

BEACON UNIVERSITY

6003 Veterans Parkway, Columbus, GA 31909

SYLLABUS

- I. COURSE TITLE:** Pastoral Ministries PRT 301
- II. COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This course will review the nature of the church in the New Testament. Serious attention will be given to the various roles of the pastor/minister within the local church setting. Further attention will be given to specific aspects of worship and ministry- i.e. baptism, Lords Supper, weddings, etc.
- III. COURSE PREREQUISITES:** None
- IV. COURSE OBJECTIVES:** Upon completion of the course the student will be able to:
- A. Establish personal goals in local church ministry.
 - B. Prioritize objectives by utilizing time management.
 - C. State clearly a theology of baptism and the Lord's Supper.
 - D. Plan and officiate weddings and funeral services.
 - E. Coordinate preaching, teaching, and worship ministries.
- V. COURSE OUTLINE:**

Video lectures:

- 1. Handout syllabus and review class expectations.
- 2. What does it mean 'To be called by God- into ministry'?
- 3. Expectations in Ministry
- 4. Expectations in Ministry (cont.)
- 5. Maintenance Ministry or Visionary Leadership
- 6. Maintenance Ministry of Visionary Leadership (cont.)
- 7. Maintaining Balance in Ministry
- 8. Maintaining Balance in Ministry (cont.)
- 9. Leadership and Administration Issues
- 10. Leadership and Administration Issues (cont.)
- 11. Worship
- 12. Worship (cont.)
- 13. Baptism and the Lord's Supper
- 14. Baptism and the Lord's Supper (cont.)
- 15. Weddings and Funerals - Before, During, and After
- 16. Weddings and Funerals (cont.)
- 17. Preaching and Teaching Ministries
- 18. Preaching and Teaching Ministries (cont.)
- 19. Pastoral Visitation and Counsel

20. Pastoral Visitation and Counsel (cont.)

| Module | Dates | Assignments |
|----------|---------------------|--|
| Module 1 | Jan 12 – 25 | Video sessions 1-3, Discussion Forum 1 |
| Module 2 | Jan 26 – Feb 8 | Video sessions 4-6, Discussion Forum 2 |
| Module 3 | Feb 9 – 22 | Video sessions 7-8, Discussion Forum 3, <i>Oden</i> report |
| Module 4 | Feb 23 – March 8 | Video session 9-11, Discussion Forum 4, Notes for sessions #1-10 |
| Module 5 | March 9 – 22 | Video sessions 12-13, Discussion Forum 5 |
| Module 6 | March 30 – April 12 | Video sessions 14-16, Discussion Forum 6, <i>Willimon</i> report |
| Module 7 | April 13 – 26 | Video sessions 17-18, Discussion Forum 7, Case Study |
| Module 8 | April 27 – May 8 | Video session 19-20, Discussion Forum 8, Notes for sessions #11-20 |

VI. COURSE METHOD:

- A. General Method: Class sessions will include the presentation of lecture material as video presentations. There will also be an opportunity to discuss relevant issues of pastoral ministries on the online discussion forums. Work outside of class will focus on reading assignments and brief written responses to those reading assignments.
- B. Online Method: The uniqueness of distance learning necessitates unique learning experiences and methods. The power of an online course management system like Moodle makes unique assessment methods possible. As a result, this online course will follow the module schedule above. Grades will be given for the viewing of video sessions, the completion of written assignments, and exams. In each case, the deadline will be midnight on the last day of the module.

VII. COURSE TEXTS:

- A. Oden, Thomas C. *Pastoral Theology: Essentials of Ministry*. York: Harper and Row, 1983.
- B. Willimon, William. *Pastor: The Theology and Practice of Ordained Ministry*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2002.

VIII. COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

- A. **Video Lectures & Notes**
 - 1. All 20 video lectures by Dr. Calhoun are to be viewed, taking notes as you view.
 - 2. Submit a copy of your typewritten notes in two sets: Notes for video sessions #1-10 at the end of the fourth module, and notes for video sessions #11-20 at the end of the eighth module.
- B. **Discussion Forums**

1. Each module will include a discussion forum question posed by the instructor. Every student is required to post a response to the questions and to respond to at least one other student response.
2. Forum participation will be graded according to the quality of critical thinking and the correctness of language usage. A grade will be posted the week following the Module assignment.

C. Book Reports on the texts by Oden and Willimon.

1. Each book report is to be a minimum of 1,000 words.
2. The Oden report is due by the end of the third module.
3. The Willimon report is by the end of the sixth module.
4. Prepared according to Turabian's A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations, 7th ed.

D. Case Study

1. Interview a pastoral leader concerning an issue they have wrestled with, determining the nature of the issue, root causes, related issues, possible decision-making and conflict-resolution strategies, and lessons learned.
2. Research background material that might be relevant to this issue.
3. Write a case study describing the pastoral issue as presented by the pastor and from your research. Include a reflection on the lessons you have learned and how you might apply those lessons.
4. This case study must be a minimum of 2,000 words and follow the Turabian guidelines.
5. The case study is due at the end of the seventh module.

IX. COURSE EVALUATION:

A. Grades:

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| Discussion Forums | 15% |
| Lecture Notes | 20% |
| Book Review of Oden's Text | 20% |
| Book Review of Willimon's Text | 20% |
| Case Study | <u>25%</u> |
| | 100% |

- B. Attendance & Late Grades:** Regular, successful and punctual attendance is expected of all students enrolled. The student who presents the instructor with an adequate and documented reason for an absence will be given an opportunity to make up the work. Adequate reasons involve circumstances beyond the student's control. It is the responsibility of the student to make the necessary arrangements to make up missed assignments, including exams. If an adequate reason is not given and/or arrangements are not made, the grade for the assignment/exam may be reduced.

- C. Beacon University Plagiarism Policy:** According to the American Heritage Dictionary, 2nd College Edition, plagiarism is defined as taking and using “as one’s own the writings or ideas of another.” Plagiarism shall include failure to use quotation marks or other conventional markings around material quoted from another source. Plagiarism shall also include paraphrasing a specific passage from a source without indicating accurately what that source is. Plagiarism shall further include letting another person compose or rewrite a student’s written assignment. Students found guilty of academic dishonesty will be subject to a range of penalties up to, and including, dismissal from the University. All incidents of academic dishonesty are to be reported by the faculty member to the Academic Vice President.

X. COURSE PROFESSOR:

Name: Larry Asplund

Degrees:

B.A., Philosophy and Biblical Studies

M.A., Biblical Literature

D.Min., Leadership and Spiritual Formation

Faculty Rank: Assistant Professor

Office Phone: 706.323.5364. ex. 256

E-Mail: larry.asplund@beacon.edu; lkageorgia@gmail.com

Office Hours on Campus: 8-5, Monday through Friday

XI. COURSE BIBLIOGRAPHY:

- Arthur, William J. The Morality of Leadership. Columbus, Georgia: Columbus Productions, Inc., 1991.
- Covey, Stephen R. First Things First. New York: Simon and Schuster, 1994. The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People. New York: Simon and Schuster, 1939.
- Glasse, James. Putting It Together in the Parish. Nashville: Abingdon Press 1972.
- Oden, Thomas. Pastoral Theology. New York: Harper and Row, 1983.
- Peterson, Eugene and Marva Dawn. The Unnecessary Pastor. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 2000.
- Warren, Rick. The Purpose Driven Church. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan Publishing, 1995.