DISC5260 Discipleship Strategies

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Church Ministry Division
Fall 2021 Hybrid
Friday, October 15 (1:00-9:00pm) and Saturday, October 16 (8am-5pm)

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Mission

The mission of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College is to prepare servants to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.

Course Catalog Description

This course is designed to equip students for leading discipleship ministries in a local church by exploring a variety of methods and approaches used in a response to the Great Commission mandate in churches today. Students are exposed to select and different materials and methods of discipleship in correlation to the Bible Study programs in local churches to provide basis for future adaptation. The student is also introduced to developmental processes currently available.

Student Learning Outcomes

This course is designed to introduce students to the basic principles, procedures, guidelines, and available resources for discipleship strategies within the local church. The student involved in this process should be able to accomplish the following:

- Examine a variety of discipleship strategies that can be utilized in local church praxis.
- Understand and be able to discuss foundational concepts related to current developmental processes for various age groups.
- Value/Appreciate the importance of the discipleship mandate given to all believers in Scripture.
- Develop a discipleship strategy, which can be implemented in the student's specific ministry setting.

Course Requirements

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

Absalom, Alex and Bobby Harrington. *Discipleship that Fits: The Five Kinds of Relationships God Uses to Help Us Grow.* Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2016.

Coleman, Robert. *The Master Plan of Evangelism*. Grand Rapids, MI: Revell, 2006.

Dean, Jody and Hal Stewart, eds. *Together We Equip.* Bloomington, IN: Westbow Press, 2018.

Malphurs, Aubrey. *Strategic Disciple Making: A Practical Tool for Successful Ministry*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2009.

Course Teaching Methodology
The course will involve the following methodologies: reading assignments, classroom lecture and discussion, and individual learning assignments.

Format
This course is taught on campus (Hybrid – Oct. 15-16) in the classroom.

Assignments and Evaluation Criteria
All assignments must be submitted electronically on Blackboard. Unless otherwise noted, all assignments are due before midnight on the due date. See Course Schedule (last page) for due dates.

1. Classroom Decorum and Engagement (10%)
Attendance/Participation is required for every course session due to the interactive learning format of the course. A positive attitude can only enhance the learning experience. Therefore, for the purposes of this class, a *positive attitude* and *participation* are defined as productive and interactive engagement with in-class/online threads and dialogues throughout a full course session. You cannot participate effectively if you are not focused on the subject matter while in the classroom. Consequently, the student is expected:
- To come class with a constructive point of view, prepared to interact with the readings and resources on the course topic in discussion groups and classroom dialogues.
- To dress appropriately and in accordance with the NOBTS Student Handbook. *This means no flip-flops and no ball caps!*
- To turn cell phones on silent and to not accept any phone calls during class.
- Use laptops, iPads and other electronic devices appropriately to enhance class participation and abstain from social media (i.e., Facebook, messaging, etc.) and ministry responsibilities (e-mails, web site updates, etc.) during class sessions.

2. Book Critiques (15% or each book is 5%)
Write a 3-page type-written double-spaced report on three of the textbooks (*Discipleship that Fits, The Master Plan of Evangelism,* and *Together We Equip*). The book review should include the following two components: 1) A one-page **content summary** 2) A two-page **reflection summary** of significant ideas (direct quotes or general ideas) from the book. The following should be included with each significant idea: a) the book page number; b) one of the three identified categories below and c) brief reflective personal comments.
1. AGREEMENT – Thoughts with which you are in firm agreement; things that make you say "Yes!" or items that inspire you to action in your life and move your spirit.

2. DISAGREEMENT – Thoughts in which you find dissonance; areas with which you might disagree.
3. MORE THOUGHT – Areas that you want to spend more time thinking about; things that make you wonder; items on which you are not sure what your stance it.

3. Biblical Overview of Discipleship Paper (20%)
Write an 8-page paper discussing the biblical mandate for discipleship. Include an overview of Old Testament and New Testament examples of discipleship. Examine how this mandate and the examples included are applicable to the local church. Use at least eight sources including the Bible and the course texts, preferably scholarly works. Seminary Style Guide is required for this assignment. Refer to the Blackboard document "General Considerations for the Biblical Overview of Discipleship Paper" for help with this assignment.

