



PATH5331 Pastoral Ministry Online
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Division of Church Ministry
Fall 2023 Weekend Hybrid
(Oct. 20-21, 2023 required on campus)

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Mission Statement

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College prepare servants to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.

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.

Student Learning Outcomes

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, and supervisors), not all are involved in a pastoral ministry vocation or calling. Usually, students who take this course have a variety of ministry callings and pursue different academic degree programs. Therefore, student learning objectives will vary, as indicated below.

By the end of this course, students (such as pastors, church staff members, chaplains, missionaries, and church planters) with a pastoral ministry calling and in a related academic degree program will:

1. Apply pastoral ministry principles, concepts, methodologies, and resources to their ministry context in the scope of beginning and leading 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, engage in effective pastoral care, administer the ordinances, perform weddings and premarital counseling, conduct funerals and ordinations, do pastoral [non-licensed] counseling, plan worship and preaching, manage some types of interpersonal conflict, do basic organizational problem-solving and planning, and manage time) with the aid of a professor or class resources.
4. Learn people-sensitive and task-focused leadership principles, models and methods related to pastoral ministry and shepherding.
5. Develop a personal philosophy and theology of pastoral ministry, utilizing biblical principles and concepts.

Embedded Assignment

The final exam will be a take-home, open-book exam, and questions will come from course presentations, required textbooks, and assignments. The exam will also include an individual assessment of the personal accomplishment of two student-selected learning outcomes in this syllabus.

Note: The final exam is an embedded assignment that will be completed by all students for all sections of this course. The rubric for grading this assignment is attached to the syllabus (p.10). Please complete the assignment according to the syllabus and this rubric.

Required Textbooks

Akin, Daniel L. and R. Scott Pace. *Pastoral Theology: Theological Foundations for Who A Pastor Is and What He Does*. Nashville: B&H Academic, 2017.

Cothen, Joe H. and Jerry N. Barlow. *Equipped for Good Work*. Gretna, LA: Pelican Publishers, 2012

Course Teaching Methodology

The course will involve the following methodologies:

1. Lectures, classroom demonstrations, and other methods will be utilized to teach the course concepts and methodologies of shepherding God's people, as well as to present various resources available for pastoral ministry and Christian shepherding.
2. Writing assignments will be required to facilitate experiential learning regarding the role, responsibilities, and ministries of pastor-type shepherds. Resource persons will be used to share experiences, as time permits.
3. Class discussion will be used to enhance and promote personal insights in ministry. Student interaction with peers, pastoral ministry resource persons, seminary faculty members, and the course professor are encouraged during the duration of this class to facilitate such insights.
4. Conferences with the professor are invited and may be accomplished via telephone, email, or office visits. Even informal conferences can stimulate learning and application of course principles and concepts.

Course Requirements

1. Prepare a typed (double-spaced), 8-10 page theology of pastoral ministry (or shepherding), which gives biblical references (i.e., two to five references per topic) and discusses these topics: the calling to pastoral ministry (or to Christian ministry), the church, the office of pastor, the office of deacon, preaching, ordination, the ordinances, pastoral visitation and evangelism (or personal ministry visitation and evangelism), the pastor's (or Christian's) family and ministry priorities, servant leadership, and the pastor's (or Christian's) spiritual life and example. Format: each topic is to be taken in the order given herein and is to be listed as a heading followed by its respective biblical references and discussion. A cover page is to be used, but do not include an intervening blank page. Theology paper is due in Canvas September 8 by midnight.
2. Prepare a typed (double-spaced), 8-10 page philosophy of doing pastoral ministry with regard to: church revitalization, church worship (or personal worship), outreach/witnessing, discipleship, missions, ministries, stewardship, conflict management, time management, funerals, weddings, and church staff relationships (or ministry staff relationships). Note: if you are married, then your philosophy paper must conclude with a discussion of getting your family adjusted at a new church field (or in a new ministry area or church). Format: same as the theology paper, except that biblical references are not to be cited and discussed. A cover page is to be used, but do not include an intervening blank page. Philosophy paper is due in Canvas October 19 by midnight.
3. Select and complete a Major Ministry Assignment from one of the following options:
 - A. Option One: Documented Ministry Research Essay. Complete a topic-based essay of 16-20 double-spaced pages, using parenthetical references. The paper topic is to be entitled: "WHAT I NEEDED TO LEARN ABOUT PASTORAL MINISTRY THIS SEMESTER." Students may select one or more topics to research from the course topics discussed in class. Note: the selected bibliography of the essay must list a minimum of 8 print sources (books, journals, or periodicals) and a minimum of 2 Internet sources which have informed your knowledge of the topic researched. Please note: all bibliography entries must be cited in the essay.
 - B. Option Two: Pastoral Ministry Handbook—specifications: Handbook assignments will include eight typed prayers, two wedding ceremonies, four funeral services with sermon briefs, a quarterly sample church calendar, a plan of preaching for four weeks (with sermon briefs), and eight orders of worship.

