



CCSW8301 Life Issues and Ministry Practice
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Church & Community Ministries Division

November 5-7, 2019
New Orleans and Little Rock

Dr. Jeanine C Bozeman
Professor of Social Work
Office: (504)-282-4455 ext. 3207

jbozeman@nobts.edu

Dr. Joe Sherrer
Professor of Discipleship and Ministry Leadership
Office: (405) 703-2863

jsherrer@nobts.edu

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.

NOBTS Core Values and Core Value Focus

Doctrinal Integrity – Knowing that the Bible is the Word of God, we believe it, teach it, proclaim it, and submit to it. The doctrinal statements used in our evaluations are our Articles of Religious Belief and the Baptist Faith and Message Statement.

Spiritual Vitality – We are a worshiping community, with both personal spirituality and gathering together as a Seminary 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.

Annually, the President will designate a core value that will become the focus of pedagogy for the year. For 2019-2020 academic year the Core Value is *Spiritual Vitality*.

Purpose of the Course

The purpose of this course is to provide quality theological education for students in the area of life and ministry issues in the context of the local church.

Curriculum Competencies Addressed

This course will address the following curriculum competencies:

1. *Interpersonal Skills*: Understand how to build relationships with other ministry leaders within the local church.
2. *Servant Leadership*: Determine how the senior pastor, staff members, and lay leaders can serve one another while still providing the appropriate leadership required.
3. *Spiritual and Character Formation*: As a leadership team intentionally “grow up in all things into Him who is the head – Christ” (Eph. 4:15b, NKJV).

Course Description

This seminar will address critical age group, family, and life needs and issues. Ministry models will be developed to meet particular needs and issues of each age group and family lifestyle.

Student Learning Outcomes

By the end of this seminar students will be able to...

1. Identify current needs and issues related to each age group across the lifespan as they relate to ministry in a local church.
2. Evaluate responses to selected life issues within varied ministry contexts and the ministry of a local church.
3. Develop appropriate ministry models applicable to the student’s church or ministry for addressing current life issues related to Christian social ministries, preschool/children's ministry, youth ministry, adult ministry, and family ministry.

Course Teaching Methodology

The course will involve the following methodologies: Individual and group presentations, discussions, Socratic questioning, lecture, case studies, organizational analysis and technical writing.

Required Textbooks

Briggs, Jim. R. *Fail: Finding Hope and Grace in the Midst of Failure*. Downers Grove, Ill: Intervarsity Press, 2014.

Clinton, Tim and Archibald Hart, George Ohlschlager. *Caring for People God's Way: Personal and Emotional Issues, Addictions, Grief, and Trauma*. Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson, 2009. (Students will read Part 1: Chapters 1-5. Selected chapters may be used for reports and presentations.)

Irving, Paul. *The Upside of Aging*. Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley and Sons, 2014.

Pre-Seminar Assignments

1. **Inventories:** Students should take the *Cultural Issues Inventory* and the *Congregational Life Issues Inventory*. Both of these are posted on Blackboard. Completed copies of both inventories will be submitted through Blackboard as an attachment to Assignment 2. The data obtained from taking these inventories will be used in Assignment 2. Students are encouraged to complete these inventories by September 15, 2019, because the results of the surveys significantly impact preparation for other assignments.
2. **Ministry Context:** Based on the inventory results, write a brief description of your ministry context. Then, identify the top 3-5 *cultural issues* impacting your church or ministry. Additionally, identify the top 3-5 *congregational life issues* impacting your church or ministry. For each of these critical issues you have identified (a total of six to ten issues) relate in two paragraphs how you are currently managing or addressing them in your church or ministry. Single spacing is appropriate for this assignment. Also, attach the survey data as indicated in Assignment 1. This assignment is to be submitted under the Assignments tab in Blackboard. **Due Date: November 5, 2019.**
3. **Textbook Readings:** Each student is expected to read all three required texts.
 - a. **Critical Review:** For one of the three required texts, students will prepare a three to four page *Critical Review* of a selected (student choice) textbook (double-spaced, typewritten, and in Turabian form). The review should include the following: (1) complete bibliographic data; (2) a statement of the author's purpose; (3) a brief synopsis of the message of the book; (4) a critical analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of the text; (5) an evaluative assessment of the degree of success the author had in achieving the purpose, and (6) a discussion of potential application to the student's ministry context. This assignment is to be submitted under the Assignments tab in Blackboard. **Due Date: November 5, 2019**
 - b. **Ten Talking Points:** Each Student will read and prepare ten talking points (annotated observations, insights, criticisms, etc.) for each of the other two required textbooks. Identify your paper with a header including your name, assignment, date, course title. Be prepared to discuss talking points in class. Single spacing is appropriate for this assignment. The assignment is to be submitted on or before the first day of the seminar. This assignment is to be submitted under the Assignments tab in Blackboard. **Due Date: November 5, 2019.**
4. **Cultural Issue.** Select, research, and prepare to present a "Cultural Issue" during the seminar. You may choose from the items identified in the *Cultural Issues Inventory*, or you may request a different one that is a critical concern for your ministry setting. Choose a topic about which you have specific concern or a topic that is influencing your ministry in a significant way. Submit your selected topic for approval before you begin work. **Submit your topic for approval by Dr. Sherrer so we can avoid multiple**

