DISC6300 Lifespan Discipleship (Internet)
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Church Ministry Division
Summer 2022

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

Course Catalog Description
Students will examine discipleship through the lens of developmental stages across the lifespan–birth through older adult. Methodology will involve course readings, videos, PowerPoint presentations, Blackboard discussion boards, and related course assignments. Emphasis is given to application in the local church context. There are no prerequisites for this course, though it is recommended the student first complete CEEF6306 Lifespan Development.

Student Learning Outcomes
Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to:
Cognitive:
- Understand the cognitive, social, physical, moral, and spiritual development of each stage of the lifespan.
- Identify basic components of a discipleship ministry.

Affective:
- Appreciate the need to implement a sound discipleship program that ministers to each age group in the local church.

Psychomotor:
- Design a discipleship curriculum for a specific local church ministry reflecting age-appropriate content and learning activities.

Textbook:
See "Assigned Reading" in *Course Schedule*. All assigned readings for the course are available via .pdf on Blackboard.

Course Teaching Methodology
The course will involve the following methodologies: reading assignments, reviewing lecture material, individual learning assignments, and online interaction.

Format
This course is taught online.

Embedded Assignment
This course has been identified as a core course and therefore an embedded assignment exists for this course.

Assignments and Evaluation Criteria
1. Reading Assignments: (10%)   **See Course Schedule for Due Dates**
All reading assignments should be completed prior to the deadline so you can actively engage and process all class materials. The assigned reading for each unit appears in the "Course Schedule" section of the syllabus. Reading is extremely important as the content covered in this class is based on the required reading, and online Blackboard discussion also shows the level to which you are grasping and applying the course content. A minimum of one to two hours of reading and studying is needed to prepare for each unit. **Each student will be asked to report a percentage of the reading you have completed at the end of the course.** *This assignment is related to the Cognitive Student Learning Outcome.*

2. Blackboard Discussion Board (15%)   **Due: Weekly**
Each student is expected to participate in online interaction through the Blackboard Discussion Board. This is your class participation grade. Discussion board post are due each week before midnight on Sunday night. *This assignment is related to the Cognitive and Psychomotor Student Learning Outcomes.*

3. Unit Quizzes: (2.5 % each, Total = 20%)   **See Course Schedule for Due Dates**
Each student is expected to take all quizzes at the scheduled times. Unless otherwise indicated, exams are open book/open note. Unit quizzes will cover the content found in the unit's assigned reading. Unit quizzes will consist of objective questions (true/false, multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, etc.) and subjective questions (essay questions and short answer questions). **Make-up unit quizzes are approved at the discretion of the professor.** *These assignments are related to the Cognitive Student Learning Outcome.*

4. Journal Article Review (10%)   **Due: June 26**
Locate an academic (peer-reviewed) journal article concerning one aspect of development (physical, cognitive, social, moral/spiritual) of one age group (infancy through senior adulthood) of the lifespan. Write a 3-4 page review of the research summarizing the conclusions and suggesting application in the local church. For assistance with this assignment, watch the video "How to Search for Journal Articles at NOBTS" on Blackboard and refer to the **Peer-Reviewed Journal section** of this syllabus.
       The review should include:
          1. A full bibliographic reference
          2. The author's primary point(s)

3. At least one identified strength
4. At least one identified weakness
5. A summary of the conclusions and suggested application in the local church
Note: Strengths and weaknesses are not likes or dislikes, but an academic evaluation that should be supported by the course texts or content.

This assignment is related to the Cognitive and Psychomotor Student Learning Outcomes.

