DISC5260 Discipleship Strategies

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Discipleship and Ministry Leadership Division
Mentoring Summer 2020

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Mission Statement

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

Purpose of the Course

The purpose of this course is to provide quality theological education for students in the area of discipleship strategies in the context of the local church.

Core Value Focus

1. *Doctrinal Integrity* – Knowing that the Bible is the Word of God, we believe it, teach it, proclaim it, and submit to it. The doctrinal statements used in our evaluations are our Articles of Religious Belief and the Baptist Faith and Message Statement.
2. *Spiritual Vitality* – We are a worshiping community, with both personal spirituality and gathering together as a Seminary for the praise and adoration of God and instruction in His Word.
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.
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.
5. *Servant Leadership* – We follow the model of Jesus and exert leadership and influence through the nurture and encouragement of those around us.

Annually, the President will designate a core value that will become the focus of pedagogy for the year. For the 2019-2020 academic year the Core Value is *Spiritual Vitality.*

Curriculum Competencies Addressed

This course will address the following curriculum competencies:

1. *Interpersonal Skills:* Understand how to build relationships with other ministry leaders within the local church.
2. *Servant Leadership:* Determine how the Senior Pastor, staff members, and lay leaders can serve one another while still providing the appropriate leadership required.
3. *Spiritual and Character Formation:* As a leadership team intentionally "grow up in all things into Him who is the head – Christ" (Eph. 4:15b, NKJV).

Course Description

This course is designed to equip students for leading discipleship ministries in a local church by exploring a variety of methods and approaches used in a response to the Great Commission mandate in churches today. Students are exposed to select and different materials and methods of discipleship in correlation to the Bible Study programs in local churches to provide basis for future adaptation. The student is also introduced to developmental processes currently available.

Student Learning Outcomes

This course is designed to introduce students to the basic principles, procedures, guidelines, and available resources for discipleship strategies within the local church. The student involved in this process should be able to accomplish the following:

- Examine a variety of discipleship strategies that can be utilized in local church praxis.
- Understand and be able to discuss foundational concepts related to current developmental processes for various age groups.
- Value/Appreciate the importance of the discipleship mandate given to all believers in Scripture.
- Develop a discipleship strategy, which can be implemented in the student's specific ministry setting.

Required Readings

The following text and resources are required reading for class discussions and are to be read in their entirety unless otherwise specified.

Required Texts

Absalom, Alex and Bobby Harrington. *Discipleship that Fits: The Five Kinds of Relationships God Uses to Help Us Grow.* Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2016.

Coleman, Robert. *The Master Plan of Evangelism*. Grand Rapids, MI: Revell, 1993.

Dean, Jody and Hal Stewart. *Together We Equip: Integrating Discipleship and Ministry Leadership for Holistic Spiritual Formation.* Bloomington, IN: Westbow Press, 2018.

Malphurs, Aubrey. *Strategic Disciple Making: A Practical Tool for Successful Ministry*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2009.

Course Teaching Methodology

This course will utilize online group/professor discussions, interaction and dialogue, and an interactive discovery-learning format through weekly mentoring meetings for accountability, mentorship, discussion, and discipleship with an NOBTS approved mentor.

Assignments and Evaluation Criteria

All assignments should be submitted on time via blackboard for this course. In the blackboard shell, click the "Upload Assignments" link to upload your work. Please note that every assignment that is uploaded is time stamped with the date and time of the upload.

Biblical Overview of Discipleship Paper – 20 points (Due: June 26th)

Write an eight-page paper discussing the Biblical mandate for discipleship. Include an overview of Old Testament and New Testament examples of discipleship. Examine and explain how this mandate and the examples included are applicable to the local church. Use at least eight sources including the Bible and the course texts, preferably scholarly works. Turabian formatting is required for this assignment.

