



DISC 5170 Spiritual Formation I

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Fall 2015

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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 and Curriculum Competencies

The seminary has five core values. The core value focus for 2015-2016 is *Mission Focus*. This course supports the five core values of the seminary.

Doctrinal Integrity: Knowing that the Bible is the Word of God, we believe it, teach it, proclaim it, and submit to it. Our confessional commitments are outlined in the “Articles of Religious Belief” and the “Baptist Faith and Message 2000.”

Spiritual Vitality: We are a worshiping community emphasizing both personal spirituality and gathering together as a Seminary family for the praise and adoration of God and instruction in His Word.

Mission Focus: We are not here merely to get an education or to give one. We are here to change the world by fulfilling the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries. **The core value focus for the 2015-2016 academic year is Mission Focus.**

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.

Servant Leadership: We follow the model of Jesus and exert leadership and influence through the nurture and encouragement of those around us.

The seminary has seven curriculum competencies: Biblical Exposition, Christian Theological Heritage, Discipleship Making, Interpersonal Skills, Servant Leadership, Spiritual and Character Formation, and Worship Leadership. This course addresses all curriculum competencies.

Course Description

This course is a pass-fail experience in a faculty led learning context. Students in the course will meet weekly for accountability, mentoring, discussion, and spiritual formation by participating and leading weekly meetings. Students will comprehend a variety of Christian devotional practices by completing specific assignments on basic spiritual disciplines. This course is designed to be taken during a student's first semester. [**See note below.]

**Students registered for DISC5170 will automatically be registered for DISC5171 with the same professor, at the same time, the following semester if DISC 5171 is required for the student's degree plan.

Student Learning Outcomes

In order to provide moral leadership by modeling and mentoring Christian character and devotion and in order to stimulate church health through mobilizing the church for discipleship, the student, by the end of the course should:

1. Comprehend the following concepts: The marks of a disciple as something beyond the point of salvation.
 - Effective methods of becoming a disciple and of making disciples.
 - The relationship between spiritual maturity and spiritual disciplines.
 - Christian devotional practices or disciplines.
2. Have a positive response to the following concepts: A life-long intentional devotional discipline for lifelong spiritual growth and benefit to the kingdom of God.
 - A meaningful and maturing relationship with God.
 - Christian community in a small group setting.
 - A personal commitment to basic devotional practices.
3. Be able to, with the help of resources, accomplish the following tasks: Develop a plan for personal discipleship and assist others to develop a personal discipleship plan.
 - Practice appropriate disciplines of the Christian faith.
4. Have an appropriate perception as how to lead small discipleship groups.

Course Methodology

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

Any **Daily Devotional Book** (see Professor for help in choosing a text).
Your **Bible**... Use a different version than the one you always use.

Edwards, Gene. *A Tale of Three Kings: A Study in Brokenness.*
Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, 1992.

Foster, Richard. *Celebration of Discipline: The Path to Spiritual Growth.*
San Francisco, CA: Harper Collins, 1998 (or later).

Jaynes, Sharon. *A Sudden Glory: God's Lavish Response to Your Ache for Something More.* Colorado Springs, CO: Multnomah Books, 2012.

Course Requirements

1. **Class Attendance:** Participate in all class discussions and meetings.
2. **Leadership:** Read the assigned textbooks and additional class material while also leading at least one class discussion of an assigned chapter.
3. **Journaling:** Keep a journal of your spiritual journey throughout the course and complete the assignments given by the professor for the spiritual journal. The journal is to be your thoughts/reflections about your spiritual journey. Also, the professor will provide guiding questions and thought-provoking topics for reflection. The student is to journal 4 times weekly with a paragraph (3-5 sentences) minimum each entry. The journal will not be read by the professor but only briefly checked for completion.
4. **Scripture Memory:** Memorize and recite on specified dates (weeks) assigned Bible verses.
5. **Reflection Paper:** Write a three-page reflection paper at the end of the semester.

Course Evaluation

The course is offered on a pass/fail basis as follows:

Journal	35 %
Discussion Session leadership	20 %
Class Attendance/Participation	15 %
Reflection Paper	30 %

Absences and Late Assignments

In accordance with seminary policy, a student will automatically fail the course if he or she incurs more than **two absences**. The student handbook should be consulted regarding further information about seminary policies for absences. Late assignments automatically will be penalized a letter grade and may receive additional penalties depending on the amount of time the assignment is late.

Need technical assistance? Contact the ITC today!

Selfserve@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the Selfserve.nobts.edu site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)

BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Blackboard Learning Management System NOBTS.Blackboard.com.

ITCSupport@nobts.edu - Email for general technical questions/support requests.

504.816.8180 - Call for any technical questions/support requests.

www.NOBTS.edu/itc/ - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

Memory Verses

Gal. 2:20	week 3
Phil. 3:10	week 4
Rom. 12:1-2	week 5
Jos. 1:8	week 6
Phil. 4:6-7	week 7
Heb. 10:24-25	week 8
Mt. 28:18-20	week 9
Col. 3:17	week 10

Course Schedule

August 31: Class Mtg. 1 – Introduction to Course	Student Leader
September 7: Labor Day – NO CLASSES	
September 14: Class Mtg. 2 – <i>Sudden Glory</i> Ch 1 and 2.	
September 28: Class Mtg. 3 – <i>Sudden Glory</i> Ch 3.	
October 12: Class Mtg. 4 – <i>Sudden Glory</i> Ch 4.	
October 19: Fall Break Begins – NO CLASSES	
October 26: Class Mtg. 5 – <i>Sudden Glory</i> Ch 5 and 6.	
November 9: Class Mtg. 6 – <i>Sudden Glory</i> Ch 7 and 8.	
November 23: Thanksgiving Week – NO CLASSES; Reflection paper due 30th;	
November 30: Class Mtg. 7 – <i>Sudden Glory</i> Ch 9.	
December 14: Class Mtg. 8 – <i>Sudden Glory</i> Ch 10.	

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