



PATH6234/6334 Stress and Conflict Management

Summer 2018 Workshop, June 18-22

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

Monday 1:00 – 6:00 pm;

Tuesday – Thursday 8:00 am – 11:30 am, 1:00 – 4:00 pm;

Friday, 8:00 am – 12:00 pm. All times Central Standard Time

Meeting in the Sanders Center for Ministry Excellence Classroom

Dr. Reggie Ogea, Associate Dean, Professional Doctoral Programs

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Seminary 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.

Course Description

This course is designed to help students understand the causes and effects of stress and interpersonal conflict. Attention will be given to managing stress and conflict in personal ministry within the context of the church. Students will study biblical principles, contemporary theories, available resources, and practical methods for managing stress and conflict effectively. *Prerequisites: PATH5331 Pastoral Ministry (or PATH5333 Christian Ministry) and CCSW6214 Interpersonal Relationship Skills.*

Purpose of the Course

The purpose of this course is to provide quality theological education for students in the discipline of pastoral ministries.

Core Value Emphasis

The Core Value of emphasis for 2017-2018 is Servant Leadership.

Student Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, the student will:

1. Understand various causes and effects of personal and interpersonal conflict and stress.
2. Be acquainted with theological concepts, practical strategies, and helpful resources regarding managing stress and conflict;
3. Know how to assess personal stress management needs, devise an appropriate stress management plan, and implement such a plan effectively;
4. Have gained personal insights about managing and resolving personal and church conflict in ways which facilitate ministry in contemporary church contexts;
5. Value leadership principles, models, and methods related to conflict management and resolution.

Required Textbooks

Bullard, George W. *Every Congregation Needs a Little Conflict*. St. Louis: Chalice Press, 2008.

Yessick, Tommy. *Building Blocks for Longer Life and Ministry*. Nashville:

Convention Press, 1997. (The book is out of print -- a PDF copy will be emailed to students.)

Course Teaching Methodology

The professor will utilize presentations, case studies and student feedback, incorporating the required textbooks and assignments.

Seminar Requirements

Students in the **PATH6234** course are required to:

1. Read the Bullard textbook and compose a **Reflection Paper**, to include the following for EACH CHAPTER of the book: (1) A bullet list of three significant takeaways or key insights from EACH chapter. The bullet list should be single-spaced. [Note: If the takeaway or insight is a “direct quote”, please indicate the page number via endnotes and not footnotes] (2) Answer all of the questions in the “Coaching Insights” feature at the end of EACH chapter. [Note: Do not confuse the “Coaching Insights” sections with the “Coaching Breaks” sections.] The Coaching Insights sections consist of “squares” [Note: In some versions of the book, the Coaching Insights for chapter 3 are missing the “squares”]. Provide your answers in complete sentences – one paragraph, single-spaced for each “square”, even if the “square” involves several questions. Single-space between each single-spaced paragraph, with no paragraph indentions; chapter titles listed as headings; title page required. **The Reflection Paper is due no later than 8:00 am, Tuesday, June 19, posted in the Assignments section of Blackboard.**
2. Read the Yessick textbook and answer the questions on the Wellness Inventory beginning on page 105. Be prepared to discuss your personal assessment scores during the first day of the workshop, Monday, June 18. Instead of a written exam during the workshop, students will write a **Personal Wellness Action Plan**, to include a Summary of Yessick’s six wellness categories and a discussion of proposed actions to bring wellness to your life. **Instructions will be given by the professor for the Personal Wellness Action Plan and the due date.**
3. Students will be given homework assignments and small group assignments during the workshop, to involve discussions of articles uploaded on Blackboard by the professor, research of websites, and examination of case studies.

Students in the **PATH6334** course are required to complete Assignments 1, 2, and 3, PLUS the following additional assignment:

Write an **Essay** to analyze and propose a solution or approach to resolve a problematic conflict situation typical of those which occur in a congregation. The conflict situation must fit into one of the first four levels of intensity discussed by Bullard. The professor must approve the situation to be addressed. The essay must be double-spaced, six to eight pages in length (not counting the title page or the bibliographic reference list), utilizing Bullard, plus two additional books, two articles, and biblical references which inform the analysis and proposed solution, resources referenced by footnotes. The essay should discuss the following topics: *Conflict Description* (a brief detail of the situation and the Intensity level), *Situation Analysis* (the Goal of the leader in addressing the conflict situation and the desired conflict outcome), and *Solution Proposed* (Role the leader must assume in resolving the conflict and the potential Leadership Styles to be taken with the congregation). Title page, footnotes, headings, and pagination should use Turabian 8 as the style guide. The books, articles, and translation of the Bible should be listed on a Reference page, with bibliographic entries according to Turabian.

Blackboard

The Blackboard course title is [TM-PATH6234-6334RO: Stress and Conflict Management \(Summer Workshop\)](#). Please enroll yourself in the course and upload the Reflection Paper and Personal Wellness Action Plan into the Assignments section. Dr. Ogea will upload documents into the Course Documents section for use during the workshop.

5. Students will be given homework assignments and small group assignments during the workshop, to involve discussions of articles uploaded on Blackboard by the professor, research of websites, and examination of case studies.

Selected Bibliography

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- Brubaker, David R. *Promise and Peril: Understanding and Managing Change and Conflict in Congregations*. Herndon, VA: The Alban Institute, 2009.
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- Bowling, Daniel and David Hoffman (eds.) *Bring Peace in the Room: How the Personal Qualities of the Mediator impact the Process of Conflict Resolution*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2003.
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- Everist, Norma Cook. *Church Conflict: From Contention to Collaboration*. Nashville: Abingdon, 2004.
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- Fisher, Roger and William Ury. *Getting to Yes: Negotiating Agreement Without Giving In*. New York: Penguin Books, 1991.
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- Leas, Speed B. *Church Fights*. Philadelphia: The Westminster Press, 1973.
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- Mayer, Bernard S. *Beyond Neutrality: Confronting the Crisis in Conflict Resolution*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2004.
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- McSwain, Larry L. and William C. Treadwell, Jr. *Conflict Ministry in the Church*. Nashville, TN: Broadman Press, 1981.
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- Noble, David. *Church Conflict by the Book: Discover Inner Healing, Renewed Hope and Powerful Fellowship Through Challenging Times*. Kansas City: BHC Publishing, 2013.
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