



PATH8301 EXPLORING ISSUES IN EFFECTIVE PASTORAL MINISTRY

A Professional Doctoral Seminar
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Church Ministry Division
Spring 2022 Trimester
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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.

Course Description

The purpose of this seminar is to examine current issues in pastoral ministry and leadership in order to determine effective means of ministry practice. The course will include challenging students to examine their pastoral theology in light of biblical principles and to engage various contrasting views of pastoral ministry. Seminar participants will examine the unique position of the senior pastor of a local church in his roles as leader, proclaimer, and pastoral care giver. Students will explore the implications of emphasizing the various components of pastoral ministry. Through a heuristic approach, students will confront the challenge of finding the most effective balance among the various components by assessing their own strengths and weaknesses, as well as the church as a whole in the context of its setting.

Student Learning Outcomes

When students have completed the seminar, they will have:

1. Clearly articulated their personal theology of pastoral ministry in the light of biblical principles;
2. Understood key classic and current models of pastoral ministry;
3. Identified and explored major issues of pastoral ministry that relate to their ministry setting;
4. Understood their ministry context as it affects leadership and pastoral ministry;
5. Assessed the strengths and weaknesses of their pastoral ministry;
6. Considered specific heuristic aspects in pastoral ministry in order to improve their personal effectiveness.

Required Textbooks

Akin, Daniel L. and R. Scott Pace. *Pastoral Theology: Theological Foundations for Who a Pastor Is and What He Does*. Nashville: B & H Academic, 2017.

Early, Dave. *Pastoral Leadership Is...How to Shepherd God's People with Passion and Confidence*. Nashville: B & H Publishing Group, 2012.

Laniak, Timothy S. *Shepherds After My Own Heart: Pastoral Traditions and Leadership in the Bible*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2006.

White, James E. *The Church in an Age of Crisis: 25 New Realities Facing Christianity*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2012.

Course Teaching Methodology

The teaching methodology of this seminar will consist of student research and written assignments as well as the sharing and presentation of papers. Brief lectures by the professors and guided discussion will be included.

Course Requirements and Schedule

Before the Seminar:

1. Read the Early textbook and select four (4) chapters from each of the five (5) Parts in the book. Compose a one-half page **Reaction** to each of the selected chapters (5 Parts x 4 chapters per Part for a total of 20 Reactions). The half-page Reactions are to be single-spaced, with the chapter title listed for each, and may be formatted to include two Reactions on one page, for a total of 10 pages of content. First person is allowed for this assignment. The Reactions should include agreements/disagreements with the author and the importance of this issue in the student's ministry setting/context.
2. Read the White textbook and write a **Personal Reflection** paper, to answer the following: Of the topics covered in the textbook, (a) which **five** were the most **surprising** to the student and why? (b) which **five** have been the most **challenging** to the student and why? The discussion of (a) and (b) should include real life examples from the personal experiences of the student. The Personal Reflection should be approximately 6-8 pages in length. Format: single-spaced, a space between each single-spaced paragraph, with no paragraph indentions. Margins, pagination, and headings/subheadings should be in

accordance with Turabian 9th edition. Documentations or quotes from the textbook can be referenced by endnotes, citing the page number. Example: “We are living at the beginning of our future. The world is changing, and we need to recognize the nature of that change.” (12). First person is allowed also for this assignment.

3. Read the Akin and Pace textbook and the Laniak textbook and then compose a **Biblical Theology of Pastoral Ministry for the 21st century**. The Biblical Theology should involve biblical and historical insights, principles, and observations from the textbooks and include significant implications for 21st century pastoral ministry. The Biblical Theology should reflect a synthesis of both textbooks. The Biblical Theology should be 10-12 pages, utilizing the following format: double-spaced; margins, pagination, headings/subheadings, and footnotes should be in accordance with Turabian 9th edition. Documentations or quotes from the textbooks and biblical material should be referenced by footnotes. **First person is not allowed in writing this assignment. This assignment will be graded for Turabian form and style in addition to content. NOTE: *The Biblical Theology paper also will be evaluated by the Writing Assessment Coordinator for grammar, writing style, and Turabian formatting. In addition to submitting the paper to the professor, please email the assignment to Mrs. Phyllis Garrett at pgarrett@nobts.edu. She will evaluate the document by inserting comments and email the document back to the student.***

Assignments 1, 2, & 3 are to be submitted to Google Drive no later than 11:59 P.M., Tuesday, May 17, 2022.

Instructions for Submitting Assignments via Google Drive:

All assignments for this course will be submitted via a shared folder on google.com/drive. You will receive a separate email from Dr. Nix requesting that you share the folder, **Exploring Issues**. If you already have a Google Drive account, then simply accept the shared folder. If you do not have a Google Drive account, you will need to follow the instructions given by Google to create a free Google Drive account and then accept the shared folder.