Assignment Formatting
- Type this assignment according to Seminary Style Guide format
- All papers must be written in third person and double-spaced
- Use 12 point Times New Roman font
- Use the same number of references as assigned pages
- Use correct spelling and grammar
- Use proper pagination
- Include your name on the *cover page*
- Write the *full* assignment

4. Profile for Discipleship Strategy/Planning Chart (15%)
Create a profile identifying the context for the development of a discipleship strategy (the upcoming assignment). Include a half-page detailed description of the setting for the strategy (geographic location, ministry setting, needs, etc.) and a half-page detailed description of the individuals involved in the process (age, developmental needs, gender, etc.). Fill-out the "Discipleship Planning Chart" (on Blackboard) using the questionnaire guide provided by the professor. This profile should guide your understanding, evaluation, research, and development of your discipleship strategy handbook/presentation.

5. Discipleship Strategy Handbook and Implementation (40%)
Based on the discipleship strategies and the foundational concepts of development discussed in class, the biblical foundations and mandates of discipleship discussed in your **Biblical Overview of Discipleship paper**, the **Profile for Discipleship Strategy/Planning Chart** you created, and additional personal research, **develop** a discipleship strategy which can be implemented in your specific ministry setting. Create a PowerPoint presentation (25 slides) or PDF document (25 pages), which provides an overview, explanation and rationale for your strategy. This presentation should include a **minimum** of 8 to 12 weeks detailed description for **how** to implement your strategy (which can either include planning processes or curriculum and content materials, etc.) should be included in this presentation. Refer to the document "Discipleship Strategies Development Guide" on Blackboard for help with this assignment.

Strategy Handbook and Implementation Paper Rubric

Discipleship Strategy Handbook & Implementation Paper

This rubric describes how you will be evaluated for your Discipleship Strategy Handbook & Implementation Paper.

Criteria	Levels of Achievement			
	Excellent	**Good**	**Needs Improvement**	**Deficient**
Discipleship Content	10 Points	8.5 Points	7 Points	5 Points
	Strategy is a well thought-out, exceptional strategy that supports the biblical basis for discipleship. The rationale is clearly communicated. Reflects application of critical thinking. Has a clear goal with prudent time stamps that are appropriate. A variety of sources are referenced. Is biblically accurate.	Strategy is a well thought-out, good plan that supports the biblical basis for discipleship. The rationale is given. Has application of critical thinking apparent. Has a clear goal with good time stamps. An acceptable number of sources are referenced. Is biblically accurate.	Strategy supports the biblical basis for discipleship. The rationale is vaguely referenced. Has application of critical thinking that is apparent. Has no clear goal and unwise time stamps. A limited number of sources are referenced. Has some inconsistencies.	Strategy provides inconsistent information for the biblical basis for discipleship. No rationale for discipleship is given. Has no apparent application of critical thinking. Has no clear goal and no selected time stamps. A few sources are referenced. Has significant misconceptions or misinterpretation on discipleship.
Grammatical Convention	No spelling, grammatical, or punctuation errors. High-level use of vocabulary and word choice.	Few (1 to 3) spelling, grammatical, or punctuation errors. Good use of vocabulary word choice.	Minimal (3 to 5) spelling, grammatical, or punctuation errors. Low-level use of vocabulary and word choice.	More than 5 spelling, grammatical, or punctuation errors. Poor use of vocabulary and word choice.
Strategy Organization	Discipleship strategy is clearly focused in an organized and thoughtful manner. Discipleship strategy is constructed in an exceptional and logical pattern to support the mission of the church in the selected profile context.	Discipleship strategy supports the mission of the church. Plan has a pattern, but occasionally is unfocused on specific profile. Strategic steps provided are logical and supports mission of the church in the selected profile context.	Strategy plan has focus but strays from the profile at times. Strategic steps appear to have a pattern, but the pattern is not consistently carried out in the project. Information in the strategy loosely supports the mission of the church in the selected profile context.	Strategic planning Content is unfocused and haphazard. Information does not support the solution to the challenge to make disciples. Information provided has no apparent pattern to support the mission of the church in the selected profile context.
Presentation Level	Exceptional creativity in visual format with over 20 slides or pages. Multimedia (charts, graphs, tables, illustrations, video) is used or referenced to clarify and illustrate the main points. Format enhances the content. Presentation captures audience attention. Presentation is organized, well planned	Good creativity in visual format with 17-19 slides or pages. Multimedia (charts, graphs, tables, illustrations, video) is used or referenced to illustrate the main points. Format is appropriate for the content. Presentation captures audience or reader's attention. Presentation is well organized.	Acceptable creativity in visual format with 13-16 slides or pages. Multimedia (charts, graphs, tables, illustrations, video) loosely illustrates the main points. Format does not suit the content. Presentation does not capture audience or reader's attention. Presentation is loosely organized.	Limited creativity in visual format with 12 or less slides or pages. Presentation appears sloppy and/or unfinished. Multimedia (charts, graphs, tables, illustrations, video) is overused or underused. Format does not enhance content. Presentation has no clear organization.
Late Work Penalty	0 Points	-1 Points	-2 Points	-3 Points
Additional Missed Points	0 Points	-1 Points	-2 Points	-3 Points
	No additional missed points.	Reason Provided in Feedback.	Reason Provided in Feedback.	Reason Provided in Feedback.