The Major Ministry Assignment is due in Canvas November 17 by midnight.

4. Exams – There will be a Mid-term Exam September 29 (due in Canvas by midnight) and a Final Exam December 5 (due in Canvas by midnight). The Exams will be timed, Canvas exams. The Mid-term and Final Exams will cover class lectures and discussions as well as related chapters from textbooks. The professor will give instructions for preparing for the Mid-term and Final Exam.

5. Weekly Quizzes – There will be weekly quizzes in Canvas related to the assigned reading. Quizzes must be completed by 11:59pm on Friday of each Unit/week.

Evaluation of Grade

Theology Paper	15%	September 8
Mid-Term Exam	15%	September 29
Philosophy Paper	15%	October 19
Major Ministry Assignment	20%	November 17
Final Exam	15%	December 5
Weekly Quizzes	20%	(weekly in Canvas)

Absences, Make-up Exams, and Late Assignments:

Students are expected to engage regularly with course content through the learning management system and other course delivery methods. Students who fail to participate consistently in course activities may receive a grade of “F” for the course.

Students are expected to attend and participate in the class sessions. Because of the nature of the intensive, students who miss any portion of the class may receive a grade of “F” for the course.

Assignments turned in past the date and time due will incur a late penalty of 5 points, per day, which will be deducted from the assignment grade. Assignments will not be accepted more than one week past the date due without permission from the professor. Assignments must be properly submitted in Canvas.

Technical Assistance

For assistance regarding technology, consult ITC (504-816-8180) or the following websites:

1. Selfserve@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the Selfserve.nobts.edu or My.nobts.edu site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)
2. Canvas@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Canvas Learning Management System (Faculty/Students/Staff) Canvas.NOBTS.edu.
3. Bluejeanshelpdesk@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the Bluejeans & NOBTS Bluejeans classrooms (On and Off-Campus)
4. TelephoneHelpDesk@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS On-Campus Phone system.
5. ITCSupport@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests in the Flex classrooms and for general technical questions/support requests. If you are not sure who to contact, use this email address!
6. [504.816.8180](tel:504.816.8180) - Call for any technical questions/support requests. (Currently available Mon-Thurs 7:00am-9:00pm & Fri 7:00-7:00pm Central Time)
7. www.NOBTS.edu/itc/ - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

Help for Writing Papers at “The Write Stuff”

NOBTS maintains a Writing Center designed to improve English writing at the graduate level. Students can receive writing guides, tips, and valuable information to help in becoming a better writer. A copy of the approved NOBTS Style Guide can be found in the course Canvas shell, or can be located online at the Writing Center’s page on the seminary website at: https://www.nobts.edu/_resources/pdf/writing/StyleGuide.pdf

Plagiarism on Written Assignments

NOBTS has a no tolerance policy for plagiarism. Plagiarism in certain cases may result in expulsion from the seminary. See the NOBTS Student Handbook for definition, penalties, and policies associated with plagiarism.

