

DISC5170 Spiritual Formation 2
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Christian Education Division
Spring 2017
CIV from Pensacola to Jacksonville
8x Hybrid Dates: 1/23, 2/6, 2/20, 3/6, 3/20, 4/3, 4/17, 5/1

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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.

1. **Doctrinal Integrity:** Knowing that the Bible is the Word of God, we believe it, teach it, proclaim it, and submit to it. This course addresses Doctrinal Integrity specifically by preparing students to grow in understanding and interpreting of the Bible.
2. **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. Spiritual Vitality is addressed by reminding students that a dynamic relationship with God is vital for effective ministry.
3. **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. This course addresses Mission Focus by helping students understand the biblical foundations for fulfilling the Great Commission and the Great Commandments.
4. **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. Characteristic Excellence is addressed by preparing students to excel in their ability to interpret Scripture, which is foundational to effective ministry.
5. **Servant Leadership:** We follow the model of Jesus and exert leadership and influence through the nurture and encouragement of those around us. Servant Leadership is modeled by classroom deportment.

The core value focus for this academic year is *Characteristic Excellence*.

Curriculum Competencies

NOBTS faculty members realize that all ministers need to develop specific competencies if they are going to have an effective ministry. To increase the likelihood of NOBTS graduates having an effective ministry, the faculty developed a competency-based curriculum after identifying seven essential competencies necessary for effective ministry. All graduates are expected to have at least a minimum level of competency in all of the following areas:

1. **Biblical Exposition:** to interpret and communicate the Bible accurately.

2. **Christian Theological Heritage:** To understand and interpret Christian theological heritage and Baptist polity for the church.
3. **Disciple Making:** To stimulate church health through mobilizing the church for missions, evangelism, discipleship, and church growth.
4. **Interpersonal Skills:** To perform pastoral care effectively, with skills in communication and conflict management.
5. **Servant Leadership:** To serve churches effectively through team ministry.
6. **Spiritual and Character Formation:** To provide moral leadership by modeling and mentoring Christian character and devotion.
7. **Worship Leadership:** To facilitate worship effectively.

The course will address the seven 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 in and leading weekly meetings. Students will select a mentee(s) from a church ministry context to encourage them in establishing basic spiritual disciplines that will lead them to consistent spiritual growth. This course is designed to be taken immediately following DISC5170.

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 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.
 - A personal commitment to covenant marriage and personal holiness.
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.
 - Lead small discipleship groups.
4. Have an appropriate perception as how to lead small discipleship groups.

Course Teaching Methodology

The course will involve the following methodologies: reading/reflection on texts in the field through participation in class/group discussions; individual study and practice of spiritual disciplines; and reflection and journaling of individual student spiritual journey.

Textbooks

Hanks, Jr., Billie with Randy Craig. *Becoming a Disciple-Maker: Develop Spiritual Growth Skills And Help Others To Do The Same*. Salado, TX: International Evangelism Association, 2013.

Hanks, Jr., Billie with Randy Craig. *Call to Joy: Encouraging The Growing Believer*. Salado, TX: International Evangelism Association, 2009.

Course Requirements

1. Participate in all class discussions and meetings.
2. Read the assigned textbook and additional class material while also leading at least one class discussion of an assigned chapter.
3. Complete Sessions 1-7 in the *Call to Joy* Timothy Guide with your partner.
4. 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. The journal should include prayer requests, reflections on spiritual progress, notes from sermons and small group/Sunday school attendance. The journal will not be read by the professor but only briefly checked for completion.
5. The student must select a spiritual growth partner (Paul-Timothy relationship). The student will meet with the partner for a minimum of forty-five minutes per week beginning on the 2nd week of the course. The student will submit a statement identifying the “Timothy” partner and covenant with the group to meet weekly.
6. At the conclusion of the course, the student will meet with the professor to discuss your spiritual growth during the semester. Meeting times will be scheduled during the last week of classes. The student’s journal and *Call to Joy* Timothy Guide will be discussed.

Evaluation of Grade

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

Journal	30 %
Discussion session leadership	15 %
Class participation/attendance	15 %
Scripture memory	10 %
<i>Call to Joy</i> Timothy Guide	30 %

Absences and Late Assignments

In accordance with seminary policy, a student will automatically fail the course if he or she incurs three 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.

Technical Assistance

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

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

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.

Course Schedule

Course Presentation Schedule

	Discussion Leader
Week 1	Course Overview
Week 2	Professor
Week 3	Professor
Week 4	Student
Week 5	Student
Week 6	Student
Week 7	Student
Week 8	Students meet with Professor

Selected Bibliography

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