Assignment Formatting
- Type this assignment according to Turabian format
- All papers must be written in third person and double-spaced
- Use 12 point Times New Roman font
- Use the same number of references as assigned pages
- Use correct spelling and grammar
- Use proper pagination
- Include your name on the *cover page*
- Staple assignments together as necessary or as required *(no report covers please)*
- Write the *full* assignment

Book Critiques –10 points total (each book is 5 points)

On the assigned day, you turn in a 3-page type-written report on the assigned book. The book review should include the following two components: 1) A **content summary** that is double spaced for page one and 2) A **reflection summary** that is a single spaced list of significant ideas (direct quotes or general ideas) from the book. The following should be included with each significant idea: a) the book page number; b) one of the three identified categories below and c) brief reflective personal comments. A double space between each entry of the list is expected.
1. AGREEMENT – Thoughts with which you are in firm agreement; things that make you say "Yes!" or items that inspire you to action in your life and move your spirit.
2. DISAGREEMENT – Thoughts in which you find dissonance; areas with which you might disagree.
3. MORE THOUGHT – Areas that you want to spend more time thinking about; things that make you wonder; items on which you are not sure what your stance it.

Due: Coleman – *Master Plan of Evangelism* (**June 16th**)

Dean and Stewart – *Together We Equip* **or** Absalom and Harrington – *Discipleship that Fits* (**July 10ᵗʰ**)

Discipleship Strategy Handbook & Implementation – 40 points (Due: July 28ᵗʰ)

Based on the discipleship strategies and the foundational concepts of development laid in class, the Biblical foundations and mandates of discipleship discussed in your Biblical Overview of Discipleship paper, the **context profile** you created, and personal research, develop a discipleship strategy which can be implemented in your specific ministry setting. Create a Powerpoint presentation (25 slides) or Publisher Handbook (25 pages), which provides an overview, explanation and rationale for your strategy. This presentation should include a **minimum** of 3 to 6 months detailed description for how to implement your strategy (which can either include planning processes or curriculum and content materials, etc.) should be included in this presentation. Further directions regarding this assignment will be provided during class. Pdf's, Keynote or Pages will not be accepted for this assignment.

This assignment is an embedded assignment that will be completed by all students for all sections of this course. The rubric for grading this assignment is found in the blackboard shell. Please complete the assignment according to provided rubric.

Mentoring Experience and Online Engagement – 30 points

The student is required to meet with their assigned mentor, who is the same gender and who can challenge the student spiritually, philosophically, and practically in discipleship strategies. Additionally, the student is expected to engage online in an assigned blackboard shell with the professor and other mentoring students throughout the semester. The following components of the mentoring experience are required assignments:

- **Mentorship Discussion Board (9 pts)** The NOBTS professor will release online discipleship strategies teaching units in the blackboard shell for required discussion board postings/dialogue by the students during the semester. The teaching units are designed to "bridge" the teaching units to the weekly mentor meeting. For this mentoring course, students are expected to post on minimum of **8 teaching units** and engage in content.
- **Mentor Meeting (12 pts)** You will meet with your mentor **each week** for a minimum of **one hour** to discuss personal and ministry progress in the area of discipleship strategies for the local church based on the course teaching units. Students will engage in the mentoring relationship under the supervision of an approved NOBTS mentor for a minimum of 15 hours of meeting time during the semester. Mentorship hours may not include church worship, Bible study, and age-group weekly meetings. The student will meet for a minimum of an hour per week beginning the first week of the semester. The student will **log** the weekly meeting times and have their mentor **sign-off** on the meetings. The **mentoring experience log-sheet** is submitted online at the end of the semester to the professor.
- **Mentoring Reflection Papers (9 pts)** A *Mentoring Monthly Report* will be completed by students for **June and July**. The completed report will be submitted and uploaded through Blackboard by the **last day of the month**. The first paper will the completed goals and covenant with the approved mentor. The final 2 papers should be a 1-page **single space** of reflection report based on your weekly mentor meeting, the online course

content, and experiences during the week of ministry. These 2 reflection papers are a first-person synopsis of the mentoring experience on a month-by-month basis.

For the purposes of this course, a *positive attitude* and *participation* are defined as productive and interactive engagement with online threads and dialogues throughout a full course session. Students cannot participate effectively if you are not engaged in the online dialogues on the **WEEKLY** subject matter. Consequently, the student is expected to:

- Post answers, comments, and questions on the discussion board threads.
- Provide on-going biblical, philosophical, or social science research to support your assertions.
- Reflect on an idea presented in one of the textbooks and/or mentoring relationship.
- Relate an example or story that conveys an application to the thread based on the mentoring experience.

