



DISC5171 Personal Disciplemaking

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

Division of Church Ministry

Spring 2021 On-Campus

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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.

1. **Doctrinal Integrity:** Knowing that the Bible is the Word of God, we believe it, teach it, proclaim it, and submit to it. This course addresses Doctrinal Integrity specifically by preparing students to grow in understanding and interpreting of the Bible.
2. **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. Spiritual Vitality is addressed by reminding students that a dynamic relationship with God is vital for effective ministry.
3. **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. This course addresses Mission Focus by helping students understand the biblical foundations for fulfilling the Great Commission and the Great Commandments.
4. **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. Characteristic Excellence is addressed by preparing students to excel in their ability to interpret Scripture, which is foundational to effective ministry.
5. **Servant Leadership:** We follow the model of Jesus and exert leadership and influence through the nurture and encouragement of those around us. Servant Leadership is modeled by classroom deportment.

The core value focus for this academic year is Mission Focus.

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.

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Course Description

This course is a pass-fail experience in a faculty led learning context. Students in the course will meet for accountability, mentoring, and personal discipling by participating in and leading others in the context of a mentor/micro-group learning environment. Students will be challenged to share their faith, and multiply spiritually in the lives of others. Students will do this by selecting a mentee(s) or microgroup from a church ministry context to disciple them with the goal of spiritual multiplication.

Student Learning Outcomes

In order to stimulate church health and multiplication, by the end of the course students should be able to equip others by mentoring and modeling personal discipling by:

1. Demonstrating knowledge and understanding of personal disciple making as it relates to the function of local church and fulfilling the Great Commission.
2. Developing an appreciation and value for utilizing mentoring/micro-group learning environments as a means of making disciples in the local church.
3. Gaining skills and practical application in personal discipling.

Textbooks

Bridges, Jerry and Bob Bevington. *The Bookends of the Christian Life*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2009.

Harrington, Bobby and Josh Patrick. *The Disciple Maker's Handbook: 7 Elements of a Discipleship Lifestyle*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2017.

Optional Texts:

Ogden, Greg. *Essential Guide to Becoming a Disciple: Eight Sessions for Mentoring and Discipleship*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2016.

Course Teaching Methodology

The course will involve the following methodologies: reading/reflection on texts through participation in class/group discussions; individual study and practice of disciple making skills; and reflection of individual student's spiritual journey.

Course Requirements

1. **Participate** in all in-class, mentoring or online discussions. In evaluating class participation, consideration will be given to (1) attendance, (2) class participation, (3) reading accountability, and (4) punctuality.
2. **Read the assigned textbooks** and participate in discussions as assigned. You will read and discuss the book *The Disciple Maker's Handbook* with your professor. You will select and lead a disciple-making group for 10

weeks using the book *The Bookends of the Christian Life*. Students do have the option to use another curriculum, if approved by the professor.

3. Students will **select a mentee or micro-group** (2-5 people) from a church ministry context to encourage them in establishing basic core Christian beliefs that will lead them to consistent spiritual growth using the assigned book, *The Bookends of the Christian Life*. Students will guide the mentee(s) weekly through a study of these core beliefs outside the in-class or online discussions. The mentee(s) should be a “Timothy” that the student can invest in over the course of 10 weeks. Characteristics include: new or young believer, same gender, motivated, available, faithful, reliable and teachable.
4. The student will meet with their mentee(s) or micro-group for 50-60 minutes for **10 weeks** from **February 11th** through **April 22nd**. The student will submit a signed statement identifying their mentee (s) by **February 4th** and turn-in a log-sheet recording the weekly meeting attendance by **April 29th**.
5. Students will download or receive a copy of the study guide for *The Bookends of the Christian Life* from the course blackboard shell. On a **weekly basis** (see course schedule), students will **submit a completed chapter study guide**. All submissions (**10 total**) are either a Microsoft document or a pdf and due on **April 29th**.
6. The student is required to write monthly **Reflection Papers** (15 pts). The reflection papers are due by the end of the month for **February, March, and April**. The completed papers will be submitted and uploaded through Blackboard by the **last day** of the month. These papers should be a 1-page **single space** of reflection report based on your weekly mentee or micro-group meetings, in-class course content, and experiences during the week of ministry. These 3 reflection papers are a first-person synopsis of the personal disciple making experience on a month-by-month basis. Here are the disciple’s practices that should be included in the reflection paper:
 - **Bible:** describe the curriculum that you have covered over the past month, Scripture memorization, etc.
 - **Meeting:** when, where did you meet, how did you as questions and review lesson
 - **Mentee or Micro-group:** attendance, the student completing work, areas of spiritual growth that you observe
 - **Relational:** engaging mentee or micro-group with texts, visits, life-on-life, phone calls, etc.

Evaluation of Grade

The course is offered on a pass/fail basis. The student's grade will be computed as follows:

Study Guide Completion	25%	Meeting with Mentee (10 weeks) and Log-sheet	40%
In-Class Participation	20%	Reflection Papers (3)	15%

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.

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.

Policy on Late Assignments

All work is due on the assigned day and at the assigned time. The grade for late assignments will automatically be reduced by 10 points. **Assignments that are over one week late will not be accepted.**

Academic Policies

Academic policies related to absences, examinations, and other topics can be found in the *New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Academic Catalog 2016-2017*.

Course Schedule

Lessons	Reading Assignment	Discipling Mentee or Micro group (10 weeks)	Assignment Due
1	Introduction Assignments/Expectations		
2	Harrington & Patrick, Chap. 1-3 (Vision and Mission)		Mentee/Microgroup Statement
3	Harrington & Patrick, Chap. 4 (Relationships) Bridges & Bevington, Chap. 1		Study Guide Assignment & Submission Chap. 1
4	Harrington & Patrick, Chap. 5 (Jesus) Bridges & Bevington, Chap. 2	√	Study Guide Assignment & Submission Chap. 2
5	Harrington & Patrick, Chap. 6 (Intentionality) Bridges & Bevington, Chap. 3	√	Study Guide Assignment & Submission Chap. 3
6	Harrington & Patrick, Chap. 7 (Bible) Bridges & Bevington, Chap. 4	√	Study Guide Assignment & Submission Chap. 4
7	Harrington & Patrick, Chap. 8 (Spirit) Bridges & Bevington, Chap. 5	√	Study Guide Assignment & Submission Chap. 5
8	Harrington & Patrick, Chap. 9 (Journey) Bridges & Bevington, Chap. 6	√	Study Guide Assignment & Submission Chap. 6
9	Harrington & Patrick, Chap. 10 (Multiply) Bridges & Bevington, Chap. 7	√	Study Guide Assignment & Submission Chap. 7
10	Bridges & Bevington, Chap. 8	√	Study Guide Assignment & Submission Chap. 8
11	Bridges & Bevington, Chap. 9	√	Study Guide Assignment & Submission Chap. 9
12	Bridges & Bevington, Chap. 10	√	Study Guide Assignment & Submission Chap. 10
13	Bridges & Bevington, Worldview	√	
14	Finalizing Coursework		Reflection Papers

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