Mission Statement
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College prepare servants to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.

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 **Mission Focus**.
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 curriculum competencies addressed in this course are: Discipleship Making, Interpersonal Skills, Servant Leadership, and Spiritual and Character Formation.

Purpose of the Course

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

Course Description

This course will aid students to develop competency in gospel ministry in a semester-length learning experience that involves the student in practical ministry with an academic professor and an approved on-site mentor. The student will experience a variety of ministry situations and opportunities in which they will learn and apply principles of ministry under the guidance of a faculty member and on-site mentor.

Student Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, the student will:

1. understand selected principles and practices in the area of gospel ministry.
2. value the role and functions of gospel ministry in the context of the local church and/or parachurch organizations.
3. demonstrate skills and acceptable proficiency in selected functions of gospel ministry.

Course Methods

The course will emphasize a learning experience through the practical application of principles of gospel ministry under the guidance of an on-site mentor. Lecture presentations and online resources will be utilized to teach course concepts and methodologies. Writing assignments and faculty interaction will be required in addition to interaction with other students in online forums.
Textbooks
The student will select one of the following required textbooks in the area of mentoring:


The student will select two of the following required textbooks focused more generally in the area of gospel ministry:


The student will select two of the required textbooks from one of the designated categories focused more specifically in areas of gospel ministry. Designated categories are: Pastoral/Personal/Corporate Evangelism, Pastoral Ministry and Chaplaincy, Pastoral Counseling, Pastoral Theology, and Preaching.

**Students enrolled in the course for the second time must select books that were not read during the completion of the first course.**

Course Requirements
1. **Reading Assignments and Book Critiques:** The student will select one book from the first list of books specific to mentoring, two books from the second list of books specific to gospel ministry, and two books from a category in the third list of books (for a total of 5 books). The books should be books that the student has not previously read. The student will write a two page single-spaced critique on each book, answering the following questions:
   a. What is a concise summary of the text?
   b. What is the significance of this text concerning ministry?
   c. What are one or more significant developments in the text concerning ministry?
   d. What, if any, criticism can be made of the text’s usefulness in understanding ministry?

Each analysis should have a cover page and provide a correct bibliographic listing of the book with its associated annotations.
The critique of the required textbook in the area of mentoring is due September 7. The first critique of the required textbooks focused more generally in the area of gospel ministry is due September 21. The second critique of the required textbooks focused more generally in the area of gospel ministry is due October 5. The first critique of the required textbooks from a category in the third list of books is due October 26. (See pages 6-7 below for categories.) The second critique of the required textbooks from a category in the third list of books is due November 9.

2. Mentorship Hours and Meetings: The student will be required to fulfill the requirements of the mentorship, including the minimum of 90 hours working in the ministry setting during the semester. These specified hours do not include the weekly scheduled times for worship and Bible study. The student will meet with the mentor each week to discuss personal and ministry issues and hours worked. The student will submit weekly reports of the mentorship and ministry experiences. The reports should be two paragraphs with one paragraph devoted to the mentorship experiences of the week and one paragraph devoted to the ministry experiences of the week.

Weekly Reports from the first 7 weeks are due October 12. Weekly Reports from the second 7 weeks are due December 11.

3. Mentoring Strategy: The student will design a mentoring strategy appropriate to the ministry context in which the student will be serving throughout the semester. The strategy must be 12-15 double-spaced pages. Due November 30.

The strategy paper must include:

a. Introduction: This must explain the historical background of the church/ministry as extensively as necessary to accurately reflect the church’s/ministry’s current state. Historical statistics, leadership structure, programming approaches, and overall culture of the church/ministry should be addressed.

b. Guiding Values: Provide an accurate biblical theology for mentoring/discipleship that serves as the basis for any efforts to mature the local church/ministry. Be as comprehensive as possible to address the church/ministry, mission, and vision.

c. Strategy: This will be the most comprehensive section (at least 4 pages of the paper) and should provide a clear pathway for your mentoring/discipleship strategy. Address every aspect that will be involved in the strategy. Determine a reasonable but urgent timeline and provide details that coincide with the timeline.

d. Evaluation: How will you know when you have accomplished the goal? Provide a process of immediate and on-going evaluation. Who? How? When? What tools will you use?

e. Reflection: Based on what you have learned through this project, will you seek to execute this strategy? Explain the opportunities that are open to this strategy or the
obstacles that contest this strategy and what is your plan to lead the church/ministry to this critical point of change?

4. **Ministry Journal:** The student will keep an updated ministry journal with 2-3 submissions each week. Each submission should be two paragraphs in length. Experiences from the 90 hours of ministry can be shared here. **Due December 11.**

5. **Reflection Paper:** The student will write a reflection paper, reflecting over the previous semester and noting insights gleaned, positive experiences, and negative experiences. The paper must be 4-5 single-spaced pages. **Due December 11.**

6. **Online Learning Units and Discussion:** The student will complete the online units according to the schedule provided by the professor. Video, case-studies, PowerPoint presentations, and group presentations will be utilized. Students will interact with fellow students and the professor through discussion board on Blackboard.

**Evaluation**

The student’s final grade will be determined as follows:

- **Reading and Critiques** 15%
- **Mentorship Hours and Meetings** 20%
- **Mentoring Strategy** 15%
- **Journal** 20%
- **Reflection Paper** 15%
- **Online Learning Units and Discussion** 15%

**Course Schedule**

A schedule for the course will be provided in the course shell in Blackboard.

**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.
Selected Bibliography by Designated Category

Pastoral, Personal, and Corporate Evangelism


Pastoral Ministry and Chaplaincy


Pastoral Counseling


**Pastoral Theology**


**Preaching**


**Selected Bibliography**


