



DISC6300 Lifespan Discipleship

Christian Education Division

Fall 2016

Tuesdays/Thursdays 9:30-10:50am

David Odom, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Student Ministry
Director of Youth Ministry Institute

dodom@nobts.edu
504.816.8103
HSC 217

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 Course

The purpose of this course is to educate students on the content and process of discipleship in the local church, giving students useful tools for designing age-appropriate discipleship activities across the lifespan.

Our Core Values

The seminary has five core values and this course supports these values.

Doctrinal Integrity: Knowing that the Bible is the Word of God, we believe it, teach it, proclaim it, and submit to it. Our confessional commitments are outlined in the “Articles of Religious Belief” and the “Baptist Faith and Message 2000.”

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.

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.

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.

Servant Leadership: We follow the model of Jesus and exert leadership and influence through the nurture and encouragement of those around us.

The Core Value Focus for the 2016-17 academic year is *Characteristic Excellence*.

Curriculum Competencies Addressed

This course will address the following curriculum competencies:

Biblical Exposition: To interpret and communicate the Bible accurately.

Disciple Making: To stimulate church health through mobilizing the church for missions, evangelism, discipleship, and church growth.

Servant Leadership: To serve churches effectively through team ministry.

Spiritual and Character Formation: To provide moral leadership by modeling and mentoring Christian character and devotion.

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, class discussion, 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

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

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.

Textbooks

The following texts and resources are required reading for class discussions and are to be read in their entirety unless otherwise specified.

Required Texts

Jackson, Allen. *DISCIPLE: The Ordinary Person's Guide to Discipling Teenagers*. Birmingham, AL: YM360, 2015.

Rutledge, Mason. *Memorize This*. Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress 2003.

See “Assigned Reading” in *Course Schedule*. Most assigned reading for the course is available via Blackboard.

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.

Course Requirements

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. Class discussion 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 Student Learning Outcome #1.*

2. Class Participation (15%)

Due: Weekly

Each student is expected to participate fully throughout the course. Each student begins with a grade of 100. The class participation grade will be reduced one point for each tardy and two points for absence. Participation in class discussions will also be evaluated by the professor. The professor will record attendance each class period. As indicated in the Academic Catalogue, eight absences during the semester results in failure of the course. *This assignment is related to Student Learning Outcomes #1 and #4.*

3. Unit Quizzes: (2% each, Total = 20%)

See Course Schedule for Due Dates

Each student is expected to take all examinations in class. Unless otherwise indicated, exams are NOT 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 Student Learning Outcome #1.*

4. Lifespan Development Journal Article Review (10%)

Due: October 4

Locate an academic (peer-reviewed) journal article concerning one aspect (physical, cognitive, social, moral/spiritual) of one age group (infancy through senior adulthood) of the lifespan. Write a 3-page review of the research summarizing the conclusions and suggesting application in the local church. *This assignment is related to Student Learning Outcomes #1 and #4.*

5. EMBEDDED ASSIGNMENT: Lifespan Discipleship Design (35%)

Due: November 29

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 have critical mass. Success in this assignment is a comprehensive plan, presented in chart form including the a) biblical rationale, b) discipleship knowledge, attitude, or skill, 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 Student Learning Outcome #3.*

6. Discipleship Design Presentation (10%)

Due: December 1 & 6

Prepare a presentation (PowerPoint or something similar) 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 8-10 minutes in length. Your presentation is to be submitted on Blackboard by end of the day on the deadline (Dec 1). You may present on December 1, December 6, or following. A sign-up sheet will become available for you to enlist a presentation time.

Course Evaluation

Reading Assignments	10%
Class Participation	15%
Unit Quizzes (10 at 2% each)	20%
Journal Article Review	10%
Lifespan Discipleship Design	35%
Discipleship Design Presentation	<u>10%</u>
	100%
OPTIONAL Extra Credit Book Review	up to 3 points on your final grade

Course Policies

Reading Assignments

Students are responsible for completing all reading assignments.

Professor's Policy on Late Assignments

All work is due on the assigned date in the syllabus. Assignments are due by midnight if submitted on Blackboard or at class time on the day they are due. Students who are absent from class on the day of an assignment are still responsible for turning the assignment in on time. Late assignments will be penalized one letter grade for each class period the assignment is late. Submit assignments electronically on Blackboard.

Exam Policy

When exams are given via Blackboard, students will have a 24 hour window in which to take the exam. There should be no reason for any exams to be missed. If dire illness, personal emergency, or school sponsored events prevent access to the internet, the student will be responsible for contacting the professor before the exam to secure permission to schedule the exam and to schedule an appointment for a make-up exam. Failure to do so will result in an automatic grade of 0.

