



# **DISC5260 Discipleship Strategies**

## **New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary**

### **Church Ministry Division**

#### **Mentoring Spring 2022**

#### **Professors:**

Hal Stewart, Ph.D.  
Ministry-Based Associate Professor of Discipleship  
Director of Spiritual Formation  
[hstewart@nobts.edu](mailto:hstewart@nobts.edu)

#### **Grader:**

Stephanie Cline  
[stephanie.l.cline62312@gmail.com](mailto:stephanie.l.cline62312@gmail.com)

#### **Mission Statement**

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

#### **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.

#### **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**

Absalom, Alex and Bobby Harrington. *Discipleship that Fits: The Five Kinds of Relationships God Uses to Help Us Grow*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2016.

Coleman, Robert. *The Master Plan of Evangelism*. Grand Rapids, MI: Revell, 1993.

Dean, Jody and Hal Stewart. *Together We Equip: Integrating Discipleship and Ministry Leadership for Holistic Spiritual Formation*. Bloomington, IN: Westbow Press, 2018.

Malphurs, Aubrey. *Strategic Disciple Making: A Practical Tool for Successful Ministry*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2009.

## **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 12<sup>th</sup>)**

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. 3)

**Reading Statement:** Add a statement at end on how much of the book you read.

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:** Coleman – *Master Plan of Evangelism* (Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>)

Dean and Stewart – *Together We Equip* or Absalom and Harrington – *Discipleship that Fits* (April 16<sup>th</sup>)

### **Discipleship Strategy Handbook & Implementation – 40 points (Due: May 4<sup>th</sup>)**

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 **8 teaching units** and engage in content.
- **Mentor Meeting (12 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 based on the course teaching units. 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 church 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 (9 pts)** A *Mentoring Monthly Report* will be completed by students for **February, March and April**. The completed report will be submitted and uploaded through Blackboard by the **last day of the month**. The first paper will the completed goals and covenant with the approved mentor. The final 2 papers 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 3 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**

**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.

**Assignment Formatting:** Unless otherwise noted, all assignments are to be created in Turabian format. All written assignments must be Word documents, written in third person unless otherwise instructed, and created in 12 pt. Times New Roman font. PDFs will not be accepted.

**Assignment Submission:** All assignments are to be submitted to Blackboard by 11:59 p.m. of the due date unless otherwise indicated. Do not send files as attachments via email to the professor. For technical reasons, this mode of file transmission is extremely inefficient.

**Grading Scale:** Your final grade will be based on your total accumulation of points as indicated under the *Assignments and Evaluation Criteria* section of this syllabus according to the grading scale in the NOBTS 2021-22 catalog: A 93-100 B 85-92 C 77-84 D 70-76 F 69

**Late Assignments:** Only under extreme circumstances, and with prior approval, will a late assignment be accepted. Late assignments will be assessed an initial 10 percent penalty and 1

percent for each day after the due date (i.e. 10/1 points for a 100 point assignment, 3/.3 points for a 30 point assignment). No assignments will be accepted more than two weeks after the original due date. Missed presentations may not be made up.

**Netiquette: Appropriate Online Behavior:** Each student is expected to demonstrate appropriate Christian behavior when working online. 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.

**Plagiarism:** A high standard of personal integrity is expected of all students. Copying another person's work, submitting downloaded material without proper references, submitting material without properly citing the source, submitting the same material for credit in more than one course, and other such forms of dishonesty are strictly forbidden. *Although anything cited in three sources is considered public domain, we require that all sources be cited.* Any infraction will result in failing the course. Any infraction will be reported to the Dean of Students for further action.

**Revision of the Syllabus:** The course syllabus is not a legal contract. Any syllabus revision will be preceded by a reasonable notice to students. The standards and requirements set forth in this syllabus may be modified at any time by the professor. Notice of such changes will be by announcement in class or by email notice.