Evaluation of Grade

Biblical Overview of Discipleship Paper	20%
Book Critiques (3 at 5% each)	15%
Profile for Discipleship Strategy Planning Chart	15%
Discipleship Strategy Handbook and Implementation	40%
Classroom Decorum and Engagement	<u>10%</u>
	100%

Course Policies

Reading Assignments
Students are responsible for completing all reading assignments.

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.

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.*

Professor's Policy on Late Assignments
All work is due on the assigned date and time in the syllabus. Assignments are due before midnight on the day they are due. Late assignments will be penalized an initial 10 percent penalty and one percent for each day after the due date. No assignments will be accepted more than two weeks after the original due date. Submit all assignments electronically on Blackboard. Unless otherwise directed, do not send files as attachments via email to the professor.

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
A copy of the approved NOBTS Style Guide can be found in the course Blackboard shell, or can be located online at the Writing Center's page on the seminary website at:
https://www.nobts.edu/_resources/pdf/writing/StyleGuide.pdf

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 helps and guidelines.
In addition, the website Grammarly (www.grammarly.com) will help you become a better writer. Eazypaper (www.eazypaper.com) will help you automatically format your sources.

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.

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.

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.

Grading Scale
Each students final grade will be based on your total accumulation of points as indicated under the Assignments and Evaluation Criteria section of this syllabus, according to the grading scale in the NOBTS catalog.

A   93-100   B   85-92   C   77-84   D   70-76   F   69 and below

Withdrawal from the Course
The administration has set deadlines for withdrawal. These dates and times are published on the academic calendar. Administration procedures must be followed. You are responsible to handle withdrawal requirements. A professor cannot issue a withdrawal. You must complete the proper paperwork to ensure you will not receive a final grade of "F" in the course if you choose not to engage in the online class once you are enrolled.

Selected Bibliography

Adsit, Christopher B. *Personal Disciplemaking: A Step-by-step Guide for Leading a New Christian from New Birth to Maturity*. Orlando, FL: Integrated Resources, 1996.

Blackaby, Henry and Richard. *Spiritual Leadership: Moving People on to God's Agenda.* Nashville, TN: B & H Publishers, 2001.

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Gangel, Kenneth. "The Meaning of Leadership" in *Leadership Handbook of Management & Administration*. James D. Berkley, ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2007.

Goleman, Daniel, Richard Boyatis, and Annie McKee. *Primal Leadership: Revitalizing the Power of Emotional Intelligence.* Boston: Harvard Business School Press, 2004.

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Hull, Bill. *The Complete Book of Discipleship: On Being and Making Followers of Christ.* Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 2006.

