



Risk Management for Christian Ministry
CEAM6308
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Division of Church Ministry
Fall 2022
Prepare Here Weekend Hybrid

Jody Dean, PhD

Associate Professor for Christian Education
Associate Dean for Distance Learning
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Office: Frost Building 200A
(504) 282-4455
jdean@nobts.edu

Mission Statement

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

Course Description

This course provides an investigation into the contemporary influence of risk management in the ministry of the local church and Christian organization. Students will review and evaluate critical areas of risk management such as; personnel risk management, property risk administration, financial and fiduciary risk, and general congregational and program risk management. Issues of safety, security, insurance and legal mandates placed on religious non-profit organizations will be discussed.

Student Learning Outcomes

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

1. Apply knowledge and understanding of basic risk management issues and strategies to implications for the safe and secure practice of Christian ministry in the local church or religious organization.
2. Value the implications for risk management in the ministry of the local church or Christian based organization
3. Develop a risk management strategy and document for a facet of ministry in the local church or Christian organization.

Textbooks

Dean, Jody and Allen Jackson, *Protect*. Birmingham, AL: YM360, 2019.

Dilmos, Rollie. *Integrity at Stake: Safeguarding Your Church From Financial Fraud*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2016.

Hughes, Adam and Jody Dean. *Together We Lead*. Birmingham, AL. New Hope Publishers, 2021.

Course Teaching Methodology

Units of Study: One unit per course meeting

Unit I: The Biblical and Theological Foundation for Risk Management

Unit II: The character considerations with people

Unit III: The volunteer and staff process as it relates to risk

Unit IV: Financial Considerations

Unit V: Insurance Considerations

Unit VI: Property Considerations

Unit VII: People Considerations with counseling and social interactions

Unit VIII: Safety through people and programming

Unit IX: Security with people and programming

Unit X: Outliers (outside organizations, charged services, etc..)

Unit XI: Culture and Contemporary challenges

Unit XII: Insurance 101(What are you covered for?)

Unit XIII: Legal Considerations with Risk

Teaching Method. This course will be the combination of lecture, case study analysis, student interaction, research and reporting by the student.

Course Requirements

1. The student will conduct a safety assessment of a church or Christian organization using an instrument provided by the professor and present their findings through threaded discussion periods. 15% of overall grade Date Due: 9/12
2. The student will review 3 articles on Risk Management and provide a (1) page analysis per article synthesizing the benefits and challenges for implementation in the church. 15% of overall grade Date Due: 10/10
3. The student will research an assigned facet of church ministry from the perspective of safety, security, and insurance. A researched document that explains policy and procedure relating to risk management for that area of ministerial. The student will then present their findings in a class if in person or through a recorded 10 minute presentation if flex that will be played in class during presentations. 50% of overall grade Date Due: 11/14
4. The student will compile a notebook of resource materials related to risk management. Sections of the notebook will include safety, security, and insurance issues in the local church from hardcopy, internet, or electronic resources. 20% of overall grade Date Due: 12/5

Weekend Hybrid Classes: Students are expected to attend and participate in the class sessions. Because of the nature of the intensive, students who miss any portion of the class may receive a grade of "F" for the course. The weekend on campus meeting dates are October 28 (1-9pm) -29 (8-4).

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. Canvas.NOBTS.com Click on the “Help” button for technical questions/support requests regarding the NOBTS Canvas System. You can also email questions to Canvas@nobts.edu.
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. A copy of the approved NOBTS Style Guide can be found in the course Canvas 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>

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.

Course Schedule

Week #	Date	Assignments/Unit
One	8/15	The Biblical and Theological Foundation for Risk Management
Two	8/22	Financial considerations
Three	8/29	Infrastructure considerations: i.e. aging facilities, maintenance, etc..
Four	9/5	People: who can serve and how to safeguard the work
Five	9/12	Assignment Due: Safety Assessment
Six	9/19	Safety
Seven	9/26	Security
Eight	10/3-10/7	Fall Break
Nine	10/10	Assignment Due: 3 Articles
Ten	10/17	Special events vs. weekly programming
Eleven	10/24	October 28-29 in person Prepare Here Hybrid weekend

		People, property, and program considerations with Protecting Ministry
Twelve	10/31	Legal considerations to Risk
Thirteen	11/7	Insurance factors related to risk management
Fourteen	11/14	Assignment Due: Research Paper
Fifteen	11/21	Thanksgiving Break
Sixteen	11/28	Outliers to Risk: auxiliary programs like day care, schools, community partnerships
Seventeen	12/5	Assignment Due: Notebook of Resources (finals week)