**Withdrawal from the Course:** The administration has set deadlines for withdrawal. These dates and times are published in the academic calendar. Administration procedures must be followed. You are responsible to handle withdrawal requirements. A professor can't issue a withdrawal. You must do the proper paperwork to ensure that you will not receive a final grade of "F" in the course if you choose not to attend once you are enrolled.

### **Additional Information**

**Blackboard and SelfServe:** You are responsible for maintaining current information regarding contact information on Blackboard and SelfServe. The professor will utilize both to communicate with the class. Blackboard and SelfServe do not share information so you must update each. Assignment grades will be posted to Blackboard. You will be need to enroll in the course on Blackboard.

**Correspondence with the Grader:** You should contact the grader via email at [insert grader's email address here]. The grader responds to email during normal business hours, 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on weekdays only. The grader may not respond to late night or weekend e-mails until regular "business" hours. Please respect the grader's personal time. Remember, graders are students as well and have their own coursework and research to complete. Please be respectful in the language you use in your emails to the grader.

**Correspondence with the Professor:** Every effort is made to respond to emails and phone calls within 24-48 hours, excluding weekends. Please feel free to contact the professor(s) with any question you may have regarding this course.

**NOBTS Emergency Text Messaging Service:** Once you have established a SelfServe account you may sign up for the NOBTS emergency text messaging service by going to <http://nobts.edu/NOBTSEmergencyTextMessage.html>.

**Special Needs:** If you need an accommodation for any type of disability, please set up a time to meet with the professor(s) to discuss any modifications you may need that are able to be provided.

**Technical Support:** Need technical assistance? Contact the ITC today:

- Selfserve@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the Selfserve.nobts.edu site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)
- BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Blackboard Learning Management System NOBTS.Blackboard.com.
- www.NOBTS.edu/itc/ - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website. If you experience any problems with your Blackboard account you may email [BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu](mailto:BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu) or call the ITC at 504-282-4455, ext. 8180.
- ITCsupport@nobts.edu - Email for general technical questions/support requests. 504.816.8180 - Call for any technical questions/support requests.

### **Writing Style Guide**

A copy of the approved NOBTS Style Guide can be found in the course Blackboard 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>

### **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.

### **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: 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

<b>Discipleship Strategy Handbook &amp; Implementation Paper</b>				
This rubric describes how you will be evaluated for your Discipleship Strategy Handbook & Implementation Paper.				
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Levels of Achievement</b>			
	<b>Excellent</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Needs Improvement</b>	<b>Deficient</b>
	<b>10 Points</b>	<b>8.5 Points</b>	<b>7 Points</b>	<b>5 Points</b>
<b>Discipleship Content</b>	Strategy is a well-thought out exceptional strategy that supports the biblical basis for discipleship. The rationale is clearly communicated. Reflects application of critical thinking. Has a clear goal with prudent time stamps that are appropriate. A variety of sources are referenced. Is biblically	Strategy is a well-thought out good plan that supports the biblical basis for discipleship. The rationale is given. Has application of critical thinking apparent. Has a clear goal with good time stamps. An acceptable number of sources are referenced. Is biblically accurate.	Strategy supports the biblical basis for discipleship. The rationale is vaguely referenced. Has application of critical thinking that is apparent. Has no clear goal and unwise time stamps. A limited number of sources are referenced. Has some inconsistencies.	Strategy provides inconsistent information for the biblical basis for discipleship. No rationale for discipleship is given. Has no apparent application of critical thinking. Has no clear goal and no selected time stamps. A few sources are referenced. Has significant, misconceptions, or misinterpretation on discipleship.
<b>Grammatical Convention</b>	No spelling, grammatical, or punctuation errors. High-level use of vocabulary and word choice.	Few (1 to 3) spelling, grammatical, or punctuation errors. Good use of vocabulary word choice.	Minimal (3 to 5) spelling, grammatical, or punctuation errors. Low-level use of vocabulary and word choice.	More than 5 spelling, grammatical, or punctuation errors. Poor use of vocabulary and word choice.
<b>Strategy Organization</b>	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 is logical and supports mission of the church in the selected profile context.	Strategy plan has focus but strays from the profile at times. Strategic steps appears 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	Strategic planning Content is unfocused 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.
<b>Presentation Level</b>	Exceptional creativity in visual format with over 20 slides or pages. Multimedia (charts, graphs, tables, illustrations, video) is used or referenced to clarify and illustrate the main points. Format enhances the content. Presentation captures audience attention. Presentation is	Good creativity in visual format with 17-19 slides or pages. Multimedia (charts, graphs, tables, illustrations, video) is used or referenced to illustrate the main points. Format is appropriate for the content. Presentation captures audience	Acceptable creativity in visual format 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 or reader's	Limited creativity in visual format with 12 or less slides or pages. Presentation appears sloppy and/or unfinished. Multimedia (charts, graphs, tables, illustrations, video) is overused or underused. Form at does not enhance content. Presentation has no clear organization.
<b>Late Work Penalty</b>	<b>0 Points</b>	<b>-1 Points</b>	<b>-2 Points</b>	<b>-3 Points</b>
	Not late.	One day late.	Two days late.	Four days late.
<b>Additional Missed Points</b>	<b>0 Points</b>	<b>-1 Points</b>	<b>-2 Points</b>	<b>-3 Points</b>
	No additional missed points.	Reason Provided in Feedback.	Reason Provided in Feedback.	Reason Provided in Feedback.