5. *EMBEDDED ASSIGNMENT*: Lifespan Discipleship Design (35%)   Due: July 17
Each student will design and submit a one-year discipleship program as a document for ALL of the age segments in a local church (preschool, children, youth, young adults, middle adults, AND senior adults). Assume a church large enough to sustain teachers and budget for each age group. Success in this assignment is a comprehensive plan, presented in paragraph and chart form including the a) biblical rationale, b) development and discipleship knowledge, c) curriculum utilized (or written), d) time frame for the units, and e) resources needed (human, space, financial). **The paper must be 18-20 pages in length.** A rubric is provided in the syllabus. *This assignment is related to the Affective Student Learning Outcome.*

6. Discipleship Design Presentation (10%)   Due: July 24
Prepare a video of your 12-month discipleship program for ONE of the age segments (preschool, children, youth, young adult, middle adult, OR senior adult). Your presentation should be created as if you were presenting to the volunteers at your church. Your presentation should be **5-8 minutes** in length. The video file or link to the video file (Google Drive, OneDrive, etc.) or a link to your uploaded video (YouTube, etc.) must be submitted on Blackboard by end of the day on the deadline.

Evaluation of Grade
The student's grade will be computed as follows:

Reading Assignments	10%
Blackboard Discussion Board	15%
Unit Quizzes (10 at 2% each)	20%
Journal Article Review	10%
Lifespan Discipleship Design	35%
Discipleship Design Presentation	10%

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 site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)
2. BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Blackboard Learning Management System NOBTS.Blackboard.com.
3. ITCSupport@nobts.edu - Email for general technical questions/support requests.
4. www.NOBTS.edu/itc/ - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

Course Policies

Reading Assignments
Students are responsible for completing all reading assignments.

Absences
In the online format, attendance is assessed through completed assignments for each unit: Blackboard discussion, Unit Quiz completion during the assigned period of time, and assignment submission by the due date.

Professor's Policy on Late Assignments
All work is due on the assigned date and time in the syllabus. Assignments are due before midnight on the day they are due. Late assignments will be penalized an initial 10 percent penalty and one percent for each day after the due date. No assignments will be accepted more than two weeks after the original due date. Submit all assignments electronically on Blackboard. Do not send files as attachments via email to the professor.

Professor's Availability and Assignment Feedback
The student may contact the professor at any time using the email address provided in the course syllabus. The professor will make every effort to return answers to emailed questions within a 24-hour period of time. Assignments requiring grading will be returned to the student within a reasonable period of time. Student feedback on graded assignments will be provided through the grading rubric located in the student's Blackboard Grade Book. The student will find comments in the grading rubric, as well as on graded paper assignments. The student may also email the course grader with questions regarding grading.

Style and Formatting
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"
This is the official NOBTS Writing Center online help site for writing academic papers and essays. http://www.nobts.edu/writing/default.html You will discover writing guides, tips, and valuable information to help you become a better writer. Go here for Turabian helps and guidelines.

In addition, the website Grammarly (www.grammarly.com) will help you become a better writer. Eazypaper (www.eazypaper.com) will help you automatically format your sources.

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.

Plagiarism on Written Assignments
NOBTS has a no tolerance policy for plagiarism. Please be aware that plagiarism in certain cases may result in expulsion from the seminary. Refer to the NOBTS Student Handbook http://www.nobts.edu/_resources/pdf/studentservices/NOBTSHandbook.pdf where the definition, penalties and policies associated with plagiarism are clearly defined.

Extra Credit
The policy for extra credit in this course is students can submit an additional Journal Article Review for extra credit. The extra journal article review will not substitute or replace any course assignment. The extra credit assignment is worth up to three points on the final grade.

Blackboard and ITC Technical Support
Blackboard is the instructional platform used in this class. Please make sure that your contact information is accurate and up-to-date. If you need assistance, please contact the Information Technology Center (Hardin Student Center 290 or call **504.816.8180**). Here are other helpful links to ITC assistance. Selfserve@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support request for help with the site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.) BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Blackboard System. For Student Assistance in using Blackboard, visit: Student Bb Help. ITCSupport@nobts.edu - for general technical questions/support requests. www.NOBTS.edu/itc/ - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

Academic Policies
Academic policies related to absences, grading scale, final examination schedules, and other topics can be found in the current online catalog: *New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Graduate Catalog.*

Policy for Graduating Seniors
Graduating Seniors are responsible for alerting the professor of your intention to graduate. All of your assignments must be completed by noon (12:00 PM) on the Wednesday prior to commencement exercises.