In the folder, **Exploring Issues**, you will find subfolders for each assignment. Save your assignment using your last name and the name of the assignment (i.e. Smith.PersonalReflection), and upload the file in the appropriate folder. Google Drive will automatically update everyone's folder. **Please save assignments in either a .DOCX, .RTF, or .PDF format.**

Important: Do not alter anyone's file while it is in Google Drive (e.g., save comments in the file) or remove anyone's file from the Google Drive folder, as that will alter or remove the file for everyone. Open the file and “save as” to your computer before making notes.

During the Seminar:

Seminar Presentations: Each seminar participant will be involved in seminar presentations and discussions involving all three Pre-seminar assignments as per the instructions of the professor.

Seminar Participation: Seminar participants are expected to be active participants in all sessions of the seminar.

After the Seminar:

1. **Interview** a pastor who is considered to be either a mentor or a role model (suggested length of the interview: one hour or less). The interview questions should relate to issues raised in the course. Write a four-page, single-spaced summary and reaction to the interview. A list of the questions asked should be attached as a separate appendix. The assignment may be done in informal style, first person allowed, but is not to be a verbatim of the interview. **Students are advised to secure the person to be interviewed and the time for the interview prior to the beginning of the seminar.**

2. Based on the readings, assignments, and seminar discussions in the seminar, each student will write a **Personal Assessment** of their strengths and weaknesses in pastoral ministry (at least three strengths and three weaknesses). For each strength, discuss an action plan for maintaining the strength. For each weakness, discuss an action plan for improving the weakness. Suggested length of the Personal Assessment: 8-10 pages, single-spaced, utilizing the format described in Pre-seminar assignment #2.

Both Post-seminar assignments are to be submitted to Google Drive no later than 11:59 P.M., Friday, July 1, 2022.

Assignments for Students Taking the Seminar as a Directed Study:

1. Directed Study students must complete and submit ALL of the assignments listed above by the due dates listed.

2. Directed Study students will also develop an **Annotated Bibliography** of fifteen books (excluding the textbooks listed above). Each bibliographic entry should be one-half page in length and give a brief statement in regard to the purpose of the book, the major themes of the book, and the strengths and weaknesses of the author's viewpoint. See www.annotatedbibliographymaker.com for guidance.

3. Directed Study students will select five (5) books from the following list and write a four-page (or less), single-spaced **Annotated Review** for each book (format the same as Directed Study Assignment #2 above), answering the following questions:

- a. What is a summary of the book and its purpose?
- b. What are the strengths of the book for pastoral ministry and leadership?
- c. What are the weaknesses of the book regarding pastoral ministry and leadership?
- d. What are the applications and implications of the book for pastoral ministry and leadership in the 21st century?

Baxter, Richard. *The Reformed Pastor: A Pattern of Personal Growth and Ministry*. Regent College Pub., 2001.

Bisagno, John. *Pastor's Handbook*. Nashville: B & H, 2011.

Bryant, James W. and Mac Brunson. *The New Guidebook for Pastors*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 2007.

Cothen, Joe H. *Equipped for Good Work: A Guide for Pastors*. 3rd ed. Edited by Jerry N. Barlow. Gretna, LA: Pelican, 2012.

Dale, Robert D. *Pastoral Leadership: A Handbook of Resources for Effective Congregational Leadership*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1986.

Early, Dave and Ben Gutierrez. *Ministry Is...How to Serve Jesus with Passion and Confidence*. Nashville: B & H Publishing Group, 2010

Klick, Jeffery A., Rodney A. Harrison and Glenn A. Miller. *Pastoral Helmsmanship: The Pastor's Guide to Church Administration*. N.p.: ICM Publishing, 2015.

MacArthur Jr., John. *Pastoral Ministry: How to Shepherd Biblically*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 2005.

Phillips, Jere L. *Pastoral Ministry for the New Generation*. Collierville, TN: Innovo Publishing, 2014.

Russell, Bob. *After 50 Years of Ministry: 7 Things I'd Do Differently & 7 Things I'd Do the Same*. Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2016.

Swetland, Kenneth L. *Facing Messy Stuff in the Church: Case Studies for Pastors and Congregations*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2005.

Thompson, James W. *Pastoral Ministry According to Paul*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academics, 2006.

Toler, Stan. *Stan Toler's Practical Guide for Pastoral Ministry*. Indianapolis: Wesleyan Publishing House, 2007.

Annotated Bibliography and Annotated Reviews from Directed Study students are to be submitted to Google Drive by 11:59 P.M., Friday, July 1, 2022.

Course Evaluation

Assignments will be weighted approximately equal with room for the professors' discretion in regard to assignments that are particularly outstanding or substandard.

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.

Selected Bibliography

Akin, Daniel L., and R. Scott Pace. *Pastoral Theology: Theological Foundations for Who a Pastor Is and What He Does*. Nashville: B & H Academic, 2017.

Ammerman, Nancy T., Jackson W. Carroll, Carl S. Dudley, and William McKinney, eds. *Studying Congregations: A New Handbook*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1998.

Anderson, Leith. *Dying for Change*. Minneapolis: Bethany House, 1990.

