



**SYLLABUS**  
**Leadership Styles in Ministry**  
**CEAM 8301**  
**A Professional Doctoral Seminar**  
**September 15-17, 2025**

**Dr. Steve Echols**

Visiting Professor of Leadership  
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary  
Email: [sechols@bpc.edu](mailto:sechols@bpc.edu)  
Phone: 423-443-0098

**Dr. Brad Delaughter**

Adjunct Professor  
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary  
Email: [Brad@fbccdesoto.com](mailto:Brad@fbccdesoto.com)  
Phone: 504-453-7677

**Mission Statement**

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

**Course Description**

This seminar provides an examination of the biblical basis and models of leadership as well as traditional and contemporary philosophies and trends of leadership. An emphasis will be given to practical applications to the student's place of service.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

When students have completed this course, they will be able to:

1. Critique leadership styles using biblical models as the standard.
2. Discuss historic and contemporary theories and trends of leadership.
3. Distinguish between leadership and other management functions such as supervision, planning, budgeting, etc.
4. Articulate an enhanced commitment to servant leadership as modeled by Christ
5. Formulate leadership techniques relative to the local church as an organization.
6. Formulate a personal leadership development program based on input from others as well as through personal introspection.
7. Develop a personal leadership strategy to address the mission and needs of his/her ministry setting.
8. Demonstrate a personal application of leadership skills.

## **Required Textbooks**

Ledbetter, Bernice M., Robert J. Banks, and David C. Greenhalph. *Reviewing Leadership: A Christian Evaluation of Current Approaches*. Second Edition. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2016. (ISBN 0-8010-2690-03)

Borek, John, Danny Lovett, and Elmer Towns. *The Good Book on Leadership*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman Publishers, 2005. (ISBN 0-8054-3167-5)

Echols, Steven F. and Allen England. *Catastrophic Crisis: Ministry Leadership in the Midst of Trial and Tragedy*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 2011. (ISBN 978-0-8054-4976-1)

Goleman, Daniel, Boyatzis, Richard, McKee, Annie. *Primal Leadership: Realizing the Power of Emotional Intelligence*. Boston: Harvard Business School Press, 2002. (ISBN 1-57851-486-X)

Olson, David T. *Discovering Your Leadership Style: The Power of Chemistry, Strategy, and Spirituality*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2014. (ISBN 978-0830841134)

*The Biblical DISC Report Personality System (Online)*. PeopleKeys. Boardman, OH: 2017. [www.discinsights.com](http://www.discinsights.com) (When you connect with the website go the Shop By Product / DISC for Ministry / Volunteer Placement). Be sure to click on *The Biblical DISC Personality System* rather than the standard DISC Personality System. In order for the discussion to be consistent, students must take the DISC profile with this particular version. Taking the DISC with any other version will not fulfill the course requirements.

## **Course Requirements**

*NOTE: Students may receive assistance with any difficulties with Canvas by contacting [canvas@nobts.edu](mailto:canvas@nobts.edu).*

### **Pre-Seminar Assignments:**

- (1) Leadership Lifeboats Reaction:** The student will read *Catastrophic Crisis: Ministry Leadership in the Midst of Trial and Tragedy*. The student will write a four-page double spaced reaction to Chapter 9 "Leadership Lifeboats: Help in Coping with Crises." Students should carefully read each case study in the various chapters as they will be assigned in group work during the seminar. First person may be utilized, but otherwise the paper must

be in Turabian 9 style. This assignment is due to be posted on Canvas by **September 10, 2025**.

- (2) The student will read *Primal Leadership* and write a 500-word review that would be suitable for publication, but is not required to be in Turabian style. The focus of this review should be on how the authors' assertions correspond or conflict with a biblical worldview concerning leadership and what helpful insights a Christian leader could glean from the book. The student will submit this assignment on Canvas by **September 10, 2025**.
- (3) **Presentation of Olson:** The students will work in groups to prepare a fifteen-minute presentation of the strengths, weaknesses, and techniques to enhance one of the six leadership styles identified in Olson's book. The group assignment includes determining any parallels or contrasts with the six leadership styles of *Primal Leadership*. Also, the group should note any other insights from Olson's book that connects with the concept of emotional intelligence. Groups for this assignment will be posted on Canvas no later than **August 18, 2025**. Materials for the group presentation should be posted in the Discussion Board section of Canvas no later than the time of the presentation. There is no individual assignment submission before the seminar required on this item.
- (4) **Book Critique:** Students will choose six chapters of the twenty-three chapters in *The Good Book on Leadership* that give different leadership types and biblical examples (chapters 2-24). Students will then write eight to ten sentence reaction to each chapter. Students should note any parallels or contrasts to the six styles mentioned in *Primal Leadership*. This is to be a reaction and not a summary. The focus should be on the presence or absence of practical application of the book to the student's particular place of ministry. *This assignment may be done in an informal manner. Turabian 9 style is not required, and the student may use first person.* Date Due: The student will submit this assignment on Canvas by **September 10, 2025**.
- (5) **Personal Leadership Style Assessment:** The student will utilize the material in *Discovering Your Leadership Style* to write four two-page (double-spaced) summaries of the four leadership factors – chemistry, spirituality, strategy, and wisdom--explored in the book. (Note: This is a paper of four two-page summaries for a total of eight pages). The student should summarize each aspect of the factor as well provide an illustration or example of each factor in a ministry setting. When called upon, the student should be prepared in the seminar to discuss how examples illustrate the leadership factors.

