



Course Syllabus

Course Title:	Pastoral Leadership
Semester:	Fall 2022
Instructor:	Pastor Alex Perednia
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Course Description

This course will help the student develop an understanding of various leadership styles, including his or her own style, and of the general role of the pastoral leader in a Baptist church. Attention will be given to congregational transformation, planning, the dynamics of conflict and its resolution, personal spiritual formation, presiding at various types of services, discipling new members, and issues surrounding confidentiality and clergy conduct.

Course Objectives

By the conclusion of this course, students will be able to understand and utilize the basic concepts of the Pastoral Leadership course as outlined by the course schedule.

1. Week 1: ***Spiritual Leadership*** (Understanding what spiritual leadership is, overcoming the challenges we will face, and implementing leadership styles & practices)
2. Week 2: ***Leading the Church as Shepherd*** (Understanding spiritual leadership styles and effectively serving people and managing tasks effectively)
3. Week 3: ***Leading the Corporate Life of the Church*** (Understanding the Biblical and practical theology of effectively leading worship, church boards/committees, meetings & key systems of the church)
4. Week 4: ***Strategic and Visionary Leadership*** (Understanding and applying the key concepts of church culture, vision, mission, strategy, church life cycles, and adaptive leadership)
5. Week 5: ***Leading Change in the Church*** (Understanding principles for leading change effectively, the importance of developing a capacity for adaptive change, and leading the church effectively with cross-generational differences)
6. Week 6: ***Leading in Times of Conflict*** (Understanding the causes of and the resources and strategies for resolving conflict in the church)
7. Week 7: ***Self-Leadership and Building Relationships for Spiritual Transformation*** (Understanding the importance of “self-leadership” and peer and mentor relationships for spiritual transformation.)

The course will focus on these objectives:

1. To help the student to understand the general role of pastor as shepherd and leader of a congregation or as a part of a pastoral team as leader over a specific area of ministry.
2. To assist the student to understand various styles of leadership and to begin to develop his or her leadership style in light of issues of personality, gifts and context of ministry.
3. To understand basic concepts of leadership, administration and management as they apply to the various expectations of pastoral ministry.
4. To help the student explore basic issues of pastoral ethics as they relate to integrity, trust, morality, confidentiality, professionalism, personal faith journey, boundaries, conflict management and congregational relationships.
5. To help the student to discern their call as a believer and their sense of call to pastoral ministry or other areas of ministry service (spiritual formation).
6. To assist the student to understand the role of pastor as a leader among other leaders in relationship to other colleagues in ministry, the larger ABC family and leaders within their church.
7. To help the student to understand concepts of servant leadership and shared leadership.
8. To help the student explore methodologies in lay leadership development and congregational transformation.
9. To assist the student to understand specific pastoral functions in worship, preaching, administration, pastoral care and administration.

Online Classroom Format

All class sessions will be held online using Google Meet. All course materials, including the submission & grading of assignments, will take place on Google Classroom. The weekly class will be held on Saturdays (8/20, 8/27, 9/3, 9/10, 9/24, 10/1, 10/8 – NO Class – 9/17 for Biennial weekend) from 8AM-10AM EST. The Google Classroom link will be [_____](#). Please watch the [tutorial](#) on navigating Google Classroom, if you are unfamiliar with the platform.

In our classroom time, we will focus on three key areas.

- Review, expand, and discuss the key contents from weekly lectures (3/4 hour).
- Discussion of Assigned Case Study for the week (1/2 hour)
- Discussion of Corporate Worship Leading, building our Ministerial Handbook (1/2 hour)

Required Texts

Henry T. Blackaby & Richard Blackaby. **Spiritual Leadership: Moving People on to God's Agenda**, Revised and Expanded. (May 2011, B&H Books.)

Karl Vaters. **Small Church Essentials: Field-Tested Principles for Leading a Healthy Congregation of Under 250**. (March 2018, Moody Publishers)

Kevin Walden. **Pastoral Leadership Case Studies**. (Posted in the Google classroom)

Course Requirements

1. Watch **video lectures** during the week and be prepared for classroom discussion.
2. Respond to two **Google classroom Board discussions** on the lecture materials each week. This includes replying to other students' input as well.
3. Attend the **weekly online classroom discussion** and participate in the classroom discussion. For the lecture materials, each student should be prepared to share at least one "insight" and/or "question" you have after watching the lectures. For the Case Study, each student should be prepared to share one "question" or "strategy" to understand and address the problem of the case study.
4. Complete the **weekly reading assignments** in the Google classroom.
5. Submit the weekly "draft" compositions of the section of the **Ministerial Handbook**. After receiving feedback, it can be revised and put into a final form for final submission at the conclusion of the course.

