

## **NORTH PARK THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**

MNST 5130: Leading and Teaching in the Church (3 Semester Hours)

Fall Semester, 2017

DIRECTED STUDY

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### Course Description

This course is an examination of the nature and issues of Christian leadership and Christian education in the church. This course will introduce the tensions and dimensions of historical, theological, pedagogical foundations of Christian leadership and Christian education. Such elements as systems thinking, non-anxious leadership, change management, cross-cultural leadership, education theory, congregational learning, assessment, and holistic formation will be considered as they relate to clergy leading and teaching in the church.

### Course Methodology

Pastoral ministry requires a wide range of abilities and the application of a range of ministry tools. Leading and teaching in the church requires wisdom that combines valid theories, accurate knowledge, critical values, relevant skills, and practical experience. Developing into an effective pastor in God's kingdom is a life-long process that takes personal effort, mentoring and modeling by others, opportunities to exercise leadership, and the gracious and sovereign work of God. This course should aid you in that process, providing exposure to components that make up effective leadership and education in the church.

In this course, the goal is to model and experience many of the elements that contribute to good leadership and effective Christian education. Classes will include a mix of lectures with question and comment periods, case studies, guest lectures, and group presentations. Each class member will be expected to participate fully and responsibly and to prepare for class topics and assignments through reading and reflection.

### Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, participants should

- understand the challenges for Christian leadership and formative education.
- articulate a practical philosophy of Christian leadership and Christian education in the church, which is grounded in the theological and social sciences.
- rehearse major theories and dimensions of organizational culture as it relates to Christian leadership and Christian education.

### Required Texts

Crain, Margaret Ann Crain, Joseph Crockett and Jack Seymour. *Educating Christians: The Intersection of Meaning, Learning and Vocation* (Abingdon Press, 1993).

Hall, Douglas A. with Judy Hall and Steve Daman. *The Cat and the Toaster: Living System Ministry in a Technological Age* (Wipf & Stock, 2010).

Robinson, Natasha Sistrunk. *Mentor for Life: Finding Purpose through Intentional Discipleship* (Zondervan, 2016).

Additional readings (articles / chapters) will be posted on Moodle.

200 pages of additional reading required for the final project. See bibliography.

### Course Assignments

Late written assignments receive a 5% grade deduction per full day; unexcused lack of readiness for a presentation will receive a 25% grade reduction and alternate way to complete the assignment. While it is expected that a number of resources will be used in preparation for course assignments, it is also expected that research findings will be authentic, submitted work will be original, and all sources used will be acknowledged. Students will need to use the internet to access the course Moodle site and some on-line readings.

I. **Participation and Engagement (10%)**

Review of all online material and reading of all required texts (reading log will be submitted with your final paper). See Appendix I.

II. **Interview of Minister (25%)**

Interview a credentialed, full-time church minister concerning various issues raised in this course. Write a 1200 word "Profile of a Leader" paper. See Appendix II.

III. **Reflection / Blog on a ministry or Christian leadership case study (25%)**

Submit a blog-style reflection of 750-1000 words on a ministry case. Describe a scenario in a church setting that reveals a challenge for Christian leadership or Christian education. Offer a reflection based upon key concepts raised in the course and an application to the key issues raised in the case study. See Appendix III.

IV. **Create a Sunday School / Small Group Lesson Plan on Leadership (40%)**

The final project will present a Sunday School or Small Group lesson plan that examines the context of ministry, theological concepts, and the method of teaching that provides a lesson plan on the topic of church leadership.

### Course Topics (Subject to Change)

The Formation of a Leader  
Theology of Teaching and Learning  
Understanding Structures and Systems  
Systems Thinking  
Dysfunctional Systems vs. Healthy Churches  
Non-Anxious Leadership  
Holistic Formation and Leadership  
Body of Christ as a Learning Organization  
Curriculum Development  
Church Discipline (Case Study)  
Christian Education Principles  
Practical Aspects of Christian Education  
Cross-Cultural Leadership  
Practical Aspects of Christian Education

### Bibliography

Arbinger Institute. *Leadership and Self-Deception* (Berrett-Koehler Publishers, 2000).

