



DISC5170 Introduction to Spiritual Formation

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Division of Church and Community Ministries
Spring 2020, Tuesday, 2:00 p.m.

Dr. Jeanine C. Bozeman, Ph.D., LCSW, ACSW, BCD, BACS
Professor of Social Work
Office: Dodd 107
Phone: (504) 282-4455, ext. 8106
Email: jbozeman@nobts.edu

Administrative Assistant: Mary Drake Chavez

Office: Dodd 107
Phone: (504) 282-4455 ext. 8106
Email: socialwork@nobts.edu

Class Grader: Noah Bowlin

Email: noah@calvaryneworleans.com
Phone: (601) 421-2505

Mission Statement

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

Core Value Focus

The seminary has five core values: Doctrinal Integrity, Spiritual Vitality, Mission Focus, Characteristic Excellence, and Servant Leadership. The core value focus for this academic year is Spiritual Vitality: We are a worshipping community emphasizing both personal spirituality and gathering together as a Seminary family for the praise and adoration of God and instruction in His Word. Spiritual Vitality is addressed by reminding students that a dynamic relationship with God is vital for effective ministry.

Curriculum Competencies

NOBTS faculty members realize that all ministers need to develop specific competencies if they are going to have an effective ministry. To increase the likelihood of NOBTS graduates having an effective ministry, the faculty developed a competency-based curriculum after identifying seven essential competencies necessary for effective ministry. All graduates are expected to have at least a minimum level of competency in all of the following areas:

- 1. Biblical Exposition:** to interpret and communicate the Bible accurately.
- 2. Christian Theological Heritage:** To understand and interpret Christian theological heritage and Baptist polity for the church.
- 3. Disciple Making:** To stimulate church health through mobilizing the church for missions, evangelism, discipleship, and church growth.
- 4. Interpersonal Skills:** To perform pastoral care effectively, with skills in communication and conflict management.
- 5. Servant Leadership:** To serve churches effectively through team ministry.
- 6. Spiritual and Character Formation:** To provide moral leadership by modeling and mentoring Christian character and devotion.
- 7. Worship Leadership:** To facilitate worship effectively.

This course addresses all curriculum competencies.

Course Description

This course is a pass-fail experience in a faculty led learning context. Students in the course will meet weekly for accountability, mentoring, discussion, and spiritual formation by participating in and leading weekly meetings. Students will comprehend a variety of Christian devotional practices by completing specific assignments on basic spiritual disciplines. This course is designed to be taken during a student's first semester. This course is available in a mentoring format.

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

Embedded Assignment -

REFLECTION PAPER

Assignment Description

Write a three-page reflection paper at the end of the semester. The reflection paper is a first-person synopsis of a personal spiritual formation and discipleship plan relating to the importance of spiritual maturity and spiritual disciplines. The student should write about their perception of meeting in small groups for Christian community and the role of spiritual disciplines/devotional practices such as journaling, scripture memorization, and prayer.

Rubric for Grading Reflection Paper

Element	SLOs	Inadequate (1 PT)	BASIC (2PTS)	COMPETENT (3 PTS)	GOOD (4 PTS)	EXCELLENT (5 PTS)	POINTS
UNDER- STANDI NG	Understand the basic marks of personal spiritual disciplines, spiritual growth and discipleship.	Shows an inadequate understanding of personal disciplines, spiritual growth and discipleship.	Shows a minimal understanding of personal disciplines, spiritual growth and discipleship.	Shows an adequate understanding of personal disciplines, spiritual growth and discipleship. Student lists and explains one or two spiritual disciplines.	Shows a good understanding of personal disciplines, spiritual growth and discipleship. Student lists and explains three spiritual disciplines.	Shows an exemplary understanding of personal disciplines, spiritual growth and discipleship. Student lists and explains four spiritual disciplines.	