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

All assignments are to be typed, double-spaced with a 12-point font, Times New Roman, with 1-inch margins. Include your name, date of submission, and the assignment title on the cover page.

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 and APA style helps and guidelines. You will also find language fonts for Greek and Hebrew.

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/studentervices/NOBTSHandbook.pdf where the definition, penalties and policies associated with plagiarism are clearly defined.

Classroom Parameters

Please arrive on time.

Turn off or silence mobile phones. Utilize laptops and other technology for class purposes only.

Respect the professor and other members of the class.

Maintain confidentiality when someone shares personal information.

Participate in class and group discussions.

Extra Credit

The policy for extra credit in this course is students can submit an additional book review for extra credit. The extra book review will not substitute or replace any course assignment.

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 relate 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.

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.

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 –



TWITTER.COM/NOBTS INSTAGRAM.COM/NOBTS FACEBOOK.COM/NOBTS

Evaluation Rubric for Embedded Assignment: Lifespan Discipleship Design

Age Segment Chosen: _____ Student Name: _____

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

DISC6300 Lifespan Discipleship

Course Schedule

Date	Topic	Reading	Assignment Due
Unit One: Overview of Development and Discipleship			
8/23	Syllabus Review Introduction to the Course		
8/25	Spiritual Development Across the Lifespan	“Introduction to Lifespan Development” (.pdf in Unit 1 Session 1 on Blackboard)	Quiz 1
8/30	What is Discipleship?	“A Discipleship Primer” (read all the .pdf files in Unit 1 Session 2); Watch Video “Why is Discipleship Important?” by Dave Gibbons	Quiz 2
Unit Two: Discipleship for Preschoolers			
9/1	Spiritual Development of Preschoolers	Transcript from <i>Five View on Infant & Children in the Church</i> (.pdf in Unit 2 Session 1)	Quiz 3
9/6	Preschool Ministry in the Local Church		
Unit Three: Discipleship for Children			
9/8	Spiritual Development of Children	“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	Quiz 4
9/13	Children’s Ministry in the Local Church	Watch Video “Leading Your Best Kids Discipleship Group” in Session 2	
Unit Four: Discipleship for Youth			
9/15	Spiritual Development of Youth	<i>DISCIPLE</i> by Allen Jackson	Quiz 5
9/20	Youth Discipleship in the Local Church	“What Should I Do When My Kid Says, ‘I’m Not Going To Church?’” by Griffin	
Unit Five: Discipleship for Young Adults (Emerging Adulthood)			
9/22	Spiritual Development of Young Adults	“Narrative Discipleship” by Byrd	Quiz 6

Date	Topic	Reading	Assignment Due
9/27	Young Adult Discipleship in the Local Church	Watch Video “Is Church Passe for 18-35 Yr. Olds?”	
Unit Six: Discipleship for Middle Adults			
9/29	Spiritual Development of Middle Adults	“Implications for an Adult Religious Education for Spiritual Development” by Galindo	Quiz 7
10/4	Middle Adult Discipleship in the Local Church	Watch Video: “How Do We Disciple Our Own Families”	Journal Article Review
Unit Seven: Discipleship for Senior Adults			
10/6	Spiritual Development of Senior Adults	“Becoming Family” by Bozeman	Quiz 8
10/11	Senior Adult Discipleship in the Local Church	“Churches Responding to the Age Wave” Watch Video “Ellie and Carl: Married Life”	
10/13	Recalibrate 2 conference (no Class)		
10/18	Fall Break (no class)		
10/20	Fall Break (no class)		
Unit Eight: Facilitating Discipleship in the Local Church			
10/25	Scripture Memory	<i>Memorize This</i>	
10/27	Scripture Memory		Quiz 9 (Scripture Memory)
11/1	Testimony: Sharing Our Story		
11/3	Evangelism: Sharing the Story of Jesus		Quiz 10 (Personal Testimony)
11/8	Fasting & Prayer		
11/10	Missions		
11/15	Disciplemaking		
11/17	Role of Parents		
11/22	Thanksgiving Break (no class)		
11/24	Thanksgiving Break (no class)		
11/29	Camping & Retreats		Lifespan Discipleship Design Paper Due
12/1	Discipleship Presentations		Presentations Due (Upload your presentation to Blackboard by 11:59pm)
12/6	Discipleship Presentations		Presentations Due
12/8	Extra Presentation Day (if necessary)		Reading Report Due