Course Policies

Academic Honesty Policy: All graduate and undergraduate NOBTS students, whether on-campus, internet, or extension center students, are expected to adhere to the highest Christian standard of honesty and integrity when completing academic assignments for all courses in every delivery system format. The Bible provides our standard for academic integrity and honesty. This standard applies whether a student is taking tests, quizzes, exams, writing papers, completing Discussion Boards, or any other course requirement.

Assignment Formatting: Unless otherwise noted, all assignments are to be created in Turabian format. All written assignments must be Word documents, written in third person unless otherwise instructed, and created in 12 pt. Times New Roman font. PDFs will not be accepted.

Assignment Submission: All assignments are to be submitted to Blackboard by 11:59 p.m. of the due date unless otherwise indicated. Do not send files as attachments via email to the professor. For technical reasons, this mode of file transmission is extremely inefficient.

Grading Scale: Your final grade will be based on your total accumulation of points as indicated under the *Assignments and Evaluation Criteria* section of this syllabus according to the grading scale in the NOBTS 2015-2016 catalog.

A 93-100 B 85-92   C 77-84   D 70-76   F 69 and below

Late Assignments: Only under extreme circumstances, and with prior approval, will a late assignment be accepted. Late assignments will be assessed an initial 10 percent penalty and 1 percent for each day after the due date (i.e. 10/1 points for a 100 point assignment, 3/.3 points for a 30 point assignment). No assignments will be accepted more than two weeks after the original due date. Missed presentations may not be made up.

Netiquette: Appropriate Online Behavior: Each student is expected to demonstrate appropriate Christian behavior when working online. The student is expected to interact with

other students in a fashion that will promote learning and respect for the opinions of others in the course. A spirit of Christian charity is expected at all times in the online environment.

Plagiarism: A high standard of personal integrity is expected of all students. Copying another person's work, submitting downloaded material without proper references, submitting material without properly citing the source, submitting the same material for credit in more than one course, and other such forms of dishonesty are strictly forbidden. *Although anything cited in three sources is considered public domain, we require that all sources be cited.* Any infraction will result in failing the course. Any infraction will be reported to the Dean of Students for further action.
Revision of the Syllabus: The course syllabus is not a legal contract. Any syllabus revision will be preceded by a reasonable notice to students. The standards and requirements set forth in this syllabus may be modified at any time by the professor. Notice of such changes will be by announcement in class or by email notice.

Withdrawal from the Course: The administration has set deadlines for withdrawal. These dates and times are published in the academic calendar. Administration procedures must be followed. You are responsible to handle withdrawal requirements. A professor can't issue a withdrawal. You must do the proper paperwork to ensure that you will not receive a final grade of "F" in the course if you choose not to attend once you are enrolled.

Additional Information

Blackboard and SelfServe: You are responsible for maintaining current information regarding contact information on Blackboard and SelfServe. The professor will utilize both to communicate with the class. Blackboard and SelfServe do not share information so you must update each. Assignment grades will be posted to Blackboard. You will be need to enroll in the course on Blackboard.

Correspondence with the Grader: You should contact the grader via email at [insert grader's email address here]. The grader responds to email during normal business hours, 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on weekdays only. The grader may not respond to late night or weekend e-mails until regular "business" hours. Please respect the grader's personal time. Remember, graders are students as well and have their own coursework and research to complete. Please be respectful in the language you use in your emails to the grader.

Correspondence with the Professor: Every effort is made to respond to emails and phone calls within 24-48 hours, excluding weekends. Please feel free to contact the professor(s) with any question you may have regarding this course.

NOBTS Emergency Text Messaging Service: Once you have established a SelfServe account you may sign up for the NOBTS emergency text messaging service by going to http://nobts.edu/NOBTSEmergencyTextMessage.html.

Special Needs: If you need an accommodation for any type of disability, please set up a time to meet with the professor(s) to discuss any modifications you may need that are able to be provided.

Technical Support: 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.If you experience any problems with your Blackboard account you may email BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu or call the ITC at 504-282-4455, ext. 8180.