_____. *The Disciple-Making Church.* Grand Rapids, MI: Fleming H. Revell, 1990.

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Iorg, Jeff. *The Painful Side of Leadership: Moving Forward Even When It Hurts.* Nashville, TN: B&H Books, 2009.

Issler, Klaus. *Living Into the Life of Jesus: The Formation of Christian Character.* Downers Grove, IL: IVP Books, 2012.

Jones, Laurie Beth. *Jesus CEO: Using Ancient Wisdom for Visionary Leadership.* New York: Hyperion, 1995.

Koessler, John. *True Discipleship: The Art of Following Jesus.* Chicago, IL: Moody Publishers, 2003.

Lane, Timothy S., and Paul David Tripp. *How People Change.* Greensboro, NC: New Growth Press, 2006.

Lawless, Chuck. *Discipled Warriors: Growing Healthy Churches That Are Equipped for Spiritual Warfare.* Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Academic & Professional, 2002.

Mancini, Will. *Innovating Discipleship: Four Paths to Real Discipleship Results (Church Unique Intentional Leader Series).* Lexington, KY: CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2013.

McCallum, Dennis and Jessica Lowery. *Organic Disciplemaking: Mentoring Others Into Spiritual Maturity and Leadership.* Houston, TX: Touch Publications, 2006.

Mitchell, Michael R. *Leading, Teaching, and Making Disciples: World-Class Christian Education in the Church, School, and Home.* Bloomington, IN: Crossway Books, 2010.

Ogden, Greg. "Servant Leadership" in *Leadership Handbook of Management & Administration*. James D. Berkley, ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2007.

_____. *Transforming Discipleship: Making Disciples a Few at a Time*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Books, 2003.

_____ and Daniel Meyer. *Leadership Essentials: Shaping Vision, Multiplying Influence, Defining Character.* Downers Grove, IL: IVP Connect, 2007.

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Pope, Randy, and Kitti Murray. *Insourcing: Bringing Discipleship Back to the Local Church (Leadership Network Innovation Series)*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2013.

Putman, David. *Breaking the Discipleship Code.* Nashville, TN: B & H Publishing Group, 2008.

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Course Schedule

Date	Units	Reading Due	Assignments Due
Friday, October 15 1:00-2:30pm – Session 1 2:30-2:45pm – Break 2:45-4:15pm – Session 2 4:15-4:30pm – Break 4:30-6:00pm – Session 3 6:00-7:00pm – Dinner 7:00-7:50pm – Session 4 7:50-8:00pm – Break 8:00-9:00pm – Session 5	Unit 1: Introduction to Discipleship Strategies Unit 2: What is the Mission of the Church? Unit 3: What is Biblical Discipleship? Unit 4: Who are My Disciples? Unit 5: The Pattern of Spiritual Growth Unit 6: Discipleship Shifts & Church Categories Unit 7: Strategy Development Unit 8: Approaches to Disciple-Making	Malphurs, ch. 1-4 Dean/Stewart, ch. 1-6 Coleman, ch. 1-4 Absalom/Harrington, ch. 1-3	No assignment due
Saturday October 16 8:00-9:15am – Session 6 9:15-9:30am – Break 9:30-10:45am – Session 7 10:45-11:00am – Break 11:00am-12:00pm – Session 8 12:00-1:00pm – Lunch 1:00-2:15pm – Session 9 2:15-2:30pm – Break 2:30-3:45pm – Session 10 3:45-4:00pm – Break 4:00-5:00pm – Session 11	Unit 9: Five Models of Discipleship Unit 10: Mentoring Men and Women Unit 11: Preschoolers, Children, and Discipleship Unit 12: Teenagers, Families, and Discipleship Unit 13: Evaluation of Discipleship Strategies Unit 14: Discipleship Strategy Presentation Overview	Malphurs, ch. 6-9 Dean/Stewart, ch. 7-9 Absalom/Harrington, ch. 4-8	**Book Critiques due before midnight**
October 24			**Biblical Overview due before midnight**

November 21			**Profile/Planning Chart due before midnight**
December 5			**Discipleship Strategy Handbook due before midnight**