



Special Topics in Discipleship DISC 6392

**New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Church Ministry Division
Spring Semester 2023**

Note: This course is held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Disciple Leaders Network (BACE). Note special information below.

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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

The purpose of this course is to expose students to the professional discipline of Christian ministry leadership and administration through interaction with practitioners in the field. A variety of topics will be explored through the annual meeting of the Disciple Leaders Network (BACE). The 2023 Disciple Leaders Network (BACE) conference will be held in person on April 20-21, 2023. The sessions will be held at the First Baptist Church of Nashville, TN. Students will engage with leaders of Christian education for mentorship and information to lead discipleship in any church setting.

In addition, students will meet virtually with the professor one hour prior to the seminar (Time TBA) in preparation for the conference. [Student Learning Outcomes](#)

The student involved in this course should be able to accomplish the following:

1. Be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of current approaches, topics, and available resources for leadership and administration in the local church.
2. Be able to gain skills in the area of analyzing and developing leadership skills in a local church context.
3. Value personal leadership skills and developing leadership skills in other ministry leaders in the church.

Required Texts

NOTE: Read assignments before ordering books.

Iorg, Jeff. *Leading Major Change in Your Ministry*. Nashville: B&H Books, 2018.

Olson, David T. *Discovering Your Leadership Style: The Power of Chemistry, Strategy, and Spirituality*. Downers Gove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2014.

Scroggins, Clay. *How to Lead When You're Not in Charge: Leveraging Influence When You Lack Authority*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2017.

Course Teaching Methodology

This course will emphasize observation and listening comprehension skills during the conference sessions and require conversation and analysis skills for assignment completion and discussions.

Assignments and Course Requirements

1. Conference Participation & Outline & Summary: Due: May 5, 2023.

The student is expected to participate fully in all conference sessions. (See additional information under Course Schedule.) The student will submit an annotated outline and summary of plenary conferences and breakout conferences attended. It is anticipated that these notes will be typed and at least five pages in length. Formal writing and Turabian documentation are not required.

2. Conference Analysis and Reflection Due May 5, 2023

Students are expected to submit a four page reflection and analysis of the conference sessions and content gleaned. Plans for incorporating or implementing the conference content into their ministry setting should be addressed in the paper.

3. Book Critiques: Due April 12, 2023

Students are to critique each of the three textbooks. Write a 2 page single spaced critique for each required textbook. (Note: The critique should begin with a complete bibliographic entry. Then include a summary of the content presented in the text. Strengths and weakness should then be presented for the local church context for implementing the content. The critique should conclude with implications for discipleship or leadership in the local church and how the theories or practices presented contribute to carrying out ministries of the local church.

Evaluation of Grade

Conference Participation / Conference Outline and Summary	50%
Conference Analysis and Reflection	25%
Book Critiques	25%

Course Schedule

A conference schedule will be available from the Disciple Leaders Network (discipleleaders.com) several weeks before the conference. Typically, the conference is from 8:00 am until 5:00 pm on Thursday and until approximately noon on Friday. The conference will have three to four keynote presentations as well as several breakout conference sessions to be selected from approximately six choices.

In addition, students in this special topics seminar will meet with the professor at a time to be determined for a one hour time of orientation and preparation for the conference.

Please be aware that students must register for the conference itself as well as enrolling in the selected course. Note: On the website (discipleleader.com/conference) look for Membership Packages. There is a special rate for students that includes the annual membership, the conference, digital archives, and other discounts as well as various training videos and print resources. Students will be responsible for their own transportation, meals, and lodging expenses. NOBTS has contributed to this conference. The professor will provide a registration code to students that reduces the cost of the conference.

Course Policies

Assignment Formatting

- Submit assignments through Canvas.
- Unless otherwise noted, type all assignments according to Turabian format
- All papers must be written in third person and double-spaced
- Use 12-point Times New Roman or similar 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*
- Write the *full* assignment

Late Assignments

Personal time management is as much a requisite skill for ministry as is mastery of the course content. Accordingly, assignments are due by 4:00 pm on the date indicated in the Course Schedule. Assignments not submitted at this time are considered late and will be automatically penalized 10% for each week late.

Netiquette: Appropriate Online Behavior. Each student is expected to demonstrate appropriate Christian behavior when working online in discussion board dialogues or whenever interaction occurs through the 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.

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 2020-2021 catalog.

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

A grade of "F" may require the student to retake the course to complete the degree.

No grades of INCOMPLETE will be issued in this course.

Attendance Policy

Intensive and Weekend Hybrid Classes: 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.

Technical Assistance

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

1. www.NOBTS.edu/itc/- Email for general technical questions/support requests.
2. Selfserve@nobts.edu- Email technical questions/support requests with the Selfserve.nobts.edu or My.nobts.edu site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, Faculty portal, etc.)

3. Canvas@nobts.edu Click on the “Help” button for technical questions/support requests regarding the NOBTS Canvas System. You can also email questions to Canvas.nobts.edu / nobts.instructure.com.
4. Bluejeanshelpdesk@nobts.edu - Email technical questions/support requests with Bluejeans and NOBTS Bluejeans classrooms (On and Off-Campus).
5. TelephoneHelpDesk@nobts.edu- Email technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Nextiva Phone system.
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).

Writing Style Guide

Writing assignments should follow the **NOBTS/Leavell College Manual of Form and Style** (*revised August 2019*). To access this manual on the seminary website, please use the following link: <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.

Selected Bibliography

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- 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.
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- Cocklereece, Tom. *Simple Discipleship: How to Make Disciples in the 21st 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.
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- Dodson, Jonathan K. *Gospel-Centered Discipleship*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2012.
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- Goleman, Daniel, Richard Boyatzis, and Annie McKee. *Primal Leadership: Revitalizing the Power of Emotional Intelligence*. Boston: Harvard Business School Press, 2004.
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- Hedges, Brian G. *Christ Formed in You: The Power of the Gospel for Personal Change*. Wapwallopen, PA: Shepherd Press, 2010.
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- Iorg, Jeff. *The Painful Side of Leadership: Moving Forward Even When It Hurts*. Nashville, TN: B&H Books, 2009.
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