presentations of the same topic. First come first approved. This assignment is in preparation for the presentation in Assignment 6. There is no submission for Assignment 4 through Blackboard. You will submit your presentation in Assignment 6. **Due Date: November 5, 2019.**

5. **Congregational Issue:** Select, research, and prepare to present a Congregational Life Issue during the seminar. You may choose a congregation life issue from the items identified in the *Congregational Life Issues Inventory*, or you may request a different topic that is a critical concern for your ministry setting. Choose a topic about which you are passionate or a topic that is influencing your ministry in a significant way. Submit your topic for approval topic before you begin work. **Submit your topic for approval by Dr. Sherrer so we can avoid multiple presentations of the same topic. First come first approved.** This assignment is in preparation for the presentation in Assignment 6. There is no submission for Assignment 5 through Blackboard. You will submit your presentation in Assignment 7. **Due Date: November 5, 2019.**

During the Seminar

6. **Cultural Issue Presentation:** Each student will present a cultural life issue during the seminar (See assignment 4). The student should make the presentation interactive and involve participants in a discussion of the assigned material. Presentation should be approximately 15 minutes in length. It is anticipated that most students will have a PowerPoint (or similar) presentation as well as one or more student handouts. This assignment should be submitted through the Assignment tab of Blackboard. Also, post the assignment under the Discussion Board of Blackboard so all seminar participants will have access to the handout and presentation materials. **Due Date: November 5, 2019.**
7. **Congregational Presentation:** Each student will present his/her findings of a congregational issue during the seminar (See Assignment 5). The recommended presentation approach is PowerPoint or similar. Alternative methodologies may be used. (Creativity is encouraged.) The presentation should include a handout with facts and talking points as well as implications for ministry. Provide an environment for students to engage in a discussion of the issue. Presentation should be approximately 15 minutes in length. It is anticipated that most students will have a PowerPoint (or similar) presentation as well as one or more student handouts. This assignment should be submitted through the Assignment tab of Blackboard. Also, post the assignment under the Discussion Board of Blackboard so all seminar participants will have access to the handout and presentation materials. **Due Date: November 5, 2019.**

After the Seminar

8. **Issues Bibliography Contribution.** Students will be expected to copy discovered resources to a collective bibliography sorted by issue or topic. A wiki page will be set up in BB and referenced during the seminar. **Due Date: December 20, 2019.**

9. **Ministry Model.** Use the *Life Issue & Ministry Model Template* (available in BB) to summarize and communicate the information in your book chapter (See Assignment 10) in a cogent format. Develop a new ministry model suitable for implementation in the local church or ministry. Utilizing the previous assignments, include components such as, but not limited to: identification of impacted age group or ministry area, identification of ministry issue, ministry goals and objectives, rationale based on current literature and ministry experience, ministry plan of action, evaluation of proposed model in light of current literature. This assignment should be submitted through the Assignment tab of Blackboard. Also, post the assignment under the Discussion Board of Blackboard so all seminar participants will have access. **December 20, 2019.**
10. **Book Chapter:** Each student will write a revised and expanded report on the *Congregational Life Issue* presented during the seminar. The report should be written as a chapter for a compellation book useful for a future Life Issues and Ministry Practice seminar. Each chapter is expected to be 3000-3500 words. For this assignment use an “endnotes” style together with a complete bibliography. Details and appropriate citations are crucial. Use sub-headings as indicated below. More details will be presented during the seminar. This assignment should be submitted through the Assignment tab of Blackboard. **Due Date: December 20, 2019.**

Use the following sub-headings, suggestions, questions, and guidelines for chapter content:

- ***Introduction:*** Briefly identify the issue and highlight how the issue has presented a need or problem to be resolved. Begin with a quote or challenging fact to grab the reader.
- ***Scope and Impact:*** Include essential characteristics, demographic data, current scope, and relevant resources. Charts/graphs maybe used. Consider the use of interviews or case studies.
- ***Biblical/Theological Foundations:*** Search biblical and theological sources to discover a position and determine principles on how to address the issue under consideration. Consider both direct and implied text and statements.
- ***Approaches/Audiences:*** Detail key information from your research regarding how the issue relates to various generations or life stages. Consider the issue from a variety of viewpoints. (Example: patient, client, doctor, family members, care giver, etc.)
- ***Ministry Implications:*** Consider the ramifications for personal spiritual, emotional, intellectual, and physical health. How has the “church” traditionally addressed this issue or concern? Has that approach been effective? Should new approaches be offered?

