

**NEW ORLEANS BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
CENTER FOR THE AMERICAS – HIALEAH, FL**

**SPIRITUAL FORMATION I
DISC 5170**

Division of Pastoral Ministries

Dr. David R. Lema, Jr.,

Assistant Professor of Theology and Missions; Director, Center for the Americas

Ph. 305.888.9777 Cell: 305.431.4030

dlema@nobts.edu

Fall Semester 2012 (113) Mondays, 11:00 am-12:50 pm

SEMINARY MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the 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: Servant Leadership

CURRICULUM COMPETENCIES: Spiritual and Character Development

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is the first of 2 semester-long, pass-fail experiences in a faculty-mentored group. The group will meet two hours by-weekly for accountability, mentoring, discussion, and spiritual formation in the company of others. It will include specific assignments from a variety of Christian devotional practices. This course is designed to be taken during a student's first Fall semester.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (OR OBJECTIVES)

1. The learner will grow in his/her biblical understanding of spiritual maturation (i.e., what is often referred to as 'discipleship' or 'disciple making').
2. The learner will be challenged to develop a strong personal commitment to a discipling lifestyle.
3. The learner will develop skills in leading discipleship groups and consider such groups as part of the discipleship strategy of a local Church ministry.
4. The learner will maintain a daily discipline of Bible Reading.

COURSE TEACHING METHODOLOGY (OR METHODS)

Methodology will include but is not limited to student presentations, sub-group debriefing sessions, faculty dialog, and intense periods of personal preparation through the accountable exercising of spiritual habits, practices, and disciplines.

TEXTBOOKS

- Ortberg, John.** *The Life You Have Always Wanted: Spiritual Disciplines for Ordinary People*, Expanded Edition. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2002.
- Foster, Richard.** *Celebration of Discipline: The Path to Spiritual Growth*. San Francisco, CA: Harper Collins, 1998 (or later).
- Edwards, Gene.** *A Tale of Three Kings: A Study in Brokenness*. Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, 1992.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. The learner will read the TEXTBOOKS according to reading schedule and experiment with spiritual disciplines throughout the semester. An entry will be made in Blackboard for each chapter read.
2. The learner will JOURNAL her/his spiritual journey, reaction to ideas, experiences through exercises, conversations with God, etc., throughout this course. The journal will be the learner's sole property and will NOT be turned in to faculty. The learner will be asked to provide a written statement as to the fulfillment of this course expectation and will utilize the material in the final class project. The journal will be written in a notebook for that sole purpose.
3. The learner will contribute to all DISCUSSIONS and lead a class discussion of one chapter and provide a one page handout for others (as assigned by the professor) on Blackboard.
4. The learner will write and submit via Blackboard to the professor a four-page REFLECTION PAPER including the student's personal evaluation of goals, strengths, and weaknesses with your spiritual journey.
Due Date: November 26, 2010.
5. The learner will keep the discipline of Bible reading as suggested by guide. (See NOBTS website for specific site of instructions)
6. In a supportive environment of community, learners will have opportunities to PRAY with, and for, one another.

EVALUATION

This experience is a pass/fail course. Grades will be determined by attendance, participation in the session, completion of agreed upon assignments, and self assessment of your own spiritual journey. The final grade decision will be made by the professor.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

1. **Absences:** The maximum number of absences, without failure, are three (3) classroom hours for an one hour course. (see Graduate Catalog, p. 143)
2. **Late Assignments:** All assignments are expected to be turned in on, or before, their due date. Any assignment turned in late will be penalized 5 points for each day it is late.
3. **Meeting Places:** At the discretion of the professor the classes will meet in different places to experience different settings. Professor will email notifications of the meeting places in advance and will provide instructions for arrangements for all to participate.

4. **Hurricane policy:** Announcement will be made through phone message at office number, postings, and through local media as available.
5. **Blackboard:** Every student should register for a Blackboard account. Entry of assignments shall be made using the following format:
 Lastname_Name_Material_Day_Month_Year. (i.e.
 Lema_David_Report1_12_Oct_09). Please do not send any assignments by email.

COURSE SCHEDULE (See Professor's Handout for Details)

August 23: Introduction-- Class Mtg. 1
 September 3: Labor Day – NO CLASSES
 September 10: Class Mtg. 2
 September 24: Class Mtg. 3
 October 8: Columbus Day; Class Mtg. 4
 October 15: Fall Break Begins – NO CLASSES
 October 22: Class Mtg. 5
 November 5: Class Mtg. 6
 November 19: Thanksgiving Week – NO CLASSES; Reflection paper due 29th;
 November 26: Class Mtg. 7
 December 3: Class Mtg. 8

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Barna, George. *Growing True Disciples: New Strategies for Producing Genuine Followers of Christ*. Colorado Springs, CO: Waterbrook Press, 2001.
- Bennett, Ron and John Purvis. *The Adventure of Discipling Others: Training in the Art of Disciplemaking*. Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 2003.
- Biehl, Bobb. *Mentoring: Confidence in Finding a Mentor and Becoming One*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 1996.
- Bonhoeffer, Dietrich. *The Cost of Discipleship*. Translated by R.H. Fuller. 2d rev. ed. New York: Macmillan, 1963.
- Bridges, Jerry. *The Pursuit of Holiness*. Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1978.
- _____. *The Practice of Godliness*. Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1983.
- Bridges, Ronald F. *Disciplines of the Devoted Heart*. San Bernardino, CA: Here's Life Pub., 1991.
- Brown, Joe. *Battle Fatigue*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 1995.
- Coleman, Robert E. *The Master Plan of Evangelism*. Old Tappan, NJ: Fleming H. Revell, 1963.

