

## **SPIRITUAL FORMATION - DISC 5170**

**FALL 2016**

Tuesday, 1:00-1:50 PM

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### **Seminary 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.

### **Purpose of the Course**

The purpose of this course is to provide quality theological education for students in the discipline of theological and historical studies. Lessons learned from the past inform the present and provide guidance for the future.

### **Core Value Focus, and Curriculum Competencies Addressed**

The core value focus of the course will emphasize this semester is **characteristic excellence**. We want everything we do to be characterized by offering the utmost of our abilities and resources as a testimony to the glory of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The course will specifically address the following curriculum competencies:

Theological and Historical Heritage – apply theology to everyday life

Disciple Making – develop devotional strategies to model Christ-like behavior

Servant Leadership – use the people from our past to model servant leadership

Spiritual and Character Formation – model Christian character in relating to those in the Baptist family with whom we disagree

Biblical Exposition – demonstrate the biblical foundation of spiritual disciplines

Worship Leadership – examine the variety of prayer styles and practices

### **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 discipleship and assist others to develop a personal discipleship plan.
  - Practice appropriate disciplines of the Christian faith.
  - Have an appropriate perception as how to lead small discipleship groups.

### **Required Text**

Bullock, Harold. *Fools and Follies: Biblical Patterns that Live Today*. Fort Worth, TX: Golden Oak Publishers, 2002. Only available at  
<https://yv113.infusionsoft.com/app/storeFront/showCategoryPage?categoryId=4>

### **Responsibilities**

- A. Complete reading of the textbook (as required by the professor).
- B. Contribute to discussions.
- C. Lead one of the discussion times.
- D. Help staff the Operation Christmas Child table, November 17, from 1-3 pm
- E. Write a 1-3 page self assessment of your spiritual journey this semester. Include victories and struggles as appropriate. Only the professor will see your assessment. This will be turned in at our final class meeting.

**NOTE:** Because this is a Pass/Fail course, attendance and participation will be extremely important.

### **Grading**

This experience is a pass/fail course. Grades will be determined by attendance, participation in the session and completion of agreed upon assignments. The final grade decision will be made by the professor. A student missing more than 3 class sessions will fail the course.

## Typical Session

Sessions will always include discussion of reading assignments and prayer times. Additional elements may include things like small group worship, accountability questions, and discussion of issues raised in personal journaling.

## Cellular Phones

The instructor requests that all phones be turned off or adjusted so as not to disturb the class. If you can wait until after class to attend to calls and pages, that would be greatly appreciated. Students are also asked to refrain from text messaging and tweeting during class.

## Discussion Facilitators

Lectures and class discussions generally will adhere to this schedule, but the pace may vary.

| Dates          | Subject                               | Discussion Facilitator |
|----------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Aug. 23        | Orientation and Introductions         |                        |
| Aug. 30        | Chapter 1                             | Dr. Harsch             |
| Sep. 6         | Chapter 2                             |                        |
| Sep. 13        | Chapter 3                             |                        |
| Sep. 20        | Chapter 4                             |                        |
| Sep. 27        | Chapter 5                             |                        |
| Oct. 4         | Chapter 6                             |                        |
| Oct. 11        | Chapter 7                             |                        |
| <b>Oct. 18</b> | <b>F A L L</b>                        | <b>B R E A K</b>       |
| Oct. 25        | Chapter 8                             |                        |
| Nov. 1         | Chapter 9                             |                        |
| Nov. 8         | Chapters 10                           |                        |
| Nov. 15        | Staff Operation Christmas Child table |                        |
| <b>Nov. 22</b> | <b>T H A N K S G I V I N G</b>        | <b>B R E A K</b>       |
| Nov. 29        | Chapter 11                            |                        |
| Dec. 6         | Wrap-up Session                       |                        |

## Bibliography

Bridges, Jerry. *The Pursuit of Holiness* (25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary ed.). Colorado Springs, CO: Navpress, 2003.

Buchanan, Mark. *The Holy Wild*. Grand Rapids, MI: Multnomah Publishers, 2003.

Bullock, Harold. Randal Lanthripe, ed. *Seven Weeks of Wisdom*. Fort Worth, TX: Golden Oak Publishers, 2005. Available at <http://haroldbullock.com/mat-new.php>

Foster, Richard. *Celebration of Discipline: The Path to Spiritual Growth*. New York, NY: Harper & Row, 1998.

\_\_\_\_\_. *The Freedom of Simplicity*. New York, NY: HarperCollins, 1998.

Gurnall, William. *The Christian in Complete Armour, Volume 1, 2, & 3*. Carlisle, Pennsylvania: Banner of Truth, 1994.

Hulbert, Darren. *The Whole Purpose of God* (order directly from the website [www.thewholepurposeofgod.com](http://www.thewholepurposeofgod.com)).

Lewis, Clive Staples. *The Screwtape Letters*. New York, NY: HarperCollins, 2001.

*One Year Bible: The Entire [version] Arranged in 365 Daily Readings*. Carol Stream, IL: Tyndale House Publishers

Ortberg, John. *If You Want to Walk on Water, You've Got to Get Out of the Boat*, Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishers, 2001.

Ortberg, John. *The Life You've Always Wanted: Spiritual Disciplines for Ordinary People*, Expanded Edition, Zondervan Publishers, 2002.

Peterson, Eugene H. *A Long Obedience in the Same Direction: Discipleship in an Instant Society*, 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition. Downers Grove, Illinois: InterVarsity Press, 2000.

Piper, John. *Desiring God: Meditations of A Christian Hedonist*. Sisters, OR: Multnomah Publishers, 2003.

Spurgeon, C.H. *At the Master's Feet*. Compiled by Audie G. Lewis. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishers, 2005.

Tozer, A.W. *The Pursuit of God (with study guide)*. Camp Hill, PA: Christian Publications, Inc., 1993.

Whitney, Donald S. *Spiritual Disciplines for the Christian Life*. Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1991.

Willard, Dallas. *The Divine Conspiracy: Rediscovering Our Hidden Life in God*. New York, New York: HarperCollins, 1998.