Note: The hope/expectation is to create an ebook useful for future seminars. Quality work from each individual will make this a possibility. Poor work will limit the options.

Evaluation

Assignment 1—Inventories (No submission for evaluation)	
Assignment 2 -- Ministry Context Paper	10%
Assignment 3a—Critical Review of Textbook	10%
Assignment 3b--Ten Talking Points (2 @5%)	10%
Assignment 4 & 6—Cultural Issue Presentation	10%
Assignment 5 & 7—Congregational Issue Presentation	10%
Assignment 8—Issues Bibliography Contribution (wiki)	5%
Assignment 9--Congregational Issue Ministry Model	20%
Assignment 10--Congregational Issue Book Chapter	25%
Total	100%

Assignment Formatting

Use Turabian 8 (current edition) for all writing assignments in this seminar. Papers will be graded based on 70% content and 30 % form, spelling and grammar. **All assignments are expected to be submitted on time. Late assignments will incur a late penalty for the grade.**

- Unless otherwise noted, type all assignments according to Turabian 8 format.
- All papers must be written in third person.
- Use 12 point Times New Roman font, left alignment (no flush alignment)
- At a minimum use the same number of references as assigned pages.
- Use correct spelling and grammar.
- Use proper pagination.
- Include your name on the *Cover Page*.
- Submit assignments through Blackboard as indicated on each assignment.
- Write the *full* assignment.

Directed Study:

Students who choose to take this course as a Directed Study are expected to complete all the class assignments as detailed as well as additional assignments to be determined by the seminar instructors.

Selected Bibliography

Children's Ministry

- Anderson, Bill. *When Child Abuse Comes to Your Church*. Minneapolis: Bethany House, 1992.
- Anderson, Herbert, and Susan B. W. Johnson. *Regarding Children*. Westminster John Knox Press, 1994.
- Barna, George. *Transforming Children into Spiritual Champions*. Regal Books, 2003.
- Bernstein, Joanne E. *Loss and How to Cope With It*. New York: Houghton Mifflin, 1977.
- Blackwell, Muriel. *How Do I Become a Christian?* Nashville: Broadman Press, 1990.
- Blazen, Doris. *Faith Development in Early Childhood*. Kansas City, MO: Sneed and Ward, 1989.
- Briggs, Dorothy Corkville. *Embracing Life: Growing Through Love and Loss*. New York: Doubleday, 1985.
- Chamberlain, Eugene. *Carol Beth Learns About Following Jesus*. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1990.
- Coles, Robert. *Spiritual Life of Children*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1990.
- Davis, Cos. *I'm Big Enough*. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1990.
- Davis, Cos. *Children and the Christian Faith*. (rev.) Nashville: Broadman Press, 1990.
- Edleman, Marian Wright. *The Measure of Our Success*. Boston: Beacon Press, 1992.
- Elkind, David. *The Hurried Child: Growing Up Too Fast Too Soon*. Reading, MA: Addison Publishing, 1981.
- Garland, Diana. *Precious in His Sight*. Birmingham: New Hope, 1993.
- Goffney, Donna A. *The Seasons of Grief: Helping Your Child Grow Through Loss*. New York: American Library, 1988.
- Gore, Tipper. *Raising PG Kids in an Xrated Society*.
- Halverson, Delia Touchton. *Helping Your Child Discover Faith*. Valley Forge: Judson Press, 1982.
- Hammer, Richard R. *Reducing the Risk of Child Sexual Abuse in Your Church*. Matthews, North Books, 1991.
- Hewlett, Sylvia Ann. *When the Bough Breaks: The Cost of Neglecting Our Children*. New York: Basic Books, 1991.
- Ketterman, Grace and Pat Holt. *Choices are Not Child's Play: Helping Your Child Make Wise Decisions*. Wheaton: Harold Shaw Publishers, 1990.
- Lester, Andrew D. *Pastoral Care with Children in Crisis*. Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1985.
- Lester, Andrew D. *When Children Suffer*. Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1987.
- Louv, Richard. *Childhood Future*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1990.
- Smalley, Gary and John Trent. *The Blessing*. New York: Simon and Schuster, 1986.
- Waldrop, Sybil. *Guiding Your Child Toward God*. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1985.

