

Religion 20703 Syllabus
LEADERSHIP IN MINISTRY
Texas Christian University, Spring Semester 2007
Rev. Dottie Cook and Dr. Alan Lobaugh, Instructors

Goal

The goal of this course is to enable the student to gain a broader understanding of Christian ministry as a form of leadership and to continue a process of discerning a call from God.

The successful student will:

1. Develop an understanding of varying forms of Church polity
2. Acquire an historical overview of Christian Ministry
3. Explore (as individuals and as a class) the call to ministry
4. Reflect on the role of ethics in ministry
5. Prepare and deliver a sermon
6. Explore various practical ministry roles
7. Gain an overall sense of church administration

Assignments:

Each student is expected to:

1. Attend class; participate in discussions
2. Interview one minister and summarize the interview in a written report
3. Make a presentation (sermon, key note message) to the class (can be multimedia and geared toward a specific audience, i.e. youth group, summer camp, etc)
4. Prepare a book review of one book from the attached resource list. This review will be presented in class; prepare a one page summary to give to everyone in the class
5. Attend at least one session of TCU's Ministers week (a schedule will be provided) and write a one to two page summary/response to the event
6. Complete a sermon evaluation of a sermon heard outside of class
7. Take a midterm examination
8. Take a final examination

Assignment Due Dates; Examination Dates; Calendar

January 17, 2007 - First class meeting: review of syllabus; student introductions, questions and expectations; set dates for book reviews and sermons.

January 24 - Second class meeting: History of Christian Ministry and ministerial authority

January 31 - Third class meeting: Minister's week – Church polity

February 7 - Fourth class meeting: Exploring a call to ministry. Book reviews begin

February 14 - Fifth class meeting: Interview with a minister written reports due; -
Continuation of call to ministry: three roles: priest, prophet and pastor, shepherd image

February 21 - Sixth class meeting: Variety of ministry opportunities. Church polity and systems theory

February 28 - Seventh class meeting: Sermon reflection/evaluation due; Sermon preparation discussion;

March 7 - Eighth class meeting: Midterm examination; Sermon preparation discussion. Bring a topic/scripture/idea to share with the group about your sermon.

March 14 – Spring Break

March 21 - Ninth class meeting: Sermons begin; Worship; liturgical leadership

March 28 - Tenth class meeting: Ethics; misconduct prevention

April 4 - Eleventh class meeting: worship; Counseling

April 11 - Twelfth class meeting: ministerial leadership; Church administration, communication, organization, planning

April 18 - Thirteenth class meeting: Hospital and Home Visitation

April 25 - Fourteenth class meeting: Evangelism; church growth, church planting

May 2 - Fifteenth class meeting: The electronic church/the church of the near future; review for final examination.

Week of May 9 – Final exam

Text For Course - Pastor : The Theology and Practice of Ordained Ministry - By William Willimon

Additional Resources

Building Community in Groups - Denny Rydberg

Creating A Healthier Church – Ronald W. Richardson

Company of Strangers - Parker Palmer

Healthy Congregations - Peter Steinke

Hope in Pastoral Care - Andrew Lester

In the Name of Jesus - Henri Nouwen
Out On The Edge – Michael Slaughter
Planting Growing Churches for the 21st Century - Aubrey Malphus
Prepare Your Church For The Future - Carl F. George
Soulfeast - Marjorie Thompson
Soul Salsa - Leonard Sweet
Student Ministry for the Twenty First Century - Bo Boshers
10 Habits of Effective Ministry - Lowell E. Erdahl
The Family-Friendly Church - Ben Freudenburg/Rick Lawrence
The Meaning Of Prayer - Harry Emerson Fosdick
The Multi-Generational Congregation - Gil Rendle
The Once and Future Church - William Chris Hobgood
The Word of God in Pastoral Care - Howard Stone
20/20 Vision - Richard Hamm
Understanding Your Congregation as a System - Parsons and Leas
User Friendly Churches - George Barna
Several online sources: Group, Youth Specialties, Disciples.org

Grading

Class participation (presence, discussion and role play) will constitute five per cent of the final grade

The book report will constitute ten per cent of the final grade.

The interview will constitute ten per cent of the final grade.

The midterm examination will constitute twenty per cent of the final grade.

The sermon reflection/evaluation will constitute ten per cent of the final grade.

The Presentation (sermon, key note message) will constitute fifteen per cent of the final grade.

The Ministers Week summary will constitute ten per cent of the final grade

The final examination will constitute twenty per cent of the final grade.

Points will be averaged and grades earned as follows:

A - one hundred through ninety

B - eighty-nine through eighty

C - seventy-nine through seventy

D - sixty-nine through sixty

For your information:

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