Armstrong, John H., ed. *Reforming Pastoral Ministry*. Wheaton: Crossway Books, 2001.

Bailey, Robert W. *The Minister and Grief*. New York: Hawthorn Books, Inc., 1976.

Bandy, Thomas G. *Moving Off the Map*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1998.

Barker, Joel Arthur. *Future Edge: Discovering the New Paradigms of Success*. New York: William Morrow and Company, 1992.

Baxter, Richard. *The Reformed Pastor: A Pattern of Personal Growth and Ministry*. Regent College Pub., 2001.

Biles, Deron J., ed. *Pastoral Ministry: The Ministry of a Shepherd*. Nashville: B&H Academic, 2017.

Bisagno, John R. *Pastor's Handbook*. Nashville: B & H, 2011.

Branson, Mark Lau, and Juan F. Martinez. *Churches, Cultures, and Leadership: A Practical Theology of Congregations and Ethnicities*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2011.

- Bryant, James W., and Mac Brunson. *The New Guidebook for Pastors*. Nashville: B & H, 2007.
- Campbell, Barry. *Toolbox for [Busy] Pastors*. Nashville: Convention Press, 1998.
- Charles Jr., H.B. *On Pastoring: A Short Guide to Living, Leading, and Ministering as a Pastor*. Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2016.
- Cothen, Joe H. *Equipped for Good Work: A Guide for Pastors*. 3rd ed. Edited by Jerry N. Barlow. Gretna: Pelican, 2012.
- _____. *The Pulpit Is Waiting*. Gretna: Pelican, 1998.
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- Cowen, Gerald P. *Who Rules the Church: Examining Congregational Leadership and Church Government*. Nashville: B & H, 2003.
- Croft, Brian. *The Pastor's Ministry: Biblical Priorities for Faithful Shepherds*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2015.
- Dale, Robert D. *Pastoral Leadership: A Handbook of Resources for Effective Congregational Leadership*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2001.
- Daman, Glenn. *Shepherding the Small Church*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2002.
- Duduit, Michael, ed. *Handbook of Contemporary Preaching*. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1992.
- Early, Dave. *Pastoral Leadership Is...How to Shepherd God's People with Passion and Confidence*. Nashville: B & H Publishing Group, 2012.
- Early, Dave, and Ben Gutierrez. *Ministry Is...How to Serve Jesus with Passion and Confidence*. Nashville: B & H Publishing Group, 2010.
- Farris, Stephen. *Preaching that Matters*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1998.
- Fisher, David. *The 21st Century Pastor*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House, 1996.
- Fry, John W. *Jesus: The Pastor*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2000.
- Gerkin, Charles V. *An Introduction to Pastoral Care*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1997.
- Gibson, Scott M. *Preaching with a Plan*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2012.

- Goodman, Thomas. *The Intentional Minister*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 1994.
- Granberg-Michaelson, Wesley. *Future Faith: Ten Challenges Reshaping Christianity in the 21st Century*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2018.
- Harvey, Dave. *Am I Called? The Summons to Pastoral Ministry*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2012.
- Hemphill, Ken. *The Antioch Effect*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 1994.
- Hicks, H. Beecher. *On Jordan's Stormy Banks: Leading Your Congregation Through the Wilderness of Change*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2004.
- Hiscox, Edward T. *The Star Book for Ministers*, 2d rev. ed. Valley Forge, PA: Judson Press, 1994.
- Hobbs, J. R. *The Pastor's Manual*. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1962.
- Horner, David. *A Practical Guide for Life and Ministry: Overcoming 7 Challenges Pastors Face*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2008.
- Howe, Leroy. *A Pastor in Every Pew*. Valley Forge: Judson Press, 2000.
- Hughes, R. Kent. *The Pastor's Book: A Comprehensive and Practical Guide to Pastoral Ministry*. Wheaton: Crossway, 2015.
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- Lartey, Emmanuel Y. *Pastoral Theology in an Intercultural World*. Eugenn, OR: Wipf and Stock, 2013.
- Lawrence, Bill. *Effective Pastoring*. Nashville: Word Publishing, 1999.
- Lawrenz, Mel. *The Dynamics of Spiritual Formation*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2000.

- Lewis, Robert, and Wayne Cordeiro. *Culture Shift: Transforming Your Church from the Inside Out*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2005.
- Lutzer, Erwin. *Pastor to Pastor: Tackling the Problems of Ministry*. Grand Rapids: Kregel Publications, 1998.
- MacArthur Jr., John. *Pastoral Ministry: How to Shepherd Biblically*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 2005.
- Macchia, Stephen A. *Becoming a Healthy Church: 10 Characteristics*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1999.
- Malphurs, Aubrey. *Advanced Strategic Planning: A 21st Century Model for Church and Ministry Leaders*. 3rd ed.. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2013.
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- McIntosh, Gary L. and Charles Arn. *What Every Pastor Should Know: 101 Indispensable Rules of Thumb for Leading Your Church*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2013.
- Means, James E. *Effective Pastors for a New Century*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1993.
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