Grading

A final grade will be calculated based on the following:

Classroom attendance and participation – 10%
Google Discussion Board Submissions – 30%
Reading Assignments Homework – 20%
Ministerial Handbook – 40%

Grades to be assigned at the end of class shall be:

A+ = 97-100	A = 93-96
B+ = 89-92	B = 85-88
C+ = 81-84	C = 77-80
D+ = 73-76	D = 69-72
Not Passing = 68 and below	

Academic Policies

Plagiarism policy:

A.C.T.S. defines Plagiarism as "using someone's ideas, words, or data, without proper acknowledgement, as one's own original work." To avoid plagiarism, you must 1) cite the original author every time you use his or her exact written or spoken word (by enclosing them with quotation marks if fewer than four lines or indenting as a block quote if four or more lines) or 2) paraphrase someone's written or spoken words and recognize the author/source in the body of the text or as a footnote. Plagiarism is an act of dishonesty and violation of academic integrity.

If an Instructor determines that an act of plagiarism has occurred, after talking with the student, the Academic Dean will be notified. Possible consequences will be considered, including: a failing grade for the work, a failing grade for the entire course, asking the student to redo the assignment, etc.

Late Assignment Policy:

Assignments should be posted to the Google Classroom by Friday 11:59PM (your local time zone) unless otherwise stated. Late assignments for weeks 1- 4 will be accepted after the due date and up until Saturday, Sept. 17th, but will be reduced by a ½ letter grade for each week it is late. Late assignments for weeks 5-7 will be accepted after the due date and up until 2 weeks after the close of the class but will be reduced by a ½ letter grade for each week it is late.

Revision policy:

A student can revise any assignments submitted in the Google classroom up until the due date. Any revision(s) after the due date can be accepted according to the late assignment policy. At the end semester, a student may submit a revision of the *Ministerial Handbook* for up to 2 weeks at the end of the course, until the final grades are submitted to the Academic Dean.

Course schedule

Week One (Week of August 14th / Class Saturday August 20th @ 8-10AM)

1. **Lectures:** Listen to three lectures on *Spiritual Leadership* before the Saturday am class and be prepared to discuss the content in the class on Saturday 8AM.
2. **Reading Assignments and Homework:** Read *Spiritual Leadership*, chapters 1-3 (pp. 1-84). Complete the homework summary assignment in the Google classroom.
3. **Google Discussion Board:** Participate in 2 discussion questions for the week. The discussion questions (based on the lecture content) will be posted by Sunday (8/14) and must be responded to by Friday (8/19) evening.
4. **Case Study:** Read Case Study #1 and be prepared to discuss it during our classroom time
5. **Ministerial Handbook:** Compose a 2-page *draft* of your “My Understanding of Spiritual Leadership,” and submit it in the google classroom by Friday, August 26th.

Week Two (Week of August 21st / Class Saturday August 27th @ 8-10AM)

1. **Lectures:** Listen to three lectures on *Leading the Church as Shepherd* before the Saturday am class and be prepared to discuss the content in the class on Saturday 8AM.
2. **Reading Assignments and Homework:** Read *Spiritual Leadership*, chapters 4-6 (pp. 85-180). Complete the homework summary assignment in the Google classroom.
3. **Google Discussion Board:** Participate in 2 discussion questions for the week. The discussion questions (based on the lecture content) will be posted by Sunday (8/21) and must be responded to by Friday (8/26) evening.
4. **Case Study:** Read Case Studies #2-3 and be prepared to discuss it during our classroom time
5. **Ministerial Handbook:** Compose a 2-page *draft* of your “My Call to Ministry,” submit it in the google classroom by Friday, Sept. 2nd.

Week Three (Week of August 27th / Class Saturday September 3rd @ 8-10AM)

1. **Lectures:** Listen to three lectures on *Leading Change in the Church* before the Saturday am class and be prepared to discuss the content in the class on Saturday 8AM.
2. **Reading Assignments and Homework:** Read *Spiritual Leadership*, chapter 7 (pp. 181-217) and *Small Church Essentials*, Parts 1-2 (pp. 17- 96). Complete the homework

summary assignment in the Google classroom.

3. **Google Discussion Board:** Participate in 2 discussion questions for the week. The discussion questions (based on the lecture content) will be posted by Sunday (8/28) and must be responded to by Friday (9/2) evening.
4. **Case Study:** Read Case Studies #3-4 and be prepared to discuss it during our classroom time
5. **Ministerial Handbook:** Compose a 2-page *draft* of your “Detailed Service Order for Worship Service,” and submit it in the google classroom by Friday, Sept. 9th.

