



PHIL6370 Supervised Apologetics Ministry Practicum Fall 2016

Division of Theological and Historical Studies

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*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.*

Our Core Values

The seminary has five core values. This semester the NOBTS focus is on the value of characteristic excellence. *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.

Curriculum Competencies Addressed

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 seven areas:

The curriculum competencies addressed in this course are: Disciple Making and Servant Leadership. *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.

Course Catalog Description

This course is a semester-length, practical learning experience that involves the student, through the supervision of an academic professor and an approved apologetic ministry. The student will practice the art of apologetics under supervision within an apologetic ministry. Several apologetics ministries have been approved for student supervision. Students may also request approval of the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Institute of Christian Apologetics for other supervision options.

Student Learning Outcomes

In order to serve churches effectively through team ministry, the students, by the end of the course, should:

1. Be able to apply their knowledge and comprehension of apologetics to serving effectively in an applied ministry context.
2. Value applied ministry.
3. Grow in their ability to apply apologetics ministry skills.

Course Methodology

1. Students will spend time each week in a ministry setting.
2. Students will meet regularly with apologetics mentors.
3. Students will read assigned materials and write book summaries and a book review.
4. Students will be involved in evaluation both from an apologetics mentor and a self-evaluation.

Required Textbooks*

1. Ken Boa and Robert Bowman. *Faith Has Its Reasons: An Integrative Approach to Defending Christianity*. Colorado Springs: NavPress, 2001.
2. J. P. Moreland, *Kingdom Triangle: Recover the Christian Mind, Renovate the Soul, Restore the Spirit's Power*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2007.

*The professor of record—not the mentor—will assign books to be reviewed.

Course Requirements

1. Students will secure a place of ministry (either paid or volunteer). They will perform at least 4 hours of ministry a week at their place of ministry for at least 12 weeks during the semester they are enrolled in the course.
2. Students will submit a **Practicum Approval Form** and a **Mentor Training Verification Form** documenting that they have secured a ministry site and a qualified mentor.
3. The teacher of record will review and approve or reject each Practicum Approval Form and Mentor Training Verification Form.
4. Students will meet at least monthly with their mentors. These meetings should include honest evaluation of the student's strengths, passions, and areas that need improvement, as well as addressing personal, relational, and professional issues.
5. Each week, students must complete a **Weekly Report Form** and submit it to the teacher of record.
6. A **Mentor's Evaluation of Student Form** should be filled out by the mentor in the presence of the student at the end of the twelve weeks of ministry.
7. Each student will submit a **Personal Evaluation Paper** at the end of the course. This evaluation should include a short summary of how the student's involvement in ministry has helped in personal growth as a Christian minister during this semester and should include reflections on how the student's ministry experience related to his/her call to ministry. The student should list any problems/successes that related to his/her professional development. This evaluation should be 2-3 double-spaced pages in length.

8. Students must submit a book review of each required book. Reviews should include: (1) some professional biographical data concerning the author; (2) an identification of the major elements of content; (3) an assessment of the author's aim or purpose and of the degree of its fulfillment; and (4) a critical evaluation of the book. The reviews should follow Turabian form. Reviews should be 5-7 double-spaced pages.

Course Evaluation

1. The apologetic ministry work will be judged on the following factors. Together these factors comprise **50%** of the final grade.
 - a. Students should submit and be granted approval of the submitted forms (within 3 weeks of the beginning of the course –Aug 22, 2016) the forms **Practicum Approval Form** and a **Mentor Training Verification Form** documenting that they have secured a ministry site and a qualified mentor.
 - b. The monthly meeting with the mentor will be assessed.
 - c. The combined **Weekly Report Forms** are part of the evaluation.
 - d. A **Mentor's Evaluation Form** is the final portion of this part of the course evaluation.
2. A second evaluation will be the **Personal Evaluation Paper** at the end of the course. The personal evaluation comprises **15%** of the final grade
3. Book reviews of each required book is **35%** of the final grade

Qualifications of Mentors

Apologetics Mentors should have at least a Master's Degree from an accredited theological seminary or the equivalent or relevant professional experience in Christian apologetics. The qualifications of those proposed mentors lacking a Master's degree from an accredited theological seminary will be evaluated by the Director of the Institute for Christian Apologetics. If a proposed mentor is rejected, it is the student's responsibility to find a replacement.

