



DISC 5171 Spiritual Formation 2

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Division of Christian Education

Kevin J. Brown, MSW, LCSW

Associate Professor of Social Work

kbrown@nobts.edu Office: 504-282-4455 ext. 8305

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 weekly accountability, mentoring, discussion and spiritual formation by participating in and leading weekly meetings.

Core Value Focus and Curriculum Competencies

The seminary has five core values. The core value focus for 2015-2016 is Mission Focus. This course supports the five core values of the seminary.

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.

Course Description

This is the second of two semester-long, pass-fail experiences in a faculty-mentored group. The group will meet an hour weekly for accountability, mentoring, discussion, and spiritual formation in the company of others. It will include specific assignments in the selected Christian devotional practices. This is a course to be taken the semester immediately following DISC5170. Students registered for DISC5170 will automatically be registered for DISC5171 with the same professor, at the same time, the following semester.

Student Learning Outcomes

In order to provide moral leadership by modeling and mentoring Christian character and devotion and in order to stimulate church health through mobilizing the church for discipleship, the student, by the end of the course should:

1. Comprehend the following concepts:
 - The marks of a disciple as something beyond the point of salvation.
 - Effective methods of becoming a disciple and making disciples.
 - The relationship between spiritual maturity and spiritual disciplines.
 - Christian devotional practices or disciplines.

2. Have a positive response to the following concepts:
 - A life-long intentional devotional discipline for lifelong spiritual growth and benefit to the kingdom of God
 - A meaningful and maturing relationship with God.
 - Christian community in a small group setting.
 - A personal commitment to basic devotional practices.
 - A personal commitment to covenant marriage and personal holiness.

3. Be able to, with the help of resources, accomplish the following tasks:
 - Develop a plan for personal discipleship and assist others to develop a personal discipleship plan.
 - Practice appropriate disciplines of the Christian faith.
 - Lead small discipleship groups.

4. Have an appropriate perception as how to lead small discipleship groups.

Textbooks

Bridges, Jerry. *The Pursuit of Holiness*. Colorado Springs: NavPress, 2006.

Course Requirements

1. Participate in all class discussions and meetings.
2. Read the assigned textbook and additional class material while also leading at least one class discussion of an assigned chapter.
3. Keep a journal of your spiritual journey throughout the course and complete the assignments given by the professor for the spiritual journal. The journal is to be your thoughts/reflections about your spiritual journey. The student is to journal **4 times**

weekly. Each journal entry should be a minimum of **two paragraphs**. The journal should include reflections on spiritual progress, particularly as evidenced through the spiritual plan developed and turned in by the student (Course Requirement 5). The journal will not be read by the professor but only briefly checked for completion.

4. Each student will be required to submit a six month spiritual plan. The plan must include **four spiritual** goals (e.g. Scripture reading and memory, prayer, fasting, solitude, witnessing, etc.) to be put into practice over the course of six months as well as a specific plan for accomplishing the spiritual goals. The plan must include the following:

(1) Explain in one paragraph the reason for selecting each specific spiritual goal.

Each goal should have one paragraph explaining the reason for selection, for a total of four paragraphs.

(2) List the discipline and the plan and steps for beginning or improving the practice of the discipline.

(3) Include a summary of what you would like to see happen in your life as a result of improvement in each specific discipline.

5. The student must select an accountability partner, who is the same gender and who can be described as “full of grace, wisdom, and the Holy Spirit.” The student will meet with the accountability partner for a minimum of thirty minutes per week beginning on the 5th week of the course. The student will submit a statement identifying the accountability partner.

6. At the conclusion of the course, the student will meet with the professor to discuss your spiritual growth during the semester. Meeting times will be scheduled during the last week of classes. The student’s journal and spiritual plan/assessment will be discussed.

Course Evaluation

The course is offered on a pass/fail basis as follows:

| | |
|-------------------------------|------|
| Journal | 30 % |
| Discussion session leadership | 15 % |
| Class participation | 15 % |
| Spiritual plan | 40 % |

Professor’s Policy on Late Assignments

In accordance with seminary policy, a student will automatically fail the course if he or she incurs three absences. The student handbook should be consulted regarding further information about seminary policies for absences. Late assignments automatically will be penalized a letter grade and may receive additional penalties depending on the amount of time the assignment is late.

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/student-services/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.

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 accessing Blackboard, Selfserve, or other technical support, 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 requests with the Selfserve.nobts.edu site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)
- BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Blackboard Learning Management System NOBTS.Blackboard.com.
- ITCSupport@nobts.edu - Email for general technical questions/support requests.

- www.NOBTS.edu/itc/ - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.
- For Student Assistance in using Blackboard, visit: [Student Bb Help](#)

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.

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 Academic 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.

Emergency Plan

In the event of a hurricane or other emergency, go to the seminary web site for information: www.nobts.edu. Also, students should use Blackboard to follow any announcements that may be posted. Students should ensure their current email address is updated on Blackboard.

Course Presentation Schedule

| | | Discussion Leader |
|---------|---|--------------------------|
| 1/25/15 | Course Overview | Professor |
| 2/1/15 | Chap. 1 & 2 | _____ |
| 2/8/15 | Chap. 3 & 4 | _____ |
| 2/15/15 | Chap. 5 & 6 Spiritual growth plan due | _____ |
| 2/22/15 | Chapter 7 & 8 Meet with Accountability Partner | _____ |
| 2/29/15 | Chapter 9 | _____ |

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| 3/7/15 | Chapter 10 | _____ |
| 3/14/15 | Spring Break | |
| 3/21/15 | Chapter 11 | _____ |
| 3/28/15 | Chapter 12 | _____ |
| 4/4/15 | Chapter 13 | _____ |
| 4/11/15 | Chapter 14 | _____ |
| 4/18/15 | Chapter 15 | _____ |
| 4/25/115 | Chapter 16 Individual Student Meetings with Professor | _____ |
| 5/2/15 | Concluding Discussion/Fellowship Chapter 17 | _____ |

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
- Florida Virtual Library (<http://www.flelibrary.org/>) for Florida students
- Interact with us online at –



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