APPLI-C ATION	Develop a positive response to lifelong spiritual growth through the practice of spiritual disciplines.	Makes poor application to respond to lifelong spiritual growth through spiritual disciplines	Makes minimal application to respond to lifelong spiritual growth through spiritual disciplines	Makes one practical applications to respond to lifelong spiritual growth through spiritual disciplines.	Makes two applications to respond to lifelong spiritual growth through spiritual disciplines.	Makes three practical application to respond to lifelong spiritual growth through spiritual disciplines.	
COMMUNICATIO N	Express in writing a personal discipleship plan and lead others in spiritual disciplines within a small group setting.	Used none or an incoherent expression that fails to communicate a plan to help others grow spiritually.	Use of an inconsistent expression that fails to communicate a plan to help others grow spiritually.	Limited expressions that communicate a competent plan to help others grow spiritually by valuing relationships.	Used more than one expression that communicate a good plan to help others grow spiritually by valuing relationships.	Used two or more expressions that communicate an exemplary plan to help others grow spiritually by valuing relationships.	<u>Aver. Score</u>

Textbooks

Foster, Richard J. *Celebration of Discipline: The Path to Spiritual Growth*. San Francisco, CA: HarperCollins, 1998.

Ortberg, John. *The Life You've Always Wanted: Spiritual Disciplines for Ordinary People*. Expanded edition. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2002.

Course Teaching Methodology

The course will involve the following methodologies: reading/reflection on texts in the field through participation in class/group discussions; individual study and practice of spiritual disciplines; and reflection and journaling of individual student spiritual journey.

Course Requirements

Class Attendance (15%)

Due: Weekly

Attend class and participate in all class discussions. In evaluating class involvement, consideration will be given to (1) attendance, (2) class participation, (3) reading accountability, and (4) punctuality.

Leadership (15%)

Due: Weekly

Read the assigned textbooks and additional class material while also leading at least one class discussion of an assigned chapter.

Journaling (30%)

Due: Weekly

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 at least 2 times weekly with 2-3 paragraphs (10-15 sentences) minimum each entry. The journal will not be read by the professor but only briefly checked for completion. Bring your journal to class weekly.

Scripture Memory (10%)

Due: See Individual Due Dates on the Course Schedule

Memorize and recite assigned Bible verses on specified dates.

Reflection Paper (30%)

Due: May 2

Write a three-page reflection paper at the end of the semester. The reflection paper is a first-person synopsis of a personal spiritual formation and discipleship plan relating to the importance of spiritual maturity and spiritual

disciplines. The student should write about their perception of meeting in small groups for Christian community and the personal role of spiritual disciplines/devotional practices such as journaling, scripture memorization, and prayer. The assignment is due at the end of the semester.

Evaluation of Grade

To receive a passing grade, students must score 70% or higher. The student's grade will be computed as follows:

Journal	30 %
Leadership	15 %
Class Attendance/Participation	15 %
Scripture Memory	10%
Reflection Paper	30 %

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. 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.

Writing Style Guide

Writing assignments should follow the **NOBTS/Leavell College Manual of Form and Style** (*revised August 2019*). To access this manual on the seminary website, please use the following link: <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

Date	Assignment	Group Leader	Memory Verse
January 21	Introduction/Spiritual Assessment	Bozeman	
January 28	Class will not meet so that students can participate NOBTS day of service		
February 4	Testimonies	Group Members	Gal. 2:20
February 11	Foster, 1; Ortberg, 1-3, 13 Spiritual Disciplines		
February 18	Foster, 2, 5; Ortberg 11 Meditation & Study		Phil. 3:10
February 25	Mardi Gras – No Class		
March 3	Foster, 3; Ortberg, 6 Prayer		Rom. 12:1-2
March 10	Foster, 4 Fasting		
Spring Break – No Class			
March 24	Foster, 6; Ortberg, 12 Simplicity		Jos. 1:8
Date	Assignment	Group Leader	Memory Verse
March 31	Foster, 7; Ortberg, 5; Solitude		Phil. 4:6-7
April 7	Foster, 8; Ortberg, 10 Submission		

April 14	Foster, 9; Ortberg, 7 Service		Heb. 10:24-25
April 21	Foster, 10; Ortberg, 8 Confession		Mt. 28:18-20
April 28	Foster, 11 Worship		Col. 3:17
May 5	Foster, 13; Ortberg, 4		
May 9	Celebration		

Selected Bibliography

Arn, Win and Charles Arn. *The Master's Plan for Making Disciples*, 2d ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 1998.

