



# Special Topics in Discipleship: SEND North America Conference

DISC6392-80

**New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary**

Christian Education Division

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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.*

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## **Purpose of the Course**

The purpose of this course is to provide the student an opportunity for attendance in conferences, seminars, professional meetings, and other types of short term events and gain academic credit for participation.

## **Core Value Focus**

*Doctrinal Integrity* – Knowing that the Bible is the Word of God, we believe it, teach it, proclaim it, and submit to it. The doctrinal statements used in our evaluations are our Articles of Religious Belief and the Baptist Faith and Message Statement.

*Spiritual Vitality* – We are a worshipping community, with both personal spirituality and gathering together as a Seminary 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.

Annually, the President will designate a core value that will become the focus of pedagogy for the year. For 2014-2015 academic year that Core Value is *Spiritual Vitality*.

## **Curriculum Competencies Addressed**

This course will address the following curriculum competencies:

1. *Biblical Exposition*: To interpret and communicate the Bible accurately by examining what God has declared in His Word about discipleship and the ministry philosophy promoted by the various conference presenters.

2. *Disciple Making*: To stimulate church health through equipping and mobilizing Christian men and women for disciple making and fulfillment of the Great Commission.
3. *Interpersonal Skills*: To perform Christian brotherly and sisterly care effectively, with skills in communication and conflict management.
4. *Servant Leadership*: To serve one another effectively through collaborative ministry efforts and support collegial relationships and development in Christian education.
5. *Spiritual and Character Formation*: To promote Christ-honoring leadership development with emphasis on character, speech, integrity, faith, conduct, love, and purity of leaders.

### **Course Description**

Students will be exposed to a variety of topics specific to discipleship, missional life, and church health in relationship to the field of Christian education by attending the Send North America Conference in Nashville, Tennessee, August 3-4, 2015. Students will be challenged to acknowledge and respond to a movement of people from within the church living out the mission of God in their everyday lives.

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

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

1. Be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of discipleship topics and resources available for developing disciple makers in the church and living on mission.
2. Value personal development as a disciple-maker by striving for a vibrant relationship with Christ and value investing in others to mobilize them to live out the mission of God in their everyday lives and through their local church.
3. Be able to gain skills in the area of observation and evaluation for the purpose of synthesizing characteristics of effective disciple making, assessing personal disciple making as well as church discipleship strategies and developing practical application for effective disciple making in the local church and the mobilization of the church to accomplish God's mission.

### **Required Readings**

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

#### **Required Texts**

Willis, Dustin, and Aaron Coe. *Life on Mission: Joining the Everyday Mission of God*. Chicago, IL: Moody Publishers, 2014.

North American Mission Board. *Life on Mission: A Simple Way to Share the Gospel – Bible Study Book*. Nashville: LifeWay, 2014.

#### **Select Two Additional Required Texts from the list below:**

Allen, Jennie. *Restless: Because You Were Made for More*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 2014.

Charles, H.B. *The Difference Jesus Makes: Trusting Him in Every Situation*. Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2014.

Carter, Matt, Darrin Patrick with Joel Lindsey. *For the City: Proclaiming and Living Out the Gospel*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2011.

Horton, D. A. *DNA: Foundations of the Faith*. Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2013.

Mason, Eric. *Unleashed: Being Conformed to the Image of Christ*. Nashville: B&H Books, 2015.

Moore, Russell. *Onward: Engaging the Culture without Losing the Gospel*. Nashville: B&H Books, 2015.

Platt, David. *Counter Culture: A Compassionate Call to Counter Culture in a World of Poverty, Same-Sex Marriage, Racism, Sex Slavery, Immigration, Abortion, Persecution, Orphans, and Pornography*. Carol Stream, IL: Tyndale House Publishing, 2015. [Full book, ISBN: 978-1414373294] – Do not order preview paperback copy, only 64 pages.

Stetzer, Ed, and Philip Nation. *Compelled: Living the Mission of God*. Birmingham, AL: New Hope Publishers, 2012.

### **Course Teaching Methodology**

The course will take place at the **SEND North America Conference 2015 in Nashville, TN** and involve pre-conference work, conference attendance, and post-conference work.