Branson, Mark Lau and Juan Martinez. *Churches, Cultures and Leadership* (IVP Academic, 2011).

Cahalan, Kathleen. *Introducing the Practice of Ministry* (Liturgical Press, 2010).

Chan, Simon. *Spiritual Theology: A Systematic Study of the Christian Life* (IVP Books, 1998).

Cherry, Ellen. *By the Renewing of Your Minds* (Oxford, 1997).

Chin, Peter. *Blindsided by God* (Bethany House, 2015).

Clinton, J. Robert. *The Making of a Leader* (Nav Press, 2012).

Conde-Frazier, Elizabeth and Steven Kang. *A Many Colored Kingdom* (Baker Academic, 2004).

Dykstra, Craig. 2005. *Growing in the Life of Faith* (Westminster John Knox Press, 2005).

Freire, Paulo. *Pedagogy of the Oppressed* (Continuum, 1970).

Friedman, Edwin. *Generation to Generation* (The Guilford Press, 1985).

Hansen, David. *The Art of Pastoring* (InterVarsity Press, 1994).

Harris, Maria. *Fashion Me a People: Curriculum in the Church* (Westminster/John Knox, 1989).

Hawkinson, James R. and Robert K. Johnston (eds.). *Servant Leadership: Volumes I & II* (Covenant Publications, 1993).

Heifetz, Ronald. *Leadership Without Easy Answers* (Belknap Press, 1994).

Johnson, Alan. *How I Changed My Mind About Women in Leadership* (Zondervan, 2010).

Kim, Matthew. *Seven Lessons for New Pastors* (Chalice Press, 2012).

Kouzes, James and Barry Posner. *The Leadership Challenge, 4th ed.* (Jossey-Bass, 2006).

Law, Eric. *The Wolf Shall Dwell with the Lamb* (Chalice Press, 1993).

Lee, Boyung. *Transforming Congregations through Community* (Westminster John Knox, 2013).

Little, Sara. *To Set One's Heart: Belief and Teaching in the Church* (John Knox Press, 1983).

Malphurs, Aubrey. *Values-Driven Leadership* (Baker, 2004).

Moore, Mary Elizabeth Mullino. *Teaching from the Heart* (Fortress Press, 1991).

Nouwen, Henri. *In the Name of Jesus* (Crossroad, 1993).

Palmer, Parker. *The Courage to Teach, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition* (Jossey-Bass, 2007).

Rah, Soong-Chan. *Many Colors* (Moody Press, 2010).

----- *The Next Evangelicalism* (IVP Books, 2009).

----- *Prophetic Lament* (IVP Books, 2015).

Rose, Sylvia. *Rise Up: A Call to Leadership for African American Women* (IVP Books, 2004).

Saxton, Jo. *More Than Enchanting* (IVP Books, 2012).

Scazerro, Peter. *The Emotionally Healthy Church* (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2003).

Schwarz, Christian. *Natural Church Development* (ChurchSmart Resources, 1996).

Senge, Peter. *The Fifth Discipline* (Doubleday, 1990).

Seymour, Jack. ed. *Mapping Christian Education* (Abingdon Press, 1997).

Shawchuck, Norman & Roger Heuser. *Managing the Congregation* (Abingdon, 1996).

Shigematsu, Ken. *God in My Everything* (Zondervan, 2013).

Smith, Efrem. *Jump* (David C. Cook, 2010).

Steinke, Peter. *Congregational Leadership in Anxious Times* (The Alban Institute, 2006).

----- *Healthy Congregations: A Systems Approach* (The Alban Institute, 2006).

Thurman, Howard. *Jesus and the Disinherited* (Beacon Press, 1996).

Tokunaga, Paul. *Invitation to Lead* (InterVarsity Press, 2003).

Truax, Laura Sumner. *Undone* (IVP Books, 2013).

Twiss, Richard. *Rescuing The Gospel from the Cowboys* (IVP Books, 2015).

Vella, Jane. *Learning to Listen, Learning to Teach* (Jossey-Bass, 2002).

Weems, Renita J. *Listening for God* (Touchstone, 1999).

Willhauk, Susan and Jacquelyn Thorpe. *The Web of Women's Leadership* (Abingdon Press, 2001).

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