

Syllabus for APPLIED MINISTRY: THEOLOGY

Course 44910, Fall Semester, 2010

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I. Introduction

In addition to a *field* supervisor, all Applied Ministry students will have a *faculty* supervisor. In most cases, the student will receive faculty supervision from a professor in a classroom setting. This syllabus is designed primarily for students receiving their faculty supervision in a classroom setting. However, faculty supervisors in all settings (including faculty supervisors at extensions and faculty who are providing individual supervision of students) will also be using (and in some cases modifying) this syllabus. **In addition to this syllabus, the student must also read and follow the *Applied Ministry Handbook*. NOTE: There are decisions about a ministry assignment and forms from the Handbook to be signed *prior* to the first class session. These completed forms should be brought to the first class session.**

II. Course Description

Through lectures, class discussions, and assignments about practical ministry, this course is designed to facilitate the faculty supervision component of Applied Ministry.

III. Degree Program Outcome Relevant to this Course

The student will understand his/her calling in vocational ministry through practical experience.

IV. Student Learning Objectives

- A. The student has had ministerial experience in areas of his/her intended field of service under supervision by qualified ministers. This objective will be evaluated by the student's field supervisor on the basis of the student's conformity to the guidelines provided in the Applied Ministry Handbook.
- B. The student has become better equipped for effectiveness in the exercise of practical ministry skills. This objective will be evaluated primarily by the student's field supervisor on the basis of the student's conformity to the guidelines provided in the *Applied Ministry Handbook*, but also by the faculty supervisor on the basis of the assignments below regarding books and websites read, and papers written.
- C. The student has grown in his/her understanding of particular practical ministry skills. In addition to the general evaluation regarding this by the student's field supervisor as described above, this objective will be evaluated by the assignments below pertaining to books and websites read, and papers written.
- D. The student has received counsel from his faculty supervisor and coursemates regarding questions and difficulties in his/her Applied Ministry field project. This objective will be evaluated according to the replies of the student in the evaluation in the Applied Ministry Handbook he/she completes about his/her supervisory experience and according to the course evaluation given to the student at the end of the course by the professor.

V. Required Texts

- *The Bible*, especially the Proverbs and the Pastoral Epistles.
- Biehl, Bobb. *Leading with Confidence*. Lake Mary, Fla.: Aylen, 2005. [Available only from the SBTS bookstore or www.Aylen.com, 800-443-1976.]
- Thomas, Curtis. *Practical Wisdom for Pastors*. Wheaton, Ill.: Crossway, 2001. ISBN: 1581342527.

VI. Grades

- A. In most cases, the final grade recommended by the field supervisor is the actual grade assigned to the student. However, the official grade is ultimately determined by the student's faculty supervisor. The faculty supervisor determines the final grade after reviewing the recommendation from the field supervisor, considering any special circumstances which might be relevant, and evaluating the student's performance in the class. Class performance includes the student's attendance, attitude, participation, and assignments. Therefore, the work done for the faculty supervisor does impact the student's overall grade for Applied Ministry.
- B. Every assignment on this syllabus is pass/fail. A failed assignment will reduce the possible final grade by one half letter. Thus a student who otherwise would have received an A for the course would now receive an A- because of the failed assignment. A student who would have received an A- would now receive a B+, etc.

VII. Assignments

- A. Read the book of Proverbs and the Pastoral Epistles (that is, 1 and 2 Timothy, and Titus). Upon your completion of this assignment, submit a sheet of paper upon which.
 - 1. you report that you have read the entirety of each of these books, and . . .
 - 2. you list your Personal Development Goals (copied from your "Personal Development Goals Agreement form in the *Applied Ministry Handbook*), to which you include the text (and not just the references) of three verses from these Bible books which you have prayerfully sought to apply to your Personal Development Goals, and . . .
 - 3. you state your Field Ministry Project (copied from your "Field Ministry Project" form), to which you include the text (and not just the references) of three verses from these Bible books which you have prayerfully sought to apply to your Field Ministry Project.
 - 4. Ideally, these six verses would be ones you have used as a basis of prayer for your Personal Development Goals and your Field Ministry Project on many occasions throughout the semester.
- B. Read the entirety of Bobb Biehl's *Leading with Confidence*. Upon completion of this assignment, write a paper of at least five pages. The paper should include the following:
 - 1. Your reflections upon/interaction with the two chapters that were the most applicable and helpful to your Applied Ministry experience. Explain why you chose these two chapters. How did these chapters help you to see and/or do things differently?
 - 2. A list of your Personal Development Goals, with at least three questions underneath each goal. These should be questions taken from Biehl's book which have helped you in thinking about and pursuing your Personal Development Goals.
 - 3. A list of at least ten questions, useful in your ongoing evaluation of or in the actual execution of your Field Ministry Project. These questions may be taken or adapted from Biehl's book, and/or developed on your own. These may be questions you would ask yourself and/or