Netiquette
Netiquette refers to appropriate online behavior in Blackboard or other online discussions.   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.

Grading Scale
Each students 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 catalog.

A   93-100   B   85-92   C   77-84   D   70-76   F   69 and below

Special Needs
If you need an accommodation for any type of disability, please email me to discuss any modifications you may need.

Withdrawal from the Course
The administration has set deadlines for withdrawal. These dates and times are published on the academic calendar. Administration procedures must be followed. You are responsible to handle withdrawal requirements. A professor cannot issue a withdrawal. You must complete the proper paperwork to ensure you will not receive a final grade of "F" in the course if you choose not to engage in the online class once you are enrolled.

Hurricane/Severe Weather Evacuation
For up-to-date weather information stay tuned to:
- WBSN FM-89.1
- WWL Channel 4
- WWL AM-870
- www.nobts.edu

Mandatory Evacuation
Hurricane season lasts from June 1 to November 30. If the Mayor of New Orleans or the President of NOBTS recommends that you leave the city, then do so. If a mandatory evacuation is called, everyone except emergency personnel must leave. Staying on campus is not an option. See the *Student Handbook* for further information regarding hurricane preparedness, evacuation, and shelter.

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 .

Optional Texts
Geiger, Eric, Michael Kelly, and Philip Nation, *Transformational Discipleship: How People Really Grow*. Nashville, TN: B&H Publishing 2012.

Holibaugh, Anne Lincoln, "How to Talk to Your Children about Baptism and Communion." http://www.thevillagechurch.net/the-village-blog/ how-to-talk-with-your -children -about-baptism-and-communion/

Michael, David and Sally Michael. "Children & Prayer," http://www.brookhills.org/pdfs/ preschool/children_and_prayer.pdf (all articles on this page)

Ogden, Greg, *Discipleship Essentials: A Guide to Building Your Life in Christ*. Downer's Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1998.

Setran David P. and Chris A. Kiesling. *Spiritual Formation in Emerging Adulthood: A Practical Theology for College and Young Adult Ministry*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Publishing, 2013.

Spooner, Bernie, Ed. *Preschool Christian Education.* Coppell, TX: Christian Leadership Publishing, 2015.

Spooner, Bernie, Ed. *Children's Christian Education.* Coppell, TX: Christian Leadership Publishing, 2015.

Spooner, Bernie, Ed. *Youth /Collegiate Christian Education.* Coppell, TX: Christian Leadership Publishing, 2015.

Spooner, Bernie, Ed. *Adult Christian Education.* Coppell, TX: Christian Leadership Publishing, 2015.

Stetzer, Ed. "Discipleship, Young Adults, and Deeper Teaching." Presentations at the D6 Conference, Frisco, TX, September 2012.

Selected Bibliography

Arnett, Jeffrey J. *Adolescence and Emerging Adulthood: A Cultural Approach*, 5th ed. Boston: Pearson, 2013.

Baugh, Ken and Rich Hurst. *The Quest for Christ: Discipling Today's Young Adults*. Loveland, CO: Group, 2002.

Castor, Ken and Katie Edwards. *The Skinny on Discipleship: A Big Youth Ministry Topic in a Single Little Book*. Loveland, CO: Simply Youth Ministry, 2015.

Craker, Lorilee and Fleming H. Revell. *The Wide-eyed Wonder Years: A Mommy Guide to the Preschool Daze*. Ada, MI: Revell, 2006.

Dunn, Richard and Jana L. Sundene. *Shaping the Journey of Emerging Adults: Life-Giving Rhythms for Spiritual Transformation*. Westmont, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2012.

Eastman, Brett, Dee Eastman, Todd Wendorff, Denise Wendorff, and Karen Lee-Thorp. *Growing to Be Like Christ: Six Sessions on Discipleship*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2002.

Goodwin, Debbie Salter. *Raising Kids to Extraordinary Faith: Helping Parents and Teachers Disciple the Next Generation*. Kansas City, MO: Beacon Hill Press, 2008.