Barna, George. *Growing True Disciples*. Colorado Springs, CO: Waterbrook Press, 2001.

Blackaby, Henry T. and Claude V. King. *Experiencing God: How to Live the Full Adventure of Knowing and Doing the Will of God*. Nashville, TN: B & H, 1994.

_____. *Hearing God's Voice*. Nashville, TN: B & H, 2002.

Bonhoeffer, Dietrich. *The Cost of Discipleship*. Translated by R. H. Fuller. New York: Macmillan, 1963.

Bridges, Jerry. *The Pursuit of Holiness*. Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1978.

_____. *The Practice of Godliness*. Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1983.

Coleman, Robert E. *The Master Plan of Evangelism*. Grand Rapids, MI: Revell, 1993.

_____. *The Master Plan of Discipleship*. Grand Rapids, MI: Revell, 1987.

Cymbala, Jim. *Break Through Prayer*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2003.

DeMoss, Nancy Leigh. *Brokenness: The Heart God Revives*. Chicago: Moody, 2005.

_____. *Holiness: The Heart God Purifies*. Chicago: Moody, 2005.

_____. *Surrender: The Heart God Controls*. Chicago: Moody, 2005.

Eims, Leroy. *The Lost Art of Disciple Making*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1978.

Elliff, Tom. *A Passion for Prayer: Experiencing Deeper Intimacy with God*. Fort Washington, PA: CLC Publications, 2010.

Floyd, Ronnie. *The Power of Prayer and Fasting*. Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman, 1997.

Foster, Richard J. and James Bryan Smith. *Devotional classics*. Revised and expanded ed. New York: HarperCollins, 2005.

_____ and Gayle D. Beebe. *Longing for God*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Books, 2009.

_____ and Emilie Griffin. *Spiritual Classics: Selected Readings on the Twelve Spiritual Disciplines*. New York: HarperCollins, 2000.

Frizzell, Gregory R. *How to Develop a Powerful Prayer Life: The Biblical Path to Holiness and Relationship with God*. Memphis, TN: The Master Design, 1999.

Hall, R. Clyde. *Handbook for Youth Discipleship*. Nashville, TN: Broadman, 1988.

Hughes, R. Kent. *Disciplines of a Godly Man*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2001.

Hull, Bill. *Jesus Christ Disciplemaker*. Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1984.

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

_____. *The Disciple-Making Pastor*. Grand Rapids, MI: Revell, 1988.

Idleman, Kyle. *Not a Fan: Becoming a Completely Committed Follower of Jesus*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2011.

MacArthur, John. *The Keys to Spiritual Growth: Unlocking the Riches of God*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 1991.

Muller, George. *The Autobiography of George Muller*. New Kensington, PA: Whitaker House, 1984.

Murray, Andrew. *Absolute Surrender*. Springdale, PA: Whitaker House, 1982.

_____. *With Christ in the School of Prayer*. Springdale, PA: Whitaker House, 1981.

Ortberg, John. *If You Want to Walk on Water, You've Got to Get Out of the Boat*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2002.

Packer, James I. *Knowing God*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1973.

Petersen, Jim. *Lifestyle Discipleship: The Challenge of Following Jesus in Today's World*. Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1993.

Piper, John and Wayne Grudem. *Recovering Biblical Manhood and Womanhood*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 1991.

Plantinga, Cornelius, Jr. *Not the Way It's Supposed to Be: A Breviary of Sin*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1995.

Platt, David. *Radical: Taking Back Your Faith from the American Dream*. Colorado Springs, CO: Multnomah, 2010.

Stanley, Charles F. *Handle with Prayer: How to Turn the World Around While on Your Knees*. Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1987.

Whitney, Donald S. *Spiritual Disciplines for the Christian Life*. Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1991.

Wright, N. T. *Following Jesus: Biblical Reflections on Discipleship*. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Publishing, 1995.