



ANSWERING GOD'S CALL

PATH6334 Stress and Conflict Management

Summer 2021 Intensive, July 19-23 (NOLA2U Live)

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

Monday 1:00 – 6:00 pm;

Tuesday – Thursday 8:00 am – 11:30 am, 1:00 – 4:00 pm;

Friday, 8:00 am – 12:00 pm. All times Central Standard Time

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Seminary Mission Statement

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

Course Description

This course is designed to help students understand the causes and effects of stress and interpersonal conflict. Attention will be given to managing stress and conflict in personal ministry within the context of the church. Students will study biblical principles, contemporary theories, available resources, and practical methods for managing stress and conflict effectively. *Prerequisites: PATH5331 Pastoral Ministry (or PATH5333 Christian Ministry) and CCSW6214 Interpersonal Relationship Skills.*

Core Value Emphasis

The Core Value of emphasis for 2020-2021 is Mission Focus.

Student Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, the student will:

1. Understand various causes and effects of personal and interpersonal conflict and stress.
2. Be acquainted with theological concepts, practical strategies, and helpful resources regarding managing stress and conflict;
3. Know how to assess personal stress management needs, devise an appropriate stress management plan, and implement such a plan effectively;
4. Have gained personal insights about managing and resolving personal and church conflict in ways which facilitate ministry in contemporary church contexts;
5. Value leadership principles, models, and methods related to conflict management and resolution.

Required Textbooks

Bullard, George W. *Every Congregation Needs a Little Conflict*. St. Louis: Chalice Press, 2008.

Yessick, Tommy. *Building Blocks for Longer Life and Ministry*. Nashville: Convention Press, 1997. (The book is out of print -- a PDF copy will be emailed to students.)

Course Teaching Methodology

The professor will utilize presentations, case studies and student feedback, incorporating the required textbooks and assignments.

Intensive Requirements

1. Read the Bullard textbook and compose a *Reflection Paper*, to include the following for EACH CHAPTER of the book: (1) A bullet list of three significant takeaways or key insights from EACH chapter. The bullet list should be single-spaced. [Note: If the takeaway or insight is a “direct quote”, please indicate the page number via endnotes and not footnotes] (2) Answer all of the questions in the “Coaching Insights” feature at the end of EACH chapter. [Note: Do not confuse the “Coaching Insights” sections with the “Coaching Breaks” sections.] The Coaching Insights sections consist of “squares” [Note: In some versions of the book, the Coaching Insights for chapter 3 are missing the “squares”]. Provide your answers in complete sentences – one paragraph, single-spaced for each “square”, even if the “square” involves several questions. Single-space between each single-spaced paragraph, with no paragraph indentions; chapter titles listed as headings; title page required. **The Reflection Paper is due no later than 8:00 am, Tuesday, July 20, posted in the Assignments section of Blackboard.**
2. Read the Yessick textbook and answer the questions on the Wellness Inventory beginning on page 105. Be prepared to discuss your personal assessment scores during the first day of the intensive, Monday, July 19. Instead of a written exam during the intensive, students will write a *Personal Wellness Action Plan*, to include a Summary of Yessick’s six wellness categories and a discussion of proposed actions to bring wellness to your life. **Instructions will be given by the professor for the Personal Wellness Action Plan and the due date.**
3. Students will be given homework assignments and small group assignments during the intensive, to involve discussions of articles uploaded on Blackboard by the professor, research of websites, and examination of case studies.
4. Write an **Essay** to analyze and propose a solution or approach to resolve a problematic conflict situation typical of those which occur in a congregation. The conflict situation must fit into one of the first four levels of intensity discussed by Bullard. The professor must approve the situation to be addressed. The essay must be double-spaced, six to eight pages in length (not counting the title page or the bibliographic reference list), utilizing Bullard, plus two additional books, two articles, and biblical references which inform the analysis and proposed solution, resources referenced by footnotes. The essay should discuss the following topics: *Conflict Description* (a brief detail of the situation and the Intensity level), *Situation Analysis* (the Goal of the leader in addressing the conflict situation and the desired conflict outcome), and *Solution Proposed* (Role the leader must assume in resolving the conflict and the potential Leadership Styles to be taken with the congregation). Title page, footnotes, headings, and pagination should use Turabian 8 as the style guide. The books, articles, and translation of the Bible should be listed on a Reference page, with bibliographic entries according to Turabian.
Due: Friday, July 30, uploaded on Blackboard no later than 11:59 pm.
Note: The due date for any graduating senior taking this intensive may be adjusting according to the deadline stated by the NOBTS Registrar’s Office.

If you are taking this course as a NOLA2U Live student, please note the following attendance policies:

1. The course on the New Orleans campus will be connected synchronously via Web conferencing with Internet students. These courses will require weekly attendance at the stated class meeting times.
2. Students are only allowed to miss the amount of class time specified in the NOBTS attendance policy as stated in the graduate catalog. (See “Absences” category in the website catalog at: <https://catalog.nobts.edu/generalinfo/academicpolicies>.)
3. Technical issues will not be considered a valid reason for missing a class session.

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.

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.

Selected Bibliography

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- Everist, Norma Cook. *Church Conflict: From Contention to Collaboration*. Nashville: Abingdon, 2004.
- Finzel, Hans. *The Top Ten Mistakes Leaders Make*. Colorado Springs: David C. Cook, 2007.
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