Course Schedule

Unit 1 (Week of Aug.13) – Course Orientation, Call to Ministry
No assigned reading in Unit 1

Unit 2 (Week of Aug.20) – Character Matters
Equipped for Good Work (EQ), Chp. 1; Pastoral Theology (PT), Chp. 1-2

Unit 3 (Week of Aug.27) – Church Governance
EQ, Chp. 2-3; PT, Chp. 3

Unit 4 (Week of Sep.3) – Elders and Deacons – Theology Paper Due
EQ, Chp. 14; PT, Chp. 4

Unit 5 (Week of Sep.10) – Staff Relations
EQ, Chp. 13; PT, Chp. 5

Unit 6 (Week of Sep.17) – Ordinances
EQ, Chp. 10; PT, Chp. 6

Unit 7 (Week of Sep.24) – Weddings, Funerals, Mid-Term Exam
EQ, Chp. 8-9

Oct. 2-6 – Fall Break (No Classes)

Unit 8 (Week of Oct.8) – Vision, Conflict
EQ, Chp. 4-5; PT, Chp. 7

Unit 9 (Week of Oct.15) – Pastoral Counseling – Philosophy Paper Due
EQ, Chp. 6-7; PT, Chp. 8

Oct.20-21 – Weekend Hybrid on the main NOBTS Campus

Unit 10 (Week of Oct.22) – Disciple making, Connecting Well
EQ, Chp. 11; PT, Chp. 9

Unit 11 (Week of Oct.29) – Ministry Credentials
EQ, Chp. 12; PT, Chp. 10

Unit 12 (Week of Nov.5) – Starting Well & Finishing Well
EQ, Chp. 15-16

Unit 13 (Week of Nov.12) – Pastoral Ministry Q&A – Major Ministry Assignment Due

Nov. 20-24 – Thanksgiving Break (No Classes)

Unit 14 (Week of Nov.26) – Pastoral Ministry

Unit 15 – Final Exam, December 5, by 11:59pm

Selected Bibliography

- Akin, Daniel L. and R. Scott Pace. *Pastoral Theology: Theological Foundations for Who A Pastor Is and What He Does*. Nashville: B&H Academic, 2017.
- Ammerman, Nancy T., Jackson W. Carroll, Carl S. Dudley, and William McKinney, eds. *Studying Congregations: A New Handbook*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1998.
- Anthony, Michael J. And James Estep, Jr. *Management Essentials for Christian Ministries*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 2005.
- Armstrong, John H., ed. *Reforming Pastoral Ministry*. Wheaton: Crossway Books, 2001.
- Baxter, Richard. *The Reformed Pastor: A Pattern of Personal Growth and Ministry*. Regent College Pub., 2001.
- Bickers, Dennis. *The Bivocational Pastor*. Kansas City: Beacon Hill Press, 2004.
- Bisagno, John. *Letter to Timothy: A Handbook for Pastors*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 2001.
- Brubaker, David R. *Promise and Peril: Understanding and Managing Change and Conflict in Congregations*. Herndon, VA: The Alban Institute, 2009.
- Callahan, Kennon L. *A New Beginning For Pastors and Congregations*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 1999.
- Campbell, Barry. *Toolbox for [Busy] Pastors*. Nashville: Convention Press, 1998.
- Cothen, Joe H. *Equipped for Good Work*. Revised by Joe H. Cothen and Jerry N. Barlow. Gretna: Pelican, 2002.
- Criswell, W.A. *Criswell's Guidebook for Pastors*. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1980.
- Daman, Glenn. *Shepherding the Small Church*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2002.
- Fisher, David. *The 21st Century Pastor*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House, 1996.
- Frye, John W. *Jesus: The Pastor*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2000.
- Gerkin, Charles V. *An Introduction to Pastoral Care*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1997.
- Goodman, Thomas. *The Intentional Minister*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 1994.
- Gruden, Wayne and Dennis Rainey, eds. *Pastoral Leadership for Manhood and Womanhood*. Wheaton: Crossway, 2002.
- Hellerman, Joseph H. *When the Church Was a Family*. Nashville: B & H Academic, 2009.
- Hughes, R. Kent. *The Pastor's Book: A Comprehensive and Practical Guide to Pastoral Ministry*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2015.
- Hunter, Rodney J., ed. *Dictionary of Pastoral Care and Counseling*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1990.
- Lawrence, Bill. *Effective Pastoring*. Nashville: Word Publishing, 1999.
- London, H.B., Jr. and Neil B. Wiseman. *Pastors at Greater Risk*. Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 2003.
- _____. *They Call Me Pastor*. Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 2000.