## Selected Bibliography

- Adsit, Christopher B. *Personal Disciplemaking: A Step-by-step Guide for Leading a New Christian from New Birth to Maturity*. Orlando, FL: Integrated Resources, 1996.
- Blackaby, Henry & Richard. *Spiritual Leadership: Moving People on to God's Agenda*. Nashville, TN: B & H Publishers, 2001.
- Bonhoeffer, Dietrich. *The Cost of Discipleship*. New York: Macmillan, 1937.
- Briner, Bob and Ray Pritchard. *The Leadership Lessons of Jesus: A Timeless Model for Today's Leaders*. Nashville, TN: B & H Publishers, 1997.
- Bruce, A. B. *The Training of the Twelve*. Reprint ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Publications, 1971.
- Calkins, Raymond. *How Jesus Dealt With Men*. New York: Abingdon-Cokesbury Press, 1942.
- Camp, Lee C. *Mere Discipleship: Radical Christianity in a Rebellious World*. Grand Rapids, MI: Brazos Press, 2008.
- Cloud, Henry, and John Townsend. *How People Grow: What the Bible Reveals About Personal Growth*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2001.
- Cocklereece, Tom. *Simple Discipleship: How to Make Disciples in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*. St. Charles, IL: ChurchSmart Resources, 2009.
- Cole, Neil. *Search and Rescue: Becoming a Disciple Who Makes a Difference*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2008.
- Coleman, Robert E. *The Master Plan of Evangelism*. Old Tappan: Fleming H. Revell Company, 1964.
- Dodson, Jonathan K. *Gospel-Centered Discipleship*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2012.
- Eims, LeRoy. *The Lost Art of Disciple Making*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1978.
- Gangel, Kenneth. "The Meaning of Leadership" in *Leadership Handbook of Management & Administration*. James D. Berkley, ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2007.
- Goleman, Daniel, Richard Boyatis, and Annie McKee. *Primal Leadership: Revitalizing the Power of Emotional Intelligence*. Boston: Harvard Business School Press, 2004.
- Habermas, Ronald T. *Introduction to Christian Education and Formation: A Lifelong Plan for Christ-Centered Restoration*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2008.



