



PHIL6370 Supervised Apologetics Ministry Practicum
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Division of Theological and Historical Studies
Spring 2017

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MISSION STATEMENT

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.

CORE VALUE FOCUS

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary has five core values: Doctrinal Integrity, Spiritual Vitality, Mission Focus, Characteristic Excellence, and Servant Leadership. These values shape both the context and manner in which all curricula are taught, with “doctrinal integrity” and “mission focus” especially highlighted in this course. The core value focus for the 2016-17 year is ***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

All graduates of NOBTS are expected to have at least a minimum level of competency in each of the following areas: Biblical Exposition, Christian Theological Heritage, Disciple Making, Interpersonal Skills, Servant Leadership, Spiritual and Character Formation, and Worship Leadership. The curriculum competencies addressed in this course are: ***Disciple Making, Interpersonal Skills, Servant Leadership, and Spiritual and Character Formation.***

COURSE 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.

TEXTBOOKS

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 TEACHING 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.

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.

EVALUATION OF GRADE

Grades will be determined on the basis of the NOBTS grading scale—an A for 93-100, B for 85-92, C for 77-84, D for 70-76, and F for 69 or below.

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

Technical Assistance

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. BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Blackboard Learning Management System NOBTS.Blackboard.com.
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.

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

Class will meet four times with venues and dates to be determined in collaboration with the professor.

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.

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