#### **Special Event Course Considerations:**

- **Conference Fee:** In addition to NOBTS graduate course tuition, the student is required to register and pay the **\$35 conference fee** for the SEND North America Conference.
- The SEND North America Conference will be held at **BRIDGESTONE ARENA, 501 Broadway, Nashville, TN 37203**.
- Students **MUST** register via the **NOBTS North GA group leader** to receive the \$35 discounted rate.
- Students should pay graduate course tuition to the NOBTS Business Office through the student's Self Serve account.
- **Housing and Meals:** All travel, food, and rooming costs are the responsibility of the student. Hotels are located in the area and a listing is available conference website. Go to <http://sendconference.com/info/hotel-travel/> for hotel options.
- **Blackboard Enrollment:** Each student is responsible for enrolling in the Blackboard section of the course. Blackboard will be used for professor-student communication, assignment submission, course content distribution and discussions.
  - **Instructions for enrolling in NOBTS Blackboard** (Note: You must be on a computer with Internet access and be connected to the Internet to access NOBTS – Blackboard.)
  - **Step 1:** Open your web browser to the seminary home page at <http://www.nobts.edu>
  - **Step 2:** Click on the **Blackboard** tab.
  - **Step 3:** When the new page opens, log in your Blackboard account.
  - **Step 4:** Your personal NOBTS – Blackboard home page should appear. To enroll in a class, click on the **Courses** tab at the top of the page.

- **Step 5:** Click on **Browse Catalog Section**, then in the box –“unspecified term” pull down the menu and select the term for the course. Click **Go**.
- **Step 6:** When you find your course, click on the **Enroll** button on the right hand side of the screen. The Blackboard ID for the course is **DISC6392AB**. The “DISC6392” is the course number and the “AB” is the professor initials.
- **Step 7:** Click **Submit**.
- **Step 8:** Click **OK** when the confirmation page appears.

If you do not have a Blackboard account you will need to e-mail [blackboardhelpdesk@nobts.edu](mailto:blackboardhelpdesk@nobts.edu) and make the request for an account. Now that you have a Blackboard account with NOBTS, return to **Blackboard Enrollment Instructions** above and enroll in the course.

### **Teaching Method**

This course will emphasize observation and listening comprehension skills during the conference sessions and require conversation and analysis skills for assignment completion and discussions.

### **Delivery Format**

The course will be delivered in a conference setting with group interaction incorporated at various times during the conference schedule and a pre- and post-conference discussion via Blackboard.

### **Assignments and Evaluation Criteria**

The student is expected to complete the course assignments in the three learning domains: cognitive, affective, and psychomotor.

### **Cognitive Domain of Learning**

1. *Textbook Reading, PowerPoint & Verification:* (10%) Due: **August 2, 2015**  
The student will read the **Life on Mission text** prior to the conference. Completion of reading before the conference is intended to improve understanding of course content and enhance discussion participation. The student will be asked to indicate their reading percentage of the required texts **\*\*Textbook Reading Verification will be conducted via Blackboard (online)**. The student will submit a **PowerPoint presentation** of concepts from the text as a means of reviewing the textbook content with classmates. A minimum of 10 slides are required and the slides should focus on **pertinent concepts** from the text.
  
2. *Life on Mission Training & Bible Study Evaluation:* (15%) Due: **August 2, 2015**  
The student will evaluate the **Life on Mission Training** materials available online at [http://lifeonmissionbook.com/?page\\_id=13](http://lifeonmissionbook.com/?page_id=13) The student will review the Leader Resources: Teach 3 Circles (PowerPoint), Preach 3 Circles (Sermon Guide) and 3 Circles Sermons and watch the Training Videos. The student will evaluate the **Life on Mission: A Simple Way to Share the Gospel – Bible Study Book** produced by North American Mission Board (required text of course).  
After reviewing the leader resources and training videos and reading the *Life On Mission Bible Study Book*, the student will **write a critical analysis** about the *Life on Mission* materials. The critical analysis should provide information about, but is not limited to, the

purpose of the 3 Circles presentation, the argument behind why the presentation should get believers engaged in God's mission, the main ideas of the presentation; the quality of the training videos, the ways to help a pastor train their congregations, the possible uses of the Bible study book, the quality and usefulness of the Bible study book content, etc. The critical analysis should be a **minimum of 3-pages, double-spaced**, and include *strengths, weaknesses*, and suggested *improvements* for the leader resources, Bible study and training videos.

3. *Research Paper: (25%)*

Due: **September 14, 2015**

The student will write a **5 - 7 page research paper** for one discipleship topic or live on mission concept presented during the conference. The paper may be either argumentative or analytical, but must be **biblically supported**.