In addition, students are to take the Leadership Stools Inventory in Chapter 1 of the Olson book. Highlight the results in a one-page summary to be included with the summaries of the four factors. NOTE: This is total of nine pages for this assignment.

*This assignment does not have to conform to Turabian 9 style. First person may be used.* The student will submit this assignment on Canvas by **September 10, 2025**. The seminar schedule will include times for presentation and discussion of this material.

- (6) **Leadership Style Presentation:** Each student will work in a group and be responsible for leading a discussion of a particular section of *Reviewing Leadership* by Banks and Ledbetter. The professor will post the assignment schedule on Canvas under course documents no later than **August 11, 2025**. In preparation for working with the group, students will write a single spaced (space only between paragraphs) one-page paper that will summarize the important points of the chapter as they relate to their practice of ministry. *This assignment does not have to conform to Turabian 9 style. First person may be used.* The student will post his one-page paper of the assignment on Canvas by **September 10, 2025**. The group is to post any presentation materials in the Discussion Board of Canvas by the time of the presentation.
- (7) **Personal DISC Profile Assessment:** The student is to take the DISC profile in the version previously mentioned under the textbook listings. The student will write a two-page single spaced analysis (space between paragraphs only) of how the profile does or does not have implications concerning the leadership styles that the student employs. This assignment is due to be submitted on Canvas by **September 10, 2025**.

During the seminar assignment:

- (8) **Seminar Participation:** Each student will participate actively in seminar presentations and discussions.

Following the seminar assignment:

- (9) **Integration Paper:** Following the seminar each participant will write an application and integration paper. *This nine-page double spaced paper should follow appropriate Turabian 9 format. However, first person may be used.* The paper should be a personal reflection of the application and integration of the seminar content into ministry practice. At a minimum the paper should address the following items:
- (a) Identify and discuss the primary leadership stylistic competencies that you employ. Discuss how you determined your primary leadership stylistic competencies.
  - (b) Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of your primary leadership stylistic competencies and illustrate with at least six specific examples (three that highlight your strengths and three that highlight your weaknesses) from your ministry practice. Looking to future ministry practice, identify four ways to utilize your strengths. Identify four ways you can reduce your weaknesses.
  - (c) Discuss how you can utilize other leadership styles in addition to your primary stylistic competencies to improve your overall leadership effectiveness.

**Date Due: October 27, 2025.** The post-seminar assignment is to be submitted on Canvas.

## Course Evaluation

The professor will weigh the assignments based on overall performance.

(1)	Leadership Lifeboat Reaction	10%
(2)	Olson Presentation	10%
(3)	Book Critique	10%
(4)	Personal Leadership Style Assessment	15%
(5)	Leadership Style Presentation	10%
(6)	Personal DISC Profile Assessment	10%
(7)	Seminar Participation	15%
(8)	Integration Paper	20%

**Class Schedule:** Central time: 9-15- 1:00 P.M to 9:00 P.M, 9-16 and 9-17 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

## Directed Study Requirements:

In addition to the above course assignments, students enrolled in the directed study option of this seminar should plan to...

- (1) **Video 1:** Submit a video containing a five to eight minute discussion of the case study developed in Assignment 2. **Must be submitted by September 10, 2025.**
- (2) **Leadership Theory Paper:** Prepare an eight to ten page paper highlighting the primary concepts, research, and application of three major leadership theories. Note the suggested resources identified in assignment 3. **Must be submitted by September 15, 2025.**
- (3) **Annotated Bibliography:** Prepare an annotated bibliography of at least twenty-five resources related to styles of leadership. Each bibliographic reference should be accompanied by two to three sentences highlighting the resource's content and two to three sentences expressing a reaction to its usefulness and application to ministry situations. **Must be submitted by September 15, 2025.**

All assignments for directed study students, except these last three listed above, should be submitted through Canvas. The three special directed study assignment should be submitted directly to the professor by email.

## **Technical Assistance**

1. [Selfserve@nobts.edu](mailto:Selfserve@nobts.edu) - Email for technical questions/support requests with the [Selfserve.nobts.edu](http://Selfserve.nobts.edu) site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)
2. [Canvas.NOBTS.com](http://Canvas.NOBTS.com) Click on the “Help” button for technical questions/support requests regarding the NOBTS Canvas System. You can also email questions to [Canvas@nobts.edu](mailto:Canvas@nobts.edu).
3. [ITCSupport@nobts.edu](mailto:ITCSupport@nobts.edu) - Email for general technical questions/support requests.
4. [www.NOBTS.edu/itc/](http://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

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Anderson, Leith, Jack Hayford, and Ben Patterson. *Who's in Charge?* Sisters, Oregon: Multomah Press, 1993.

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Ashhenas, Ron, Dave Ulrich, Todd Jich, and Steve Herr. *The Boundaryless Organization: Breaking the Chains of Organizational Structure*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass Publishers, 1995.

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