Discipleship Strategies DISC 5260
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Christian Education Division
Spring 2016
Mentoring

Professor:
Hal Stewart, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Discipleship
Director of Spiritual Formation
hstewart@nobts.edu

Grader:
Peter Copeland
copelandconnections@gmail.com

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
1. *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.
2. *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.
3. *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.
4. *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.
5. *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 the 2015-2016 academic year the Core Value is *Mission Focus.*
**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.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

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 online group/professor discussions, interaction and dialogue, and an interactive discovery-learning format through weekly mentoring meetings for accountability, mentorship, discussion, and discipleship with an NOBTS approved mentor.

Assignments and Evaluation Criteria
All assignments should be submitted on time via blackboard for this course. In the blackboard shell, click the “Upload Assignments” link to upload your work. Please note that every assignment that is uploaded is time stamped with the date and time of the upload.

Biblical Overview of Discipleship Paper – 20 points (Due: March 11th)
Write an eight-page paper discussing the Biblical mandate for discipleship. Include an overview of Old Testament and New Testament examples of discipleship. Examine and explain how this mandate and the examples included are applicable to the local church. Use at least eight sources including the Bible and the course texts, preferably scholarly works. Turabian formatting is required for this assignment.

Assignment Formatting
- Type this assignment according to Turabian format
- All papers must be written in third person and double-spaced
- Use 12 point Times New Roman font
- Use the same number of references as assigned pages
- Use correct spelling and grammar
- Use proper pagination
- Include your name on the cover page
- Staple assignments together as necessary or as required (no report covers please)
- Write the full assignment

Book Critiques –10 points total (each book is 5 points)
On the assigned day, you turn in a 3-page type-written report on the assigned book. The book review should include the following two components: 1) A content summary that is double spaced for page one and 2) A reflection summary that is a single spaced list of significant ideas (direct quotes or general ideas) from the book. The following should be included with each significant idea: a) the book page number; b) one of the three identified categories below and c) brief reflective personal comments. A double space between each entry of the list is expected.

1. AGREEMENT – Thoughts with which you are in firm agreement; things that make you say “Yes!” or items that inspire you to action in your life and move your spirit.
2. DISAGREEMENT – Thoughts in which you find dissonance; areas with which you might disagree.
3. MORE THOUGHT – Areas that you want to spend more time thinking about; things that make you wonder; items on which you are not sure what your stance it.

Due:        Geiger, Kelley, & Nation – Transformational Discipleship (Feb. 12th)
            Barna and Kinnaman – Churchless (April 8th)
Discipleship Strategy Handbook & Implementation – 40 points (Due: May 5th)
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. Create a Powerpoint presentation (25 slides) or Publisher Handbook (25 pages), which provides an overview, explanation and rationale for your strategy. This presentation should include a minimum of 3 to 6 months 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 presentation. Further directions regarding this assignment will be provided during class. Pdf’s, Keynote or Pages will not be accepted for this assignment.

This assignment is an embedded assignment that will be completed by all students for all sections of this course. The rubric for grading this assignment is found in the blackboard shell. Please complete the assignment according to provided rubric.

Mentoring Experience and Online Engagement – 30 points
The student is required to meet with their assigned mentor, who is the same gender and who can challenge the student spiritually, philosophically, and practically in discipleship strategies. Additionally, the student is expected to engage online in an assigned blackboard shell with the professor and other mentoring students throughout the semester. The following components of the mentoring experience are required assignments:

- **Mentorship Discussion Board** (9 pts) The NOBTS professor will release online discipleship strategies teaching units in the blackboard shell for required discussion board postings/dialogue by the students during the semester. The teaching units are designed to “bridge” the teaching units to the weekly mentor meeting. For this mentoring course, students are expected to post on minimum of 9 teaching units.

- **Mentor Meeting** (9 pts) You will meet with your mentor each week for a minimum of one hour to discuss personal and ministry progress in the area of discipleship strategies for the local church. Students will engage in the mentoring relationship under the supervision of an approved NOBTS mentor for a minimum of 15 hours of meeting time during the semester. Mentorship hours may not include worship, Bible study, and age-group weekly meetings. The student will meet for a minimum of an hour per week beginning the first week of the semester. The student will log the weekly meeting times and have their mentor sign-off on the meetings. The mentoring experience log-sheet is submitted online at the end of the semester to the professor.

- **Mentoring Reflection Papers** (12 pts) A Mentoring Monthly Report will be completed by students for January, February, March and April. The completed report will be submitted and uploaded through Blackboard by the last day of the month. The first report will the completed goals and covenant with the approved mentor. This report should be a 1-page single space of reflection report based on your weekly mentor meeting, the online course content, and experiences during the week of ministry. These 4 reflection papers are a first-person synopsis of the mentoring experience on a month-by-month basis.
For the purposes of this course, a positive attitude and participation are defined as productive and interactive engagement with online threads and dialogues throughout a full course session. Students cannot participate effectively if you are not engaged in the online dialogues on the WEEKLY subject matter. Consequently, the student is expected to:

- Post answers, comments, and questions on the discussion board threads.
- Provide on-going biblical, philosophical, or social science research to support your assertions.
- Reflect on an idea presented in one of the textbooks and/or mentoring relationship.
- Relate an example or story that conveys an application to the thread based on the mentoring experience.