- Argumentative: The student will introduce the topic and inform the reader of exactly which position the student intends to take (thesis statement). Since the goal of the paper is to persuade the reader, the topic should be debatable and controversial. The student should support this thesis throughout the paper with **a minimum of 5 primary sources** (*excluding course textbooks*) with the intent to persuade the reader to a particular interpretation of the discipleship topic or live on mission concept.
- Analytical: The student will ask a research question upon which he or she has taken no stance, but rather is seeking to offer a critical interpretation of primary and secondary sources for the purpose of informing the reader of a particular discipleship topic or live on mission concept. The paper must be supported with **a minimum of 5 sources** (*excluding course textbooks*).

The paper should be written in Turabian form using Times New Roman 12 pt font including page numbers and cover page. A grading rubric for the research paper is posted on Blackboard. Use Scripture references to support paper content, but do not consume or waste valuable page space with quoting long passages of Scripture in the document.

### **Affective Domain of Learning**

4. *Conference Journal & Evaluation: (10%)*

Due: **August 17, 2015**

During the conference, the student should make notations about each conference session speaker, each break-out session, and the booths, displays, activities, and any resources provided (i.e., have **a conference journal** (electronic or written) recording the two days of speakers, activities, etc.). At the conclusion of the conference, the student will be required to evaluate the event by writing a review. The review should be **two-pages of content** including items such as theme explanation, best speaker/worst speaker, most meaningful activity, best resource/worst resource, venue critic, schedule consideration, vendor availability, etc. Also, the assignment should include a **1 to 2-page critical analysis** of the event worth/value regarding church leader development and personal discipleship practices (i.e., will you be a "better" Christian leader or a more "effective" disciple maker because of attending?). The paper should be no more than 5-full pages of content. In addition include a Turabian cover page with name, submission date, etc.

5. *Conference Speaker Reading & Paper: (20%)*

Due: **August 31, 2015**

The student will choose two books from the list provided on pages 2-3 of this syllabus. The books are authored by the conference speakers. The books selected by the student

must not be books the student has previously read. After reading each text in its entirety, the student should generate *a list of 10 concepts/principles/quotes* from each book which are significant for the student's own personal spiritual growth, leadership development and/or for the student's discipleship of other ministry leaders. After each quote, the student should include a *3-5 sentence paragraph* explanation of the quote's significance and its future usage for personal growth and in ministry with at least one practical application for implementation in local church ministry. At the conclusion of the paper, the student should *indicate the percentage of each text read*. Submit paper with Turabian cover page and page numbers.

### Psychomotor Domain of Learning

6. *Blackboard Discussion:* (10%) Due: **August 2, 2015 and August 17, 2015**  
 The student will be responsible for participating in two discussion boards for the course. The pre-conference discussion board due by **August 2** and post-conference discussion board should due by **August 17**. Discussion questions and guidelines will be posted on Blackboard.

7. *Course Participation:* (10%) Due: **August 3-4, 2015**  
 The student is expected to participate fully the conference sessions (Monday and Tuesday). This portion of the course grade will be evaluated by the professor with regard to attendance notifications and meaningful interaction during conference. The student is expected to attend at least one class meeting BEFORE the conference begins. The required class meeting will be **9:00am-11:00am on Monday morning**.

### Time Commitment

This course involves 15 hours of pre-conference work of reading two textbooks, creating presentation, one Blackboard discussion, and critical analysis of training materials. The course will include pre-conference class meeting and conference session attendance on **August 3-4, 2015**, all totaling 24 hours of participation. Also, the course will involve post-conference work constituting a minimum of 30 hours for post-conference assignment completion: one Blackboard discussion, conference journal & evaluation, conference speaker reading and research paper.

### Course Evaluation

The professor will prescribe a grade based upon the student's satisfactorily completion of the following course requirements:

Textbook Reading, PowerPoint, and Verification	10%
Life on Mission Training & Bible Study Evaluation	15%
Research Paper	25%
Conference Journal & Evaluation	10%
Conference Speaker Reading & Paper	20%
Blackboard Discussion	10%
Conference Participation	10%

### Grading Scale

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

## Course Policies

**Blackboard:** The student is responsible to check Blackboard for grades, assignments, course documents and announcements. The student is responsible for maintaining current information regarding e-mail address on the Blackboard system and Self Serve.

