



DISC5170 Spiritual Formation I

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

Christian Education Division

Fall 2016 - Mentoring

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Mission Statement

The mission of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is to equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

Core Value Focus

The seminary has five core values.

1. **Doctrinal Integrity:** Knowing that the Bible is the Word of God, we believe it, teach it, proclaim it, and submit to it. This course addresses Doctrinal Integrity specifically by preparing students to grow in understanding and interpreting of the Bible.
2. **Spiritual Vitality:** We are a worshiping community emphasizing both personal spirituality and gathering together as a Seminary family for the praise and adoration of God and instruction in His Word. Spiritual Vitality is addressed by reminding students that a dynamic relationship with God is vital for effective ministry.
3. **Mission Focus:** We are not here merely to get an education or to give one. We are here to change the world by fulfilling the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries. This course addresses Mission Focus by helping students understand the biblical foundations for fulfilling the Great Commission and the Great Commandments.
4. **Characteristic Excellence:** What we do, we do to the utmost of our abilities and resources as a testimony to the glory of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Characteristic Excellence is addressed by preparing students to excel in their ability to interpret Scripture, which is foundational to effective ministry.
5. **Servant Leadership:** We follow the model of Jesus and exert leadership and influence through the nurture and encouragement of those around us. Servant Leadership is modeled by classroom department.

The core value focus for this academic year is *Characteristic Excellence*.

Curriculum Competencies

NOBTS faculty members realize that all ministers need to develop specific competencies if they are going to have an effective ministry. To increase the likelihood of NOBTS graduates having an effective ministry, the faculty developed a competency-based curriculum after identifying seven essential competencies necessary for effective ministry. All graduates are expected to have at least a minimum level of competency in all of the following areas:

1. **Biblical Exposition:** to interpret and communicate the Bible accurately.
2. **Christian Theological Heritage:** To understand and interpret Christian theological heritage and Baptist polity for the church.
3. **Disciple Making:** To stimulate church health through mobilizing the church for missions, evangelism, discipleship, and church growth.
4. **Interpersonal Skills:** To perform pastoral care effectively, with skills in communication and conflict management.
5. **Servant Leadership:** To serve churches effectively through team ministry.
6. **Spiritual and Character Formation:** To provide moral leadership by modeling and mentoring Christian character and devotion.
7. **Worship Leadership:** To facilitate worship effectively.

This course addresses all curriculum competencies.

Course Description

This course is a pass-fail experience in a faculty led learning context. Students in the course will meet weekly for accountability, mentoring, discussion, and spiritual formation by participating and leading weekly meetings. Students will comprehend a variety of Christian devotional practices by completing specific assignments on basic spiritual disciplines. This course is designed to be taken during a student's first semester. [**See note below.]

**Students registered for DISC5170 will automatically be registered for DISC5171 with the same professor, at the same time, the following semester if DISC 5171 is required for the student's degree plan.

Student Learning Outcomes

In order to provide moral leadership by modeling and mentoring Christian character and devotion and in order to stimulate church health through mobilizing the church for discipleship, the student, by the end of the course should:

1. Comprehend the Following Concepts:

- The marks of a disciple as something beyond the point of salvation.
- Effective methods of becoming a disciple and of making disciples.
- The relationship between spiritual maturity and spiritual disciplines.
- Christian devotional practices or disciplines.

2. Have a positive response to the following concepts:

- A life-long intentional devotional discipline for lifelong spiritual growth and benefit to the kingdom of God
- A meaningful and maturing relationship with God.
- Christian community in a small group setting.
- A personal commitment to basic devotional practices.

3. Be able to, with the help of resources, accomplish the following tasks:

- Develop a plan for personal growth and assist others to develop a personal growth plan.
- Practice appropriate disciplines of the Christian faith.

4. Have an appropriate perception as to how to lead mentoring groups.

Course Teaching Methodology

The course will involve the following methodologies: mentoring, group discussion, and an interactive discovery-learning format utilizing a practical ministry context.

Embedded Assignment

This course has not been identified as assessment core course and does not have an embedded assignment.

Textbook

Ortberg, John. *The Life You've Always Wanted: Spiritual Disciplines for Ordinary People*. expanded edition. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2002.

*NOTE: The expanded edition is required for this course because of the included study guide for meeting with the assigned mentor on a weekly basis.

Course Requirements

1. Introduction

Due: First Week

In Week 1, each student is to post a personal introduction via the Blog connected to Unit 1. Each student is also to comment on three classmates' introductory blog. This is the initial introduction to the mentoring track blackboard shell.

2. Textbook

Due: Weekly

Read the textbook assigned according to the *Course Schedule* section of this syllabus.

3. Journaling

Due: Weekly

Keep an electronic journal of your spiritual journey throughout the course. The journal is to include your thoughts/reflections about your spiritual journey. The student is to journal via the Blackboard Journal three-four times weekly with a paragraph (3-5 sentences) minimum each entry. The journal will not be read by the professor or other students but only briefly checked for completion. The completed journal is due the final unit of class, Week 14.

4. Scripture memory

Due: Weeks 3-10

Memorize and recite assigned Bible verses according to the semester schedule. You will video himself or herself reciting from memory the assigned Bible verse. The student is then to upload and post the video to the appropriate Blog. The Blogs are categorized according to the assigned verse. The verses and weekly schedule in which they are due are outlined below.