questions you would ask others. These should be questions you would find useful throughout the accomplishment of your Field Ministry Project.

- C. Read the entirety of Curtis Thomas' *Practical Wisdom for Pastors*. Upon completion of this assignment, write a paper of at least five pages. The paper should include the following:
1. Reflection/interaction with the two of the ten sections (not chapters) in the book that were the most applicable and helpful to your Applied Ministry experience. Explain why you chose these two sections. How did these sections help you to see and/or do things differently?
- D. Write a two-page paper after your experience with one of the following websites:
- IX Marks Ministries (www.9marks.org)
 - AlbertMohler.com (www.AlbertMohler.com)
 - The Center for Biblical Spirituality (www.BiblicalSpirituality.org)
 - The Council on Biblical Manhood and Womanhood (www.cbmw.org)
 - Crown Financial Ministries Pastor's Corner (www.crown.org/pastorsCorner/ArticleListing.asp)
 - Desiring God Ministries (www.DesiringGod.org)
 - Discipleship Library (www.discipleshiplibrary.com). Check the "Topics" button. Theologically quite mixed; especially see topics such as "Church" and "Disciplemaking."
 - Grace to You (<http://gracetoyou.org/resources.php>)
 - Kairos Journal (www.kairosjournal.org)
 - The NET Bible (www.Bible.org)
 - Peacemakers Ministries (www.HisPeace.org)
 - Setting Captives Free (www.SettingCaptivesFree.com), Pure Life Ministries (www.PureLifeMinistries.org), or other ministries dealing with sexual purity, pornography, etc. Note that some of these may advocate authors, doctrinal positions (e.g., charismatic), etc., that require caution.
 - Instead of one of the websites above, you may substitute a similar website designed to help with pastoral ministry, but only after approval by your faculty supervisor.
1. In the paper you should affirm that you spent at least ninety (90) minutes exploring the website.
 2. You should list the names (but not the URLs) of the articles you read.
 3. You should reflect/comment on the usefulness of the website (and these articles in particular) to your Field Ministry Project and/or your Personal Development Goals.
- E. Include on the cover page of every assignment your name, SBTS box number (if applicable), email address, and phone number(s).
- F. According to seminary protocol, "All students are required to affirm their academic integrity when submitting all course work with the following statement, signed by the student: *On my honor, I have neither given nor taken improper assistance in completing this assignment.*" This statement and signature should appear on the final page of each assignment submitted. When the student submits forms from the Applied Ministry Handbook, the student may write the statement by hand and submit it along with his signature on one of the margins on the front of the final page of the form.
- G. These papers will be due on the dates assigned. Late papers are subject to a failing grade on the "pass/fail" scale.
- H. You may wish to submit copies of some of or all the papers to your field supervisor for his or her input, as well as to provide a basis of discussion for your field supervision meetings.

VIII. Miscellaneous

- A. All the textbooks are on reserve in the library. In your studies this term, take advantage of our seminary library. New resources related to this course are added to the library regularly. You will find that the personnel at our library serve our seminary community willingly and well.
- B. In order to ensure full class participation, any student with a disabling condition requiring special accommodations (e.g., tape recorders, special adaptive equipment, special note-taking or test-taking needs) should contact the professor or his Garrett Fellow at the beginning of the course.
- C. Before recording, students must complete and submit the following request form to the professor:

I, _____ (student name) _____, will record _____ (class sessions) _____ and agree that I will not reproduce, distribute, or sell electronic recordings of class sessions.

Signature of Student, Date