### **Assignment Submission**

Assignments are due on the date indicated in the “Assignments and Evaluation Criteria” section of the syllabus. Assignments not submitted via Blackboard by the assigned date are considered late and will **be penalized 5 points per day**. Assignments should **not** be e-mailed to the professor.

Course pre-assignments (i.e., textbook reading and discussion board) are due before the conference begins. Course pre-assignments not completed are considered late and must be submitted no later than the final conference session or a zero will be earned for the assignments. All other late assignments are due no later than 6 weeks after conference, no exceptions. ***If all course assignments are not uploaded to Blackboard by the sixth week after the conference, a grade of zero is automatically earned for all missing assignments.***

### **Assignment Format**

All assignments are to be typed, double-spaced with 12-point font (Times New Roman preferred) and 1-inch margins unless otherwise indicated. Assignment should include a Turabian format cover page that includes name, date of submission and assignment title. A Turabian style guide is available in the NOBTS library and located on the NOBTS web site at <http://www.nobts.edu/resources/pdf/Extensions.Old/turabiantutor7thjan08.pdf>.

**Netiquette:** Appropriate Online Behavior. 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.

### **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.

### **Absences**

Class attendance is essential for effective learning and according to the NOBTS Graduate Catalog, **no absences** are allowed in conference courses, Saturday classes, academic workshops, or one-week summer courses. Arriving late to conference sessions or leaving early will count as an absence. A grade of “F” will be assigned to students who fail to attend the minimum number of course hours.

## Course Schedule

The schedule for the course is indicated below August 3-4, 2015 and is influenced by the SEND North America conference schedule.

### **PRE-CONFERENCE CLASS MEETING:**

**Monday, August 3\*\***

9:00am – 11:00am NOBTS Class Meeting

### SEND North America Conference Schedule

#### **Monday, August 3**

10:00am – Check-in

11:30am – Lunch (own your own)

12:45pm – Session 1

3:00pm – Breakout

5:15pm – Dinner (own your own)

6:30pm – Session 2

9:00pm – Session 3

\* Lunch and Dinner are NOT provided on Monday.

**\*\*Participation is required from 9am until the conclusion of Session 3.**

#### **Tuesday, August 4**

8:30am – Session 4

10:45am – Breakout

1:00pm – Lunch (Conference fee includes lunch provided)

2:15pm – Session 5

5:00pm – Dinner (own your own)

7:30pm – Session 6

**\*\*Participation is required from 8:30am until the conclusion of Session 6.**

## Selected Bibliography

Allen, Jennie. *Restless: Because You Were Made for More*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 2014.

Blackaby, Henry and Richard Blackaby. *Spiritual Leadership: Moving People on to God's Agenda*, Revised and Expanded. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 2011.

Camp, Lee C. *Mere Discipleship: Radical Christianity in a Rebellious World*. Grand Rapids: Brazos Press, 2008.

Carter, Matt, Darrin Patrick with Joel Lindsey. *For the City: Proclaiming and Living Out the Gospel*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2011.

Chan, Francis. *Multiply: Disciples Making Disciples*. Colorado Spring, CO: David C. Cook, 2012.

Charles, H.B. *The Difference Jesus Makes: Trusting Him in Every Situation*. Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2014.

- Cloud, Henry, and John Townsend. *How People Grow: What the Bible Reveals About Personal Growth*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2001.
- Cole, Neil. *Search and Rescue: Becoming a Disciple Who Makes a Difference*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2008.
- Coleman, Robert E. *The Master Plan of Evangelism*. Old Tappan: Fleming H. Revell Company, 1964.
- Eims, LeRoy. *The Lost Art of Disciple Making*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1978.
- Horton, D. A. *DNA: Foundations of the Faith*. Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2013.
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- Ogden, Greg. *Transforming Discipleship: Making Disciples a Few at a Time*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Books, 2003.
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- Scazzero, Peter with Warren Bird. *The Emotionally Healthy Church: A Strategy for Discipleship that Actually Changes Lives*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2003.
- Stetzer, Ed, and Philip Nation. *Compelled: Living the Mission of God*. Birmingham, AL: New Hope Publishers, 2012.
- Whitesel, Bob. *Cure for the Common Church*. Indianapolis, IN: Wesleyan Publishing House, 2012.
- Willis, Dustin, and Aaron Coe. *Life on Mission: Joining the Everyday Mission of God*. Chicago, IL: Moody Publishers, 2014.