministry skills

31 The pastor as leader – conflict management skills

April

14 The pastor as leader – leadership skills

28 The pastor as leader – communication skills

May

12 **Final Exam** – The pastor as leader – administration skills

COURSE MODIFICATION

The professor reserves the right to modify any portion of this syllabus as he deems necessary to maintain the integrity of the learning experience as a result of events and circumstances that occur during the course.

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY FOR PREACHING

Andrews, Dale P. *Practical Theology for Black Churches*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2002.

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Ascol, Thomas K., ed. *Dear Timothy: Letters on Pastoral Ministry*. Cape Coral, FL: Founders Press, 2004.

Baker, Benjamin S. *Special Occasions in the Black Church*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 1989.

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_____. "How to Use Time Wisely." In *Toolbox for [Busy] Pastors*, Barry Campbell, 139-140. Nashville: Convention Press, 1998.

Benner, David G. *Strategic Pastoral Counseling*. 2d ed. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2003.

Bickers, Dennis. *The Bivocational Pastor*. Kansas City: Beacon Hill Press, 2004.

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

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Bonem, Mike, and Roger Patterson. *Leading from the Second Chair*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2005.

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Erickson, Millard J., and James L. Heflin. *Old Wine in New Wineskins: Doctrinal Preaching in a Changing World*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1997.

Everist, Norma Cook, and Craig L. Nesson. *Transforming Leadership*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2008.

Fabarez, Michael. *Preaching That Changes Lives*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 2002.

Fasol, Al, Roy Fish, Steve Gaines, and Ralph Douglas West. *Preaching Evangelistically*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 2006.

Fernando, Ajith. *Jesus Driven Ministry*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 2002.

Finzel, Hans. *The Top Ten Mistakes Leaders Make*. Colorado Springs: David C. Cook, 2007.

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Foyle, Marjory. *Honourably Wounded: Stress Among Christian Workers*. Grand Rapids: Monarch Books, 2001.

Gallaty, Robby. *Unashamed: Taking a Radical Stand for Christ*. Chattanooga, TN: AMG Publishers, 2010.

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