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 2013-2014 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.
Need technical assistance? Contact the ITC today!

- **Selfserve@nobts.edu** - Email for technical questions/support requests with the Selfserve.nobts.edu site.
- **BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu** - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Blackboard Learning Management System NOBTS.Blackboard.com.
- **ITCSupport@nobts.edu** - Email for general technical questions/support requests.
- **504.816.8180** - Call for any technical questions/support requests.
- **www.NOBTS.edu/itc/** - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

**Course Schedule**

Unit 1: Introduction to Discipleship Strategies
Unit 2: What is the Mission of the Church?
Unit 3: Who are My Disciples?
Unit 4: Stages of Discipleship
Unit 5: The Pattern of Spiritual Growth
Unit 6: Discipleship Training and Process
Unit 7: Strategy Development
Unit 8: Disciple-Making Shifts
Unit 9: Five Approaches of Discipleship
Unit 10: Phases/Models of Discipleship
Unit 11: Mentoring Men and Women
Unit 12: Evaluation of Discipleship Strategies
###Rubric For Embedded Learning Assignment

**Discipleship Strategy Handbook & Implementation Paper**

This rubric describes how you will be evaluated for your Discipleship Strategy Handbook & Implementation Paper.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Levels of Achievement</th>
<th>Criteria</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Excellent</strong></td>
<td>10 Points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Good</strong></td>
<td>8.5 Points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Needs Improvement</strong></td>
<td>7 Points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Deficient</strong></td>
<td>5 Points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

####Discipleship Content
- Strategy is well thought out and exceptional. A strategy for discipleship is clearly communicated. The biblical rationale is clearly stated throughout the text. There is a clear application of biblical thinking in the content. There is a clear goal with prudent and achievable milestones that are appropriate. A variety of sources are referenced, including both primary and secondary sources.
- Strategy is a well thought out good plan that supports the biblical basis for discipleship. The rationalization is apparent. There is a clear goal with timelines stated. An acceptable number of sources are referenced, but it is a biblical basis for discipleship. The rationale is vaguely referenced. There is an application of critical thinking that (apparent). There is no clear goal and no selected time stamps. A limited number of sources are referenced. Has some inconsistencies.

####Grammaral Convention
- No spelling, grammatical, or punctuation errors. High level of vocabulary and word choice.
- Few (1 to 5) spelling, grammatical, or punctuation errors. Good level of vocabulary and word choice.
- Minimal (0 to 5) spelling, grammatical, or punctuation errors. Low level of vocabulary and word choice.
- More than 5 spelling, grammatical, or punctuation errors. Poor level of vocabulary and word choice.

####Strategy Organization
- Discipleship strategy is clearly focused in an organized and thoughtful manner. Discipleship strategy is constructed in an exceptional and logical pattern to support the mission of the church in the selected profile context.
- Discipleship strategy supports the mission of the church. Plan has a pattern, but occasionally is not focused on specific profile. Strategic steps provided are logical and support mission of the church in the selected profile context.
- Strategy plan has focus but strays from the profile at times. Strategic steps appear to have a pattern, but the pattern is not consistently carried out in the project. Information in the strategy loosely supports the mission of the church in the selected profile context.
- Strategic planning Content is unstructured and haphazard. Information does not support the solution to the challenge to make disciples. Information provided has no apparent pattern to support the mission of the church in the selected profile context.

####Presentation Level
- Exceptional creativity is visual with over 20 slides or pages. Multimedia (charts, graphs, tables, illustrations, video) is used to enhance the main points. Format enhances the content. Presentation captures audience attention. Presentation is audience appropriate.
- Good creativity is visual with 17-19 slides or pages. Multimedia (charts, graphs, tables, illustrations, video) is used to enhance the main points. Format is appropriate for the content. Presentation captures audience attention.
- Acceptable creativity is visual with 13-16 slides or pages. Multimedia (charts, graphs, tables, illustrations, video) loosely illustrates the main points. Format does not suit the content. Presentation does not capture audience attention.
- Limited creativity is visual with format 12 or less slides or pages. Presentation appears choppy and/or unfinished. Multimedia charts, graphs, tables, illustrations, video is overused or underused. Format does not enhance content. Presentation has no clear organization.

####Late Work Penalty
- 0 Points: Not late
- 1 Points: One day late
- 2 Points: Two days late
- 3 Points: Four days late

####Additional Missed Points
- 0 Points: No missed points
- 1 Points: Reason Provided in Feedback
- 2 Points: Reason Provided in Feedback
- 3 Points: Reason Provided in Feedback

###Selected Bibliography