Week Four (Week of September 4th / Class Saturday September 10th @ 8-10AM)

1. **Lectures:** Listen to three lectures on ***Strategic and Visionary Leadership*** before the Saturday am class and be prepared to discuss the content in the class on Saturday 8AM.
2. **Reading Assignments and Homework:** Read ***Spiritual Leadership***, chapter 8 (pp. 219-242) and ***Small Church Essentials***, Part 3 – chapter 9 (pp. 99-132). Complete the homework summary assignment in the Google classroom.
3. **Google Discussion Board:** Participate in 2 discussion questions for the week. The discussion questions (based on the lecture content) will be posted by Sunday (9/4) and must be responded to by Friday (9/10) evening.
4. **Case Study:** Read Case Study #5-6 and be prepared to discuss it during our classroom time
5. **Ministerial Handbook:** Compose a 2-page *draft* of your “Preparing a Couple for a Baby Dedication” and “Words of Institution/Blessing for a Baby Dedication” and submit it in the google classroom by Friday, Sept. 17th.

NO LECTURES for the week of September 11th or CLASS on Saturday 17th.

Please use this week to catch up on reading and assignments as necessary or get ahead.

Week Five (Week of September 18th / Class Saturday September 24th @ 8-10AM)

1. **Lectures:** Listen to three lectures on ***Leading Change in the Church*** before the Saturday am class and be prepared to discuss the content in the class on Saturday 8AM.
2. **Reading Assignments and Homework:** Read ***Spiritual Leadership***, chapter 9 (pp. 243-274) and ***Small Church Essentials***, Part 3 – chapter 10-12 (pp. 133-188). Complete the homework summary assignment in the Google classroom.
3. **Google Discussion Board:** Participate in 2 discussion questions for the week. The discussion questions (based on the lecture content) will be posted by Sunday (9/18) and must be responded to by Friday (9/24) evening.
4. **Case Study:** Read Case Studies 7-8 and be prepared to discuss it during our classroom time
5. **Ministerial Handbook:** Compose a 2-page *draft* of your “Preparing a Person for Believer’s Baptism” and “Words of Institution/Service for a Believer’s Baptism” and submit it in the google classroom by Friday, September 30th.

Week Six (Week of September 25th / Class Saturday October 1st @ 8-10AM)

1. **Lectures:** Listen to three lectures on ***Leading In Times of Conflict*** before the Saturday am class and be prepared to discuss the content in the class on Saturday 8AM.
2. **Reading Assignments and Homework:** Read ***Spiritual Leadership***, chapter 10-11 (pp. 275-312) and ***Small Church Essentials***, Part 4 – chapter 13-14 (pp. 191-218). Complete the homework summary assignment in the Google classroom.
3. **Google Discussion Board:** Participate in 2 discussion questions for the week. The discussion questions (based on the lecture content) will be posted by Sunday (9/25) and must be responded to by Friday (9/30) evening.
4. **Case Study:** Read Case Studies 9-10 and be prepared to discuss it during our classroom time
5. **Ministerial Handbook:** Compose a 2-page *draft* of your “Preparing a Couple for a Wedding/Marriage” and “Complete Wedding Service” submit it in the google classroom by Friday, October 7th.

Week Seven (Week of October 2nd / Class Saturday October 7th @ 8-10AM)

6. **Lectures:** Listen to three lectures on ***Self-Leadership and Building Relationships for Spiritual Transformation*** before the Saturday am class and be prepared to discuss the content in the class on Saturday 8AM.
7. **Reading Assignments and Homework:** Read ***Spiritual Leadership***, chapter 12-13 (pp. 313-373) and ***Small Church Essentials***, Part 4 – chapter 15-16 (pp. 219-252). Complete the homework summary assignment in the Google classroom.
8. **Google Discussion Board:** Participate in 2 discussion questions for the week. The discussion questions (based on the lecture content) will be posted by Sunday (10/2) and must be responded to by Friday (10/6) evening.
9. **Case Study:** We will catch up or review any remaining case studies.
10. **Ministerial Handbook:** Compose a 2-page *draft* of your “Preparing for a Funeral” and “Complete Funeral and Graveside Services” submit it in the google classroom by Friday, October 14th.

BY OCTOBER 21st the FINAL Draft of the ***Ministerial Handbook*** must be submitted to the Google classroom and any remaining work from weeks 5-7 will be accepted according to the late submission policy.