Main, Bruce. *If Jesus Were a Sophomore: Discipleship for College Students*. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2002.

Manyara, Daniel. *Adult Discipleship*. Saarbrücken, Germany: LAP Lambert Academic Publishing, 2014.

Naylor, Beth and Sheila Seifert. *Talking with God*. Colorado Springs, CO: David C. Cook, 2006.

Shafer, Barry. *Unleashing God's Word in Youth Ministry*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan/Youth Specialties, 2009.

Rolph, Thana. *God's Mirror Discipleship for Overcomers*. Dunamas Publishing, 2010.

Spear, Kevin. *What's a Bathtub Doing in My Church?: Fifteen Questions Kids Ask about Baptism, Salvation and Snorkels*. Anderson, IN: Warner Press Publishers, 2006.

Turner, Rachel. *Parenting Children for a Life of Faith: Helping Children to Meet and Know God*. Oxford, UK: Bible Reading Fellowship, 2010.

Wilson, Christopher W. *Passage Into Discipleship: Guide to Baptism*. Atlanta, GA: Chalice Press, 2009.

Wilson, Valerie. *Welcome to the Family*. Schaumburg, IL: Regular Baptist Press.

Peer-Reviewed Journals
Adolescence – available online at EBSCO

Adolescent & Family Health – published by the Institute for Youth Development

Brown University Child & Adolescent Behavior Letter – available online at EBSCO

Child & Adolescent Social Work Journal – published by Chicago State University

European Child & Adolescent Psychiatry – available online at EBSCO

Journal of Adolescence – published by the Association in Professional Services for Adolescents

Journal of Adolescent Health – published by The Society for Adolescent Health and Medicine

Journal of Adolescent Research – available online at EBSCO

Journal of Child & Adolescent Psychiatric Nursing – available online at EBSCO

Journal of Child & Adolescent Substance Abuse – published by Routledge

Journal of Early Adolescence – available online at EBSCO

Journal of Research on Adolescence – published by Society for Research on Adolescence

Journal of Youth and Adolescence – published by Springer

Journal of Youth Ministry – published by the Association of Youth Ministry Educators

Journal of Youth and Theology – published by the International Association for the Study of Youth Ministry

Developmental Psychology – a journal published by the American Psychological Association

Psychology and Aging - a journal published by the American Psychological Association

Evaluation Rubric for Embedded Assignment: Lifespan Discipleship Design

Age Segment Chosen:_____   Student Name: _____

Biblical Rationale (0-7)	Development and Discipleship Knowledge (0-10)	Curriculum Utilized, or Written (0-6)	Time frame for the Discipleship Units (0-6)	Resources Needed Identified (0-6)	TOTAL POINTS (35 possible)
Point Value: 0-1 No mention of biblical rationale	**Point Value: 0-4** Does not appear to demonstrate basic knowledge, attitude, or skill throughout the discipleship design; Little knowledge of development and discipleship	**Point Value: 0** No mention of curriculum in the discipleship design	**Point Value: 0** No inclusion of a time frame for the proposed discipleship units in the discipleship design	**Point Value: 0** No mention of human, space, or financial resources required for the proposed discipleship design	
Point Value: 2-3 Biblical rationale present but weak, not well defined	**Point Value: 5-6** Demonstrates basic knowledge, attitude, skills of discipleship yet does not utilize information presented throughout the semester	**Point Value: 1-2** Curriculum does not support the 12-month length of the discipleship design	**Point Value: 1-2** Time frame presented is shorter than the required one-year/12-month time frame	**Point Value: 1-2** Partial mention of resources required, but not complete	
Point Value: 4-5 Biblical rationale present and well explained, clear connection with the overall discipleship design	**Point Value: 7-8** Good demonstration of discipleship knowledge, attitude, or skill, utilizes information presented throughout the semester, adequate consideration of development stages in discipleship design	**Point Value: 3-4** Curriculum adequately supports the 12-month discipleship design, comprehensive flow apparent among the units over the 12 months	**Point Value: 3-4** Time frame presented meets the 12-month/one-year requirement, and includes presentation of strategic dates and calendar considerations	**Point Value: 3-4** Adequately addresses all resources needed: human, space, and financial	
Point Value 6-7 Biblical rationale present and compelling, exceeds expectations in regard to the need for a discipleship design for the selected age segment	**Point Value: 9-10** Exceeds expectations, excellent application of information presented throughout the semester, demonstrates understanding of discipleship knowledge, attitude, or skills for the selected age segment	**Point Value: 5-6** Curriculum thoughtfully constructed to support the 12-month discipleship design	**Point Value: 5-6** Creative & thoughtful implementation of discipleship during the 12-month calendar including specific calendar events, exceeds expectations in presentation of the time frame	**Point Value: 5-6** Additional attention given to required resources to support and sustain the discipleship design (human, space, financial), logical expectations for resources needed	
				TOTAL	