Lutzer, Erwin. *Pastor to Pastor: Tackling the Problems of Ministry*. Grand Rapids: Kregel Publications, 1998.

MacArthur, John. *Pastoral Ministry: How to Shepherd Biblically*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 2005.

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.

_____. *The Dynamics of Church Leadership. Ministry Dynamics for a New Century*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1999.

Means, James E. *Effective Pastors for a New Century*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1993.

Miller, Calvin. *O Shepherd, Where Art Thou?* Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 2006.

Oden, Thomas C. *Pastoral Theology*. San Francisco: Harper, 1983.

Olson, David T. *The American Church in Crisis*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2008.

Purves, Andrew. *Pastoral Theology in the Classical Tradition*. Louisville: Westminster, 2001.

Peterson, Eugene. *Five Smooth Stones for Pastoral Work*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans Pub., 1980.

Prime, Derek and Alistair Begg. *On Being a Pastor*. Chicago: Moody, 2004.

Radcliffe, Robert J. *Effective Ministry as an Associate Pastor*. Grand Rapids: Kregel Publications, 1998.

Ramey Jr., Robert H. *The Pastor's Start-Up Manual*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1995.

Rediger, G. Lloyd. *Fit to be Pastor*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2000.

Shawchuch, Norman, and Roger Heuser. *Leading the Congregation*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1993.

Stevens, R. Paul. and Phil Collins. *The Equipping Pastor*. The Alban Institute, 1993.

Stowell, Joseph M. *Shepherding the Church in the 21st Century*. Wheaton: Victor Books, 1994.

Swetland, Kenneth L. *Facing Messy Stuff in the Church*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2005.

Tidball, Derek. *Ministry by the Book: New Testament Patterns for Pastoral Leadership*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2008.

Thomas, Curtis. *Practical Wisdom for Pastors*. Wheaton: Crossway Books, 2001.

Warren, Rick. *The Purpose Driven Church*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1995.

White, James Emery. *Rethinking the Church*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2003.

Wiersbe, David W. *The Dynamics of Pastoral Care*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2000.

Wofford, Jerry C. Transforming Christian Leadership: 10 Exemplary Church Leaders. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1999.

SERMON BRIEF

Name _____

Title: (A brief phrase or sentence reflecting the sermon subject.)

Text: (Bible passage.)

Primary Audience: (The primary target of the text; i.e., *Salvation, Fellowship, or General.*)

C.I.T.: (Central Idea of the Text: A 15-18 word past-tense statement interpreting what the text meant then.)

Proposition: (A 15-18 word present-tense application of the C.I.T.)

Purpose: (A brief statement of what the preacher wants the listeners to know or do in response to the message.)

Outline: (Two or more words, phrases, or sentences which describe the structure of the text. This will include *major divisions, sub-points, transitional statements, and conclusion statement*)

PATH5331 Final Exam Grading Rubric

Note: this rubric is for faculty, adjunct faculty, graders, & students.

Student: _____

Total Points for the Assignment: _____

Late Submission Penalty Assessed: _____

Grade for the Assignment: _____

Grading Rubric for the Final Exam Assignment of PATH5331 Pastoral Ministry

Criteria	Points Possible	Points Earned
Identified new & helpful content & concepts & discussed how helpful	20 points	
Discussed how the major ministry assignment option chosen helped the student's capability to shepherd others	20 points	
Described key characteristics of effective shepherding & discussed why they are key	30 points	
Selected two syllabus Student Learning Outcomes & discussed what course content helped the student to achieve the two outcomes	30 points	
		Total:

Grading Points Scale:

A: Exceptional insights & discussion

B: Meaningful insights & discussion

C: Average insights & discussion

D or F: Limited insights & discussion