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. The grade for late assignments will automatically be reduced by 5% per day.

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.

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

Classroom Parameters

Please arrive on time.
Turn off cell 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.

Attendance by Blue Jeans

Students not residing in the greater New Orleans area may petition to attend by Blue Jeans internet technology. Such permission will not be granted for smart phones, or laptops or desktop computers without mutable head phones. Please address the professor with requests and technological specifications before Aug 22, 2016

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 related 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 intent to graduate. All assignments must be completed by 12:00 pm on Wednesday prior to commencement exercises.

Course Schedule

The class will “meet” 4 times during the semester.

1. Monday, August 29 at 2 PM.
2. Monday, September 19 at 2 PM
3. Book reviews are due in the October class meeting.
Monday, October 24 at 2 PM
4. The reflection paper is due in the November class meeting.
Monday, November 28 at 2 PM

PRACTICUM APPROVAL FORM
NOBTS—APOLOGETICS PRACTICUM PHIL6370

Apologetics Mentor	Student
Name of Ministry	Student's Ministry Position
Address	Address
City, State, Zip	City, State, Zip
Phone (Include Area Code)	Phone (Include Area Code)
Mentor's E-mail	Student's E-mail

I have established a learning agreement with the above-named student for the Apologetics Practicum requirement of MA in Christian Apologetics degree.

I understand that my responsibilities include the following:

1. Supervise the student in various aspects of his project.
2. Meet with the student regularly to discuss his/her experience in this project.
3. Help the student discover his/her strengths as well as identify lesser strengths.
4. Submit a final evaluation report to the teacher of record.

Apologetics Mentor	Date
Institute for Christian Apologetics Director	Date

Please retain a copy of this form for your personal file.

**MENTOR TRAINING VERIFICATION FORM
NEW ORLEANS BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
FOR MENTORS OF STUDENTS
APOLOGETICS PRACTICUM PHIL6370**

I read (or viewed) the Apologetics Mentor Training Material provided by the Institute for Christian Apologetics office of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

Location	Date	Signature of Mentor
Title	Name of Church or Ministry	
Address	City, State, and Zip	
E-mail	Phone	
Student	Student's Ministry Position	

WEEKLY REPORT FORM (1-6)
PHIL6370 APOLOGETICS PRACTICUM

Mentor's Name _____

Student Name _____

W E E K	Type of Ministry	Hours Involved	Description of Ministry Activity	Comments
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				

WEEKLY REPORT FORM (7-12)
PHIL6370 APOLOGETICS PRACTICUM

Mentor's Name _____

Student Name _____

W E E K	Type of Ministry	Hours Involved	Description of Ministry Activity	Comments
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				

**MENTOR'S EVALUATION OF STUDENT FORM
PHIL6370 APOLOGETICS PRACTICUM
NEW ORLEANS BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**

NAME OF STUDENT: _____ **DATE:** _____

PRACTICUM: _____

Please evaluate:

1. Student's attitude toward your ministry:

2. Student's co-operation:

Did this student make significant contributions or did he/she impose limitations upon the ministry?

Please list any problems encountered with this student:

Overall evaluation of student's performance: **GOOD**_____ **FAIR**_____ **POOR**_____

Number of apologetics ministry hours completed [**48 hours minimum**] _____

Apologetics Mentor's Signature _____

Student's Signature _____

Note: This evaluation will be used if needed in counseling the student regarding his/her ministry and may affect his/her grade. Use back of sheet for additional comments if necessary. Please go over your evaluation with the student and let the student return this form to our office.

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
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- Interact with us online at –



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