



PDWS8201 Program Overview and Research Writing
Professional Doctoral Workshop
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

Spring Trimester: April 15-16, 2021
Location/Room TBD (CIV as well)
Dr. Randy Stone, Coordinator

Dr. Randy Stone
Professor of Christian Education
Director of DEdMin and EdD Programs
(504) 282-4455 Ext. 3726 rstone@nobts.edu

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 workshop is an overview of the professional doctoral programs and an introduction to research writing. It is designed to guide students into intentionally planning their entire program and to orient them to research/writing skills in preparation for their remaining seminar work and the project in ministry. This workshop must be taken during a student's first trimester in the program.

Course Methodology:

1. Presentation. The professor and guest lecturers will guide the students to an understanding of the basic principles of both the NOBTS Professional Doctoral Programs and basic research writing skills.
2. Group Discussion. Students will dialogue about the Professional Doctoral Programs and their relationship to their respective ministries.
3. Individual Assignments. The students will complete assignments related to the philosophy of the Professional Doctoral Programs, research writing, and the study of Turabian as a stylistic guide.

Student Learning Outcomes

At the conclusion of the course, the student should be able to:

1. Clearly explain the NOBTS Professional Doctoral Programs.
2. Discuss rationally goals for his/her D.Min. or D.Ed.Min. program and explain how those goals fit into his/her present ministry and future ministry plans.
3. Describe in detail a plan to complete his/her D.Min. or D.Ed.Min. program.
4. Effectively utilize Turabian (8th ed.) as a stylistic guide for research writing.
5. Demonstrate basic writing skills.

Required Textbooks

Books may be ordered from your choice of bookstores or online sources. The Handbooks are available for download on the Professional Doctoral Program Website.

<http://www.nobts.edu/cme/current-students/resources.html>

Turabian, Kate L. *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 8th ed. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2013.

Wilson, Jim and Earl Waggoner. *A Guide to Theological Reflection*. Grand Rapids: MI: Zondervan Academic. 2020

Doctor of Ministry Handbook

<http://www.nobts.edu/resources/pdf/cme/Student%20Resources/catalogs-handbooks-courses/Dmin%20Handbook%20August%202017.pdf>

or

Doctor of Educational Ministry Handbook.

<http://www.nobts.edu/resources/pdf/cme/Student%20Resources/catalogs-handbooks-courses/DEdMin%20Handbook.pdf>

Recommended Textbook

Booth Wayne C., Gregory G. Colomb, and Joseph M. Williams. *The Craft of Research*. 4th ed. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2016. (ISBN: 978-0226239736)

Course Requirements:

- 1. Program Handbook Reading:** Each student will read thoroughly the *Doctor of Ministry Handbook* or the *Doctor of Educational Ministry Handbook* (whichever is applicable) and be prepared to discuss it during all workshop sessions. The handbooks may be downloaded from the ProDoc website (www.nobts.edu/cme). A statement that the student has completely read the handbook must be included with assignment #4.
- 2. QQTP (Questions, Quotes and Talking Points).** Students will read *A Guide to Theological Reflection* and submit 10 annotated Questions, Quotes and Talking Points from the book. An “annotation” is a brief paragraph (3-5 sentences) describing the significance or application of the QQTP. Parenthetical citations from the text are permitted for this assignment. You will post the paper in Assignments (in Blackboard).
- 3. Textbook Reading:** Be prepared to discuss the required textbooks. Each student will be prepared to discuss *A Guide to Theological Reflection* and selected chapters (15-20, 25) in *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*. Students should be familiar with the fundamentals of academic writing by the first workshop session. <https://www.nobts.edu/resources/pdf/writing/StyleGuide.pdf>
- 4. Intentional Plan for Completing the Degree:** Each student will submit a 4-6 page (typed, double-spaced) paper describing an intentional plan for the completion of the Professional Doctoral Program. Components of the paper should include: (1) the relationship of the program and your specialization to current and future ministry; (2) two to three personal growth goals; (3) some seminars you might like to take and a rationale for each; (4) some specialized directed studies (if any) you might like to develop and a rationale for each; (5) two to three possible project in ministry ideas; and (6) a tentative time schedule for anticipated completion of the program.

First person may be used, but otherwise the NOBTS Style Guide should be followed. Do not use chapter headings but instead use subheadings (Turabian A.2.2.4). The Intentional Plan is due the first day of the workshop in hard copy. A statement that the student has read the entire handbook should accompany this assignment.

5. **Post-Seminar Assignment:** The professor will give a post-seminar assignment at the seminar, which will include instructional segments to enhance academic writing. The modules will be available in Blackboard at the completion of the workshop. You are expected to complete all of the modules to before a grade will be assigned.

Course Evaluation:

An evaluation of PASS or FAIL is granted for all Professional Doctoral workshops and will be determined jointly by the professors using the following criteria:

1. The student completes all course assignments according to schedule and in a manner reflective of doctoral-level work.
2. The student attends and actively participates in all workshop sessions with a positive and enthusiastic attitude.
3. The student demonstrates a grasp of the make-up of the Professional Doctoral programs and a working knowledge of basic research writing skills.
4. NOTE: Some students who demonstrate inadequate research writing skills may be required to get additional help prior to the project in ministry stage of their program.

Blackboard

Note to All Students: Blackboard instructions are included in the overview presentations. You will be enrolled in the class before the overview workshop. Pre-assignments will be submitted on or before the first day of class. Post-assignments should be submitted through BlackBoard.

Here are a few links to get you started using BlackBoard.

Intro: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IKjBxle_138

Assignments: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ol3X0XW-xkI&list=PLontYaReEU1seUE3ACG3sEc3zR7Br7URU>

Class Presentations

All presentations made during the workshop will be posted in the course at the end of each day and remain available for 1 year. Students can review or download for future use. Research and reference materials should be saved in your personal files.

Course Schedule

The seminar will meet from **1:00 pm until 7:00 pm (Central time) on Thursday, April 15, 2021**. The workshop will work straight through with a supper break occurring AFTER the session.

The workshop will also meet from **8:00 am until 3:00 pm (Central Time) on Friday April 16, 2021** including a Lunch Break.

STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND ALL SESSIONS

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.

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.