5. Mentoring experience

Due: Weekly

You required to meet with your selected approved mentor, who is the same gender and who can challenge you spiritually. You will meet for a minimum of an hour per week beginning the first week of the semester. You will **log the weekly meeting times and have their mentor sign-off on the meeting**. The mentoring experience log-sheet is submitted online at the end of the semester to the professor. A *mentor goals/covenant* submission is due online after the first meeting of the semester. The *mentoring experience log-sheet* is submitted online at the end of the semester to the professor.

6. Reflection paper

Due: Dec. 5

You will write a three-page reflection paper at the end of the semester using Turabian formatting. The reflection paper is a first-person synopsis of the personal spiritual formation during the course of the following: journaling, scripture memorization, and weekly mentor meetings. The assignment is due in Week 14.

Evaluation of Grade

The student's grade will be computed as follows (pass/fail):

Journal	20%
Introduction/Scripture Memorization Blogs	20%
Reflection Paper	20%
Mentoring Experience	<u>40%</u>
	100%

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.

Web-based Course Reminder/Warning

Web-based courses are, by nature, a different kind of learning experience than courses taught in the traditional classroom. Because of this structure, this web-based course is more reading and writing intensive than traditional classroom courses. Rigorous study of the deep things of God can be a rewarding experience for anyone who participates in it, but it also calls for extra diligence and integrity in completing the work. This reality does not mean that a web-based course cannot be successful in equipping you, the student, for effective, God-honoring ministry. It simply means utilizing a different strategy. Internet courses allow room for independent learners to thrive—to work at

a responsible pace, to engage in student-led discussions, and to take ownership of the learning of course content. Note that your instructors are praying for your success.

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.

Course Schedule

Week 1 – Syllabus Review and Introduction
Semester overview with mentor

Week 2 – Reading, Chapter 1
Meeting with Mentor

Week 3 – Reading, Chapter 2
Scripture Memorization
Meeting with Mentor

Week 4 – Reading, Chapter 3
Scripture Memorization
Meeting with Mentor

Week 5 – Reading, Chapter 4
Scripture Memorization
Meeting with Mentor

Week 6 – Reading, Chapter 5
Scripture Memorization
Meeting with Mentor

Week 7 – Reading, Chapter 6
Scripture Memorization
Meeting with Mentor

Week 8 – Reading, Chapter 7
Scripture Memorization
Meeting with Mentor

Week 9 – Reading, Chapter 8
Scripture Memorization
Meeting with Mentor

Week 10 – Reading, Chapter 9
Scripture Memorization
Meeting with Mentor

Week 11 – Reading, Chapter 10
Meeting with Mentor

Week 12 – Reading, Chapter 11
Journal Due
Meeting with Mentor

Week 13 - Reading, Chapter 12
Meeting with Mentor

Week 14 - Reading, Chapter 13,
Reflection Paper Due
Meeting with Mentor

Memory Verses

Gal. 2:20	Week 3
Phil. 3:10	Week 4
Rom. 12:1-2	Week 5
Jos. 1:8	Week 6
Phil. 4:6-7	Week 7
Heb. 10:24-25	Week 8
Mt. 28:18-20	Week 9
Col. 3:17	Week 10

Selected Bibliography

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Student Services

This is a partial list of NOBTS student services available to all students, no matter your delivery system or location. If you have questions or do not see what you need here, please refer to www.nobts.edu/student-services, email us at studentservices@nobts.edu, or call the Dean of Students office at 800-662-8701, ext. 3283. We are glad to assist you!

Need	Email	Phone	Web Page
Advising – Graduate Program	studentservices@nobts.edu	504.282.4455 x3312	www.nobts.edu/registrar/default.html#advising
Advising – Undergraduate Program	lcadminasst@nobts.edu	504.816.8590	www.nobts.edu/LeavellCollege
Church Minister Relations (for ministry jobs)	cmr@nobts.edu	504.282.4455 x3291	www.nobts.edu/CMR
Financial Aid	financialaid@nobts.edu	504.282.4455 x3348	www.nobts.edu/financialaid
PREP (help to avoid student debt)	Prepassistant1@nobts.edu	504.816.8091	www.nobts.edu/prep
Gatekeeper NOBTS news	pr@nobts.edu	504.816.8003	nobtsgatekeeper.wordpress.com
Information Technology Center	itcsupport@nobts.edu	504.816.8180	selfserve.nobts.edu
Help with Blackboard	blackboardhelpdesk@nobts.edu	504.816.8180	nobts.blackboard.com
Library	library@nobts.edu	504.816.8018	www.nobts.edu/Library
Online library resources	library@nobts.edu	504.816.8018	http://www.nobts.edu/research-links/default.html
Writing and Turabian style help	library@nobts.edu	504.816.8018	http://www.nobts.edu/writing/default.html
Guest Housing (Providence Guest House)	ph@nobts.edu	504.282.4455 x4455	www.provhouse.com
Student Counseling	lmccc@nobts.edu	504.816.8004	www.nobts.edu/student-services/counseling-services.html
Women’s Programs	womensacademic@nobts.edu	504.282.4455 x3334	www.nobts.edu/women

For additional library resources in your state, check <http://www.nobts.edu/library/interlibrary-loan.html>

- GALILEO for Georgia students
- LALINC for Louisiana students
- Florida Virtual Library (<http://www.flelibrary.org/>) for Florida students
- Interact with us online at –



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