Course Schedule

Unit 1:   Introduction to Discipleship Strategies
Unit 2:   What is the Mission of the Church?
Unit 3:   Who are My Disciples?
Unit 4:   Stages of Discipleship
Unit 5:   The Pattern of Spiritual Growth
Unit 6:   Discipleship Training and Process
Unit 7:   Strategy Development
Unit 8:   Disciple-Making Shifts
Unit 9:   Five Approaches of Discipleship
Unit 10:   Phases/Models of Discipleship
Unit 11:   Mentoring Men and Women
Unit 12:   Evaluation of Discipleship Strategies

Rubric For Embedded Learning Assignment

Discipleship Strategy Handbook & Implementation Paper

This rubric describes how you will be evaluated for your Discipleship Strategy Handbook & Implementation Paper.

Criteria	Levels of Achievement			
	Excellent	**Good**	**Needs Improvement**	**Deficient**
	10 Points	8.5 Points	7 Points	5 Points
Discipleship Content	Strategy is a well-thought out exceptional strategy that supports the biblical basis for discipleship. The rationale is clearly communicated. Reflects application of critical thinking. Has a clear goal with prudent time stamps that are appropriate. A variety of sources are referenced. Is biblically	Strategy is a well-thought out good plan that supports the biblical basis for discipleship. The rationale is given. Has application of critical thinking apparent. Has a clear goal with good time stamps. An acceptable number of sources are referenced. Is biblically accurate.	Strategy supports the biblical basis for discipleship. The rationale is vaguely referenced. Has application of critical thinking that is apparent. Has no clear goal and unwise time stamps. A limited number of sources are referenced. Has some inconsistencies.	Strategy provides inconsistent information for the biblical basis for discipleship. No rationale for discipleship is given. Has no apparent application of critical thinking. Has no clear goal and no selected time stamps. A few sources are referenced. Has significant, misconceptions, or misinterpretation on discipleship.
Grammatical Convention	No spelling, grammatical, or punctuation errors. High-level use of vocabulary and word choice.	Few (1 to 3) spelling, grammatical, or punctuation errors. Good use of vocabulary word choice.	Minimal (3 to 5) spelling, grammatical, or punctuation errors. Low-level use of vocabulary and word choice.	More than 5 spelling, grammatical, or punctuation errors. Poor use of vocabulary and word choice.
Strategy Organization	Discipleship strategy is clearly focused in an organized and thoughtful manner. Discipleship strategy is constructed in an exceptional and logical pattern to support the mission of the church in the selected profile context.	Discipleship strategy supports the mission of the church. Plan has a pattern, but occasionally is not focused on specific profile, Strategic steps provided is logical and supports mission of the church in the selected profile context.	Strategy plan has focus but strays from the profile at times. Strategic steps appears to have a pattern, but the pattern is not consistently carried out in the project. Information in the strategy loosely supports the mission of the church in the selected profile	Strategic planning Content is unfocused and haphazard. Information does not support the solution to the challenge to make disciples. Information provided has no apparent pattern to support the mission of the church in the selected profile context.
Presentation Level	Exceptional creativity in visual format with over 20 slides or pages. Multimedia (charts, graphs, tables, illustrations, video) is used or referenced to clarify and illustrate the main points. Format enhances the content. Presentation captures audience attention. Presentation is	Good creativity in visual format with 17-19 slides or pages. Multimedia (charts, graphs, tables, illustrations, video) is used or referenced to illustrate the main points. Format is appropriate for the content. Presentation captures audience	Acceptable creativity in visual format with 13-16 slides or pages. Multimedia (charts, graphs, tables, illustrations, video) loosely illustrates the main points. Format does not suit the content. Presentation does not capture audience or reader's	Limited creativity in visual format with 12 or less slides or pages. Presentation appears sloppy and/or unfinished. Multimedia (charts, graphs, tables, illustrations, video) is overused or underused. Format does not enhance content. Presentation has no clear organization.
Late Work Penalty	0 Points	-1 Points	-2 Points	-3 Points
	Not late.	One day late.	Two days late.	Four days late.
Additional Missed Points	0 Points	-1 Points	-2 Points	-3 Points
	No additional missed points.	Reason Provided in Feedback.	Reason Provided in Feedback.	Reason Provided in Feedback.

Selected Bibliography

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Goleman, Daniel, Richard Boyatis, and Annie McKee. *Primal Leadership: Revitalizing the Power of Emotional Intelligence.* Boston: Harvard Business School Press, 2004.

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