- _____. *The Master Plan of Discipleship*. Old Tappan, N.J: Fleming H. Revell, 1987.
- Coppedge, Allan. *The Biblical Principles of Discipleship*. Zondervan, 1989.
- Eims, Leroy. *The Lost Art of Disciplemaking*. Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1978.
- Elliot, Elisabeth. *Discipline, The Glad Surrender*. Old Tappan, NJ: Fleming H. Revell, Co., 1982.
- Foster, Richard J. *Celebration of Discipline*. New York: Harper & Row, 1978.
- _____. *The Challenge of the Disciplined Life: Christian Reflections on Money, Sex & Power*. San Francisco: HarperSanFrancisco, 1985.
- _____. *Prayer: Finding the Heart's True Home*. San Francisco: Harper, 1999.
- Getz, Gene A. *The Walk: The Measure of Spiritual Maturity*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 1994.
- Green, Michael and R. Paul Stevens. *New Testament Spirituality: True Discipleship and Spiritual Maturity*. Guildford, Surrey, Great Britain: Eagle, 1994.
- Hanks, Billy, Jr. and William A. Shell, eds. *Discipleship: The Best Writings from the Most Experienced Disciple Makers*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1981.
- Heim, Pamela. *Nurturing Intimacy with God*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson Pub., 1990.
- Henrichsen, Walter A. *Disciples Are Made - Not Born*. Victor, 1988.
- Houston, James. *The Mentored Life: From Individualism to Personhood*. Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 2001.
- Hughes, R. Kent. *Disciplines of a Godly Man*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 1991.
- Hull, Bill. *The Disciple-Making Church*. Old Tappan, N.J: Fleming H. Revell, 1998.
- _____. *Jesus Christ Disciple-Maker*. Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1984.
- Hybels, Bill. *Honest to God*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1990.
- Hybels, Bill. *Too Busy Not to Pray*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1988.
- Kelley, Rhonda H. *Divine Discipline*. Gretna, LA: Pelican Pub., 1992.
- Klug, Ronald. *How to Keep a Spiritual Journal: A Guide to Journal Keeping for Inner Growth and Personal Recovery*. Augsburg Fortress, 1993.

- Koessler, John. *True Discipleship: The Art of Following Jesus*. Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2003.
- Liddell, Eric. *The Disciplines of the Christian Life*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1985.
- Littleton, Mark R. *Delighted by Discipline*. Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1990.
- Martin, Glen. *Beyond the Rat Race*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 1995.
- Martin, Glen and Dian Ginter. *Drawing Closer: A Step-by-Step Guide to Intimacy with God*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 1995.
- Masters, LaVonne. *Memorize and Meditate*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson Pub., 1991.
- McDonald, Gordon. *Ordering Your Private World*. Nashville: Oliver Nelson Pub., 1984.
- _____. *Rebuilding Your Broken World*. Nashville: Oliver Nelson, 1988.
- _____. *Renewing Your Spiritual Passion*. Nashville: Oliver Nelson Pub., 1989.
- _____. Maxie Dunnam, and Donald McCollough. *Mastering Personal Growth*. Sisters, OR: Multnomah Press, 1992.
- McIntosh, Gary. *Biblical Church Growth: How You Can Work with God to Build a Faithful Church*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2003.
- _____. *The Exodus Principle: A 5-Part Strategy to Free Your People for Ministry*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 1995.
- McIntosh, Gary and Glen Martin. *Finding Them, Keeping Them: Effective Strategies for Evangelism and Assimilation in the Local Church*. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1992.
- Meier, Paul and others. *Filling the Holes in Our Souls: Caring Groups that Build Lasting Relationships*. Chicago: Moody Bible Institute, 1992.
- Miller, Keith. *A Taste of New Wine*. Waco, TX: Word Books, 1965.
- _____. *Habitation of Dragons*. Waco, TX: Word Books, 1970.
- Mulholland, M. Robert, Jr. *Invitation to a Journey: A Road Map for Spiritual Formation*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1993.
- Ogden, Gregory J. *Transforming Discipleship: Making Disciples a Few at a Time*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2003.

_____. *Discipleship Essentials: A Guide to Building Your Life in Christ*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1998.

Petersen, Jim. *Lifestyle Discipleship: The Challenge of Following Jesus in Today's World*. Colorado Springs: NavPress, 1993.

Peterson, Eugene H. *Subversive Spirituality*. Jim Lyster and John Sharon, eds. Reprint ed. Vancouver: Regent College Bookstore, 1994.

_____. *The Contemplative Pastor: Returning to the Art of Spiritual Direction*. Carol Stream, IL: Christianity Today, 1989.

Stevens, R. Paul. *Disciplines of the Hungry Heart: Christian Living Seven Days a Week*. Wheaton, Ill.: Harold Shaw Pub., 1993.

Swindoll, Charles R. *Dropping Your Guard*. Waco, TX: Word Books, 1983.

Thiele, Ed. *Fruitful Discipleship*. New Orleans: Insight Press, 1994.