DISC6300 Lifespan Discipleship
Course Schedule

Date	Topic	Reading	Assignment Due
Unit One: Overview of Development and Discipleship			
May 30-June 5	Syllabus Review Introduction to the Course Spiritual Development Across the Lifespan What is Discipleship?	"Introduction to Lifespan Development" (.pdf in Unit 1 Session 1 on Blackboard) "A Discipleship Primer" (read all the .pdf files in Unit 1 Session 2); Watch Video "Why is Discipleship Important?"	Quiz 1 Discussion Board 1 **Both due before midnight on Sunday, June 5**
Unit Two: Discipleship for Preschoolers			
June 6-12	Spiritual Development of Preschoolers Preschool Ministry in the Local Church	Transcript from *Four Views on Infant & Children in the Church* (.pdf in Unit 2 Session 1)	Quiz 2 Discussion Board 2 **Due before midnight on Sunday, June 12**
Unit Three: Discipleship for Children			
June 13-19	Spiritual Development of Children Children's Ministry in the Local Church	"A Vision for Child & Youth Discipleship" by Sally & David Michael (.pdf in Unit 3 Session 1); Watch Video "Children's Ministry Statistics" in Session 1 Watch Video "Leading Your Best Kids Discipleship Group" in Session 2	Quiz 3 Discussion Board 3 **Due before midnight on Sunday, June 19**
Unit Four: Discipleship for Youth			
June 20-26	Spiritual Development of Youth	"Discipling Youth" by David Odom Watch Video "What Should I Do When My Kid Says, 'I'm Not Going To Church'?" by Griffin	Quiz 4 **Journal Article Review Due** **Due before midnight on Sunday, June 26**

Unit Five: Discipleship for Young Adults (Emerging Adulthood)			
June 27-July 3	Spiritual Development of Young Adults Young Adult Discipleship in the Local Church	"Narrative Discipleship" by Byrd Watch Video "Is Church Passé for 18-35 Yr. Olds?"	Quiz 5 Discussion Board 4 **Due before midnight on Sunday, July 3**
Unit Six: Discipleship for Middle Adults			
July 4-10	Spiritual Development of Middle Adults Middle Adult Discipleship in the Local Church	"Implications for an Adult Religious Education for Spiritual Development" Watch Video: "How Do We Disciple Our Own Families"	Quiz 6 Discussion Board 5 **Due before midnight on Sunday, July 10**
Unit Seven: Discipleship for Senior Adults			
July 11-17	Spiritual Development of Senior Adults Senior Adult Discipleship in the Local Church	"Becoming Family" by Bozeman "Churches Responding to the Age Wave" Watch Video "Ellie and Carl: Married Life"	Quiz 7 **Lifespan Discipleship Design Paper Due** **Due before midnight on Sunday, July 17**
Unit Eight: Facilitating Discipleship in the Local Church			
July 18-24	Spiritual Disciplines		Quiz 8 **Lifespan Discipleship Presentation Due** *(Upload your presentation to Blackboard by 11:59pm)* **Due before midnight on Sunday, July 24**