



**Disaster Relief Ministry through the Local Church PMMI8303  
A Professional Doctoral Seminar  
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary  
Division of Pastoral Ministry  
Spring Trimester 2017**

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### **Mission Statement**

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.

### **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 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.

### **Curriculum Competencies**

All graduates of NOBTS are expected to have at least a minimum level of competency in each of the following areas: Biblical Exposition, Christian Theological Heritage, Disciple Making, Interpersonal Skills, Servant Leadership, Spiritual and Character Formation, and Worship Leadership. The curriculum competencies addressed in this course are: Biblical Exposition, Disciple Making, Interpersonal Skills, Servant Leadership, and Spiritual and Character Formation.

### **Course Description**

The purpose of this seminar is to prepare students to lead their churches and associations to be prepared for disaster response. Seminar participants will become familiar with principles for preparing churches and church members for local disasters. Emphasis will also be given to preparing churches and church members to become involved with Southern Baptist Disaster Relief Ministries.

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

1. That students become knowledgeable of various disaster relief ministries.
2. That students become knowledgeable of the needs of those experiencing disasters.
3. The student will evidence competence in understanding and articulating the roles of the various organizations participating in disaster relief.
4. The student will develop the knowledge and expertise needed to function as an advocate for disaster relief ministries among Southern Baptists.
5. The student will develop competencies in developing a disaster relief plan for families.

6. The student will develop competencies in developing a disaster relief plan for churches and other ministries.

### **Course Teaching Methodology**

A variety of teaching methods will be utilized such as class presentations by the professor using Power Point and handouts. Other teaching methods include small and large group discussion, multi-media presentations, and other communication mediums. Students will make several presentations of their work in class. A Blackboard shell for the class will be utilized as well.

### **Textbooks**

Aten, Jamie and David M. Boan. *Disaster Ministry Handbook*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2015.

Baker, Lisa R. And Loretta A. Cormier. *Disaster and Vulnerable Populations: Evidence-Based Practice for the Helping Professions*. New York: Springer Publishing, 2015.

### **Course Requirements**

#### *Pre-Seminar Assignments*

1. Read and review the two textbooks. Be prepared to present in class. Due on the first day of the seminar. Book reviews should be approximately 1200 words, typed, double-spaced. The book review should include the following: bibliographical entry; author's background; intended audience; main ideas/objectives; strengths and weaknesses of the book; documentation (e.g., research, experience) that adds credibility; value of the book to its intended audience and other audiences; recommendations for improvement.
2. Pick two of the following books to read and review, following guidelines above. Be prepared to present in class.

Ashley, Willard W.C. Sr., Stephen B. Roberts, eds. *Disaster Spiritual Care*, 2nd Ed. SkyLight Paths, 2008. Woodstock, VT, 2008.

Coppola, Damon P. *Introduction to International Disaster Management*, 3rd Ed. Waltham, MA: Butterworth-Heinemann, 2015.

Drabek, Thomas E. *The Human Side of Disaster*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.. Boca Raton, FL: CRC Press, 2013.

Grant H. Brenner, Daniel H. Bush, and Joshua Moses, eds. *Creating Spiritual and Psychological Resilience: Integrating Care in Disaster Relief Work*. New York: Routledge, 2010

Haueisen, Kathryn M. And Carol H. Flores. *A Ready Hope: Effective Disaster Ministry for Congregations*. Herndon, VA: The Alban Institute, 2009.

Phillips, Brenda D. *Disaster Recovery*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Boca Raton, FL: Auerbach Publications, 2015

Due on the first day of the seminar.

3. Choose ONE of the following PROJECTS (Due on the first day of the seminar):

- a) Participate for at least two days in a disaster relief setting with a SBC disaster relief team. Submit a paper (double-spaced and with a minimum of 1200 words) on the experience in which you reflect on the experience and analyze the preparation, training, and effectiveness of the team. Reflect on the impact of this experience on your future ministry.
- b) Get certified or re-certified in a facet DR though a SBC state convention's training program. Submit a paper (double-spaced and with a minimum of 1200 words) on the experience in which you reflect on the experience and analyze the training event, and describe how such training could be offered in your ministry setting.  
( BOTH a. and b. projects would be completed After Feb. 5, 2017 and before April 30, 2017)
- c) Locate a church or association with an effective Disaster Relief ministry (and with a track record) to study. Get approval from one of the professors of the seminar for your choice of the church or association. Submit a paper (double-spaced and with a minimum of 1200 words) in which you describe the Disaster Relief ministry. Analyze training, enlistment of volunteers, effectiveness of the ministry, and address other findings.

#### *Post-Seminar Assignments*

4. A family disaster plan. Prepare a disaster plan (double-spaced and with a minimum of 1200 words) for your family. Include potentialities for both natural disasters and epidemics. This plan is due on June 2. Submit on the appropriate Blackboard assignment site.
5. A church disaster plan. Prepare a disaster plan (double-spaced and with a minimum of 1200 words) for your church. Plan for the involvement of your church members to be involved in disaster relief efforts in other disaster locations. Include potentialities for both natural disasters and epidemics. This plan is due on June 2. Submit on the appropriate Blackboard assignment site.
6. A disaster directly impacted 75% of your community. The disaster caused loss of life, homes, and businesses. You are preparing to preach a sermon to your congregation or lead a small group Bible study five days after the disaster. Choose a Biblical text that you think would be helpful in this situation. Write a sermon or Bible study with major talking points, summaries, and illustrations. Conclude with a relevant prayer. The sermon or Bible study should be written in narrative form and should be 1250-1500 words. Due on June 2. Submit on the appropriate Blackboard assignment site.

NOTE: Assignments turned in late will receive an automatic 15 point deduction. **There will be an additional 10 point deduction** for each additional weekday the assignment is late.

**ALL ASSIGNMENTS MUST BE COMPLETED IN ORDER TO PASS THE COURSE.**

#### **Evaluation of Grade**

Grades will be computed as follows:

Book Reviews and Presentations

25%

One of the Projects	20%
Family Disaster Plan	20%
Church Disaster Plan	20%
Sermon or Bible Study	15%

### **Technical Assistance**

For assistance regarding technology, consult ITC (504-816-8180) or the following websites:

1. [Selfserve@nobts.edu](mailto:Selfserve@nobts.edu) - Email for technical questions/support requests with the [Selfserve.nobts.edu](http://Selfserve.nobts.edu) site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)
2. [BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu](mailto:BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu) - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Blackboard Learning Management System [NOBTS.Blackboard.com](http://NOBTS.Blackboard.com).
3. [ITCSupport@nobts.edu](mailto:ITCSupport@nobts.edu) - Email for general technical questions/support requests.
4. [www.NOBTS.edu/itc/](http://www.NOBTS.edu/itc/) - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

### **Attendance**

Students are expected to attend all classes. No more than three hours of classroom time can be missed. Any absence over that amount will result in a failing grade. In the event that the normal NOBTS schedule is impacted due to a natural event or epidemic go to the seminary website for information. Our class will continue though our Blackboard site. Please note announcements and assignments on the Blackboard site in the event one or more of our classes is cancelled.

### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

Each student is responsible for the academic integrity of his/her work. The following are examples of violations of academic integrity: cheating on an exam, plagiarism, turning in work done by someone else, and submitting a paper which has been submitted in another class. These and other violations of academic integrity may result in failure of the course.

### **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**

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