Wright, H. Norman. *The Power of A Parent's Words*. Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 1991.

Adolescent Ministry

Atkinson, Harley. *Ministry with Youth in Crisis*. Birmingham: Religious Education Press, 1997.

Benson, Peter L. *What Kids Need to Succeed*. Minneapolis: Free Spirit Press, 1995.

Benson, Peter L. *The Troubled Journey: A Portrait of 6th to 12th Grade Youth*. Minneapolis: Search Institute, 1993.

Borgman, Dean. *When Kumbaya is Not Enough*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 1997.

Cobb, Nancy J. *Adolescence: Continuity, Change, and Diversity*. Mountain View, CA: Mayfield Publishing Co, 1995.

DeVries, Mark. *Family-Based Youth Ministry*. Downer's Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1994.

Erikson, Erik. *Identify Youth in Crisis*. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, Inc., 1998.

Jackson, Allen and Randy Johnson. *Connected, Committed and a Little Bit Crazy*. Nashville: Convention Press, 1996.

McNabb, Bill and Steven Mabry. *Teaching the Bible Creatively: How to Awaken Your Kids to Scripture*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1990.

Mueller, Walt. *Understanding Today's Youth Culture*. 2nd ed. Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House, 1999.

Parrott, Les. *Helping the Struggling Adolescent*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2000.

Peterson, Eugene. *Working the Angles*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1987.

Robbins, Duffy. *Youth Ministry Nuts and Bolts*. El Cajon, CA: Youth Specialties, 1990.

Stiles, Mack. *Speaking of Jesus*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1995.

Yancy, Philip. *What's So Amazing About Grace?* Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1997.

Adult Issues and Ministry Practice

Adult Development

Aiken, Lewis R. *Aging: An Introduction to Gerontology*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, 1995.

Cavanaugh, John C. *Adult Development and Aging*. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Publishing, 1990.

Jordan, C. Ferris. *Today's Adults: A Profile for Teachers and Leaders*. Nashville: Convention Press, 1993.

Lefrancois, Gary R. *The Lifespan*, 2nd ed. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Publishing, 1987.

Rice, F. Philip. *Adult Development and Aging*. Boston: Allyn and Bacon, 1986.

Roof, Wade C. *A Generation of Seekers: The Spiritual Journeys of the Baby Boom Generation*. New York: Harper Collins Publishers, 1993.

Rybash, John M., Paula Roodin, and William J. Hoyer. *Adult Development and Aging*. 3rd ed. Dubuque, IA: Brown and Benchmark, 1995.

Santrock, John W. *Lifespan Development*. Dubuque, IA: W.C. Brown, 1986.

Stevens-Long, Judith. *Adult Developmental Life Processes*, 2nd ed. Palo Alto: Mayfield Publishing Co., 1984.

Stevens-Long, Judith. *Adult Life*. Mountain View, CA: Mayfield Publishing Company, 1992.

Turner, Jeffrey S. and Donald B. Helms. *Lifespan Development*, 6th ed. New York: Holt, Rinehart, and Winston, 1995.

Adult Learning

Gangel, Kenneth O. and James C. Wilhoit, eds. *The Christian Educator's Handbook on Adult Education*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 1993.

Hanks, Louis. *Vision, Variety, and Vitality: Teaching Today's Adult Generations*. Nashville: Convention Press, 1996.

Knowles, Malcolm. *The Adult Learner: A Neglected Species*. 4th ed. Houston: Gulf Publishing, 1990.

Knowles, Malcolm S., Richard Swanson, and Elwodd Holton. *The Adult Learner*. Elsevier Science and Technology, 1998.

Intergenerational Religious Education

White, James W. *Intergenerational Religious Education: Models, Theory, and Prescription for Interage Life and Learning in the Faith Community*. Birmingham: Religious Education Press, 1998.

Senior Adult Ministry

Dychtwald, Ken and Joe Flower. *Age Wave: The Challenges and Opportunities of an Aging America*. Los Angeles: Jeremy P. Tarcher, Inc. 1989.

Howse, W.L., compiler. *Senior Adult Leader's Notebook*. Nashville: Convention Press, 1990.

Johnston, Jay, compiler. *Forward Together: A New Vision for Senior Adult Ministry*. Nashville: Convention Press, 1998.

Single Adult Ministry

Cleary, Tim, compiler. *The Single Adult Ministry Solution*. Nashville: Lifeway Press, 1996.