- Hedges, Brian G. *Christ Formed in You: The Power of the Gospel for Personal Change*. Wapwallopen, PA: Shepherd Press, 2010.
- Hesselbein, Frances and Marshall Goldsmith, eds. *The Leader of the Future 2: Visions, Strategies, and Practices for the New Era*. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass, 2006.
- Hodges, Herb. *Tally Ho the Fox: The Foundation for Building World-Visionary, World-Impacting, Reproducing Disciples*. 2 ed. Augusta, GA: Manhattan Source, 2001.
- Hull, Bill. *The Complete Book of Discipleship: On Being and Making Followers of Christ*. Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 2006.
- Hull, Bill. *The Disciple-Making Church*. Grand Rapids, MI: Fleming H. Revell, 1990.
- Hunt, Josh, and Larry Mays. *Disciple-Making Teachers: How to Equip Adults for Growth and Action*. Loveland, CO: Group Publishing Inc., 1998.
- Huxhold, Harry N. *Twelve Who Followed: The Story of Jesus and His First Disciples*. Minneapolis, MN: Augsburg Publishing House, 1987.
- Iorg, Jeff. *The Painful Side of Leadership: Moving Forward Even When It Hurts*. Nashville, TN: B&H Books, 2009.
- Issler, Klaus. *Living Into the Life of Jesus: The Formation of Christian Character*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Books, 2012.
- Jones, Laurie Beth. *Jesus CEO: Using Ancient Wisdom for Visionary Leadership*. New York: Hyperion, 1995.
- Koessler, John. *True Discipleship: The Art of Following Jesus*. Chicago, IL: Moody Publishers, 2003.
- Lane, Timothy S., and Paul David Tripp. *How People Change*. Greensboro, NC: New Growth Press, 2006.
- Lawless, Chuck. *Discipled Warriors: Growing Healthy Churches That Are Equipped for Spiritual Warfare*. Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Academic & Professional, 2002.
- Mancini, Will. *Innovating Discipleship: Four Paths to Real Discipleship Results (Church Unique Intentional Leader Series)*. Lexington, KY: CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2013.
- McCallum, Dennis and Jessica Lowery. *Organic Disciplemaking: Mentoring Others into Spiritual Maturity and Leadership*. Houston, TX: Touch Publications, 2006.

- Mitchell, Michael R. *Leading, Teaching, and Making Disciples: World-Class Christian Education in the Church, School, and Home*. Bloomington, IN: Crossway Books, 2010.
- Ogden, Greg. "Servant Leadership" in *Leadership Handbook of Management & Administration*. James D. Berkley, ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2007.
- Ogden, Greg. *Transforming Discipleship: Making Disciples a Few at a Time*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Books, 2003.
- Ogden, Greg and Daniel Meyer. *Leadership Essentials: Shaping Vision, Multiplying Influence, Defining Character*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Connect, 2007.
- O'Grady, John F. *Disciples and Leaders: The Origins of Christian Ministry in the New Testament*. New York: Paulist Press, 1991.
- Petersen, Jim. *Lifestyle Discipleship: Encouraging Others to Spiritual Maturity*. Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 2007.
- Pettit, Paul, ed. *Foundations of Spiritual Formation: A Community Approach to Becoming Like Christ*. Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Publications, 2008.
- Pope, Randy, and Kitti Murray. *Insourcing: Bringing Discipleship Back to the Local Church (Leadership Network Innovation Series)*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2013.
- Putman, David. *Breaking the Discipleship Code*. Nashville, TN: B & H Publishing Group, 2008.
- Scazzero, Peter L., and Warren Bird. *The Emotionally Healthy Church: A Strategy for Discipleship That Actually Changes Lives*. Updated & Expanded ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2010.
- Taylor, Edward Lynn. *The Disciples of Jesus in the Gospel of Mark*. London: University Microfilms International, 1980.
- Wilkins, Michael J. *Following the Master: A Biblical Theology of Discipleship*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1992.
- Willard, Dallas. *The Spirit of the Disciplines: Understanding How God Changes Lives*. San Francisco, CA: Harper & Row Publishers, 1988.
- Wright, N.T. *Following Jesus: Biblical Reflections on Discipleship*. Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1995.