Biblical Theology of Leadership  
CL/NT/OT 574  
Syllabus/Learning Covenant  
Spring-2012

*Note: A significant amount of course work is required before the intensive class begins*

Course Instructor: Dr. Tim Laniak  
Class Meeting Times: Feb. 3-4; Mar