Fagerstrom, Douglas, L. ed. *Single Adult Ministry: The Next Step*. Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1993.

_____. *Single Ministry Handbook: A Practical Guide to Reaching Adult Singles in Church*. Wheaton: Victor Books, 1988.

Family Issues

Barna, George. *The Future of the American Family*. Chicago: Moody Press, 1993.

Lampman, Lisa Barnes, ed. *Helping a Neighbor in Crisis*. Foreword by Charles Colson. Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House, 1999.

Self, Charles M. *Family Ministry*, 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1995.

Understanding and Ministering to/with Families

Beavers, W. Robert. *Successful Marriage: A Family Systems Approach to Couples Therapy*. New York: W.W. Norton and Company, 1985.

Berman, Claire. *Making It as a Stepparent: New Roles/New Rules*. New York: Harper and Row, 1986.

Biler, Henry B. *Fathers and Families: Paternal Factors in Child Development*. Westport, CT: Auburn House, 1993.

Bolton, Joy. *Ideas for Community Ministries*. Birmingham: Woman's Missionary Union, 1993.

Branden, Nathaniel. *How to Raise Your Self-Esteem*. New York: Bantam Books, 1988.

Brown, Beth E. *When You're Mom No. 2*. Ann Arbor: Servant Publications, 1991.

Bustanoby, Andy. *Single Parenting*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1984.

Cerling, Charles. *The Divorced Christian*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1984.

Clinebell, Howard J. and Charlotte H. Clinebell. *The Intimate Marriage*. New York: Harper and Row, 1966.

Curran, Dolores. *Traits of a Healthy Family*. Minneapolis: Winston Press, 1983.

Duvall, Evelyn Mills, David R. Mace, and Paul Popenoe. *The Church Looks at Family Life*. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1964.

Einstein, Elizabeth and Linda Albert. *Strengthening Your Stepfamily*. Circle Pines, MN: American Guidance Service, 1986.

Everett, Craig. *Divorce and the Next Generation*. New York: Macmillan, 1982.

- Galper, Miriam. *Co-Parenting: A Source Book for the Separated or Divorced Family*. Philadelphia: Running Press, 1978.
- Galvin, Kathleen M. and Bernard J. Brommel. *Family Communication: Cohesion and Change*. Glenview, IL: Scott, Foresman, and Company, 1982.
- Garland, Diana S. Richmond and Diane L. Pancoast. *The Church's Ministry with Families: A Practical Guide*. Dallas: Word Publishing, 1990.
- Hensley, J. Clark. *Coping with Being Single Again*. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1978.
- Henslin, James M. *Marriage and Family in a Changing Society*. New York: The Free Press, 1989.
- Juroe, David J. and Bonnie B. Juroe. *Successful Stepparenting*. Old Tappan, NJ: Fleming H. Revel, 1983.
- Kidder, Virelle. *Mothering Upstream*. Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1990.
- Larson, Dale G. *The Helper's Journey: Working with People Facing Grief, Loss, and Life-Threatening Illness*. Champaign, IL: Research Press, 1993.
- Lewis, Helen Coale. *All About Families-The Second Time Around*. Atlanta: Peachtree Publishers, 1980.
- Luthman, Shirley Gehrke and Martin Kirschenbaum. *The Dynamic Family*. Palo Alto, CA: Science and Behavior Books, 1974.
- Mace, David. *Love and Anger in Marriage*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1982.
- Mace, David and Vera Mace. *We Can Have Better Marriages if We Really Want Them*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1974.
- Madden, Myron C. *Blessing: Giving the Gift of Power*. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1988.
- Perez, Joseph F. *Family Counseling Theory and Practice*. New York: D. Van Norstrand, 1979.
- Phillips, Carolyn E. *Our Family Got A Stepparent*. Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 1981.
- Reed, Bobbie. *Single Mothers Raising Sons*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1988.
- Rosen, Mark Bruce. *Stepfathering: Stepfather's Advice on Creating a New Stepfamily*. New York: Simon and Schuster, 1987.
- Satir, Virginia. *Peoplemaking*. Palo Alto, CA: Science and Behavior Books, 1972.
- Smith, Virginia Watts. *The Single Parent*. Old Tappan, NJ: Fleming H. Revell, 1976.
- Stanfield, Christine M. *Some Days I Think I'll Live...Surviving the Trauma of Divorce*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1990.
- Vigna, Judith. *She's Not My Real Mother*. Chicago: Albert Whitman, 1980.
- Visher, Emily B. and John S. Visher. *Stepfamilies: A Guide with Stepparents and Stepchildren*. New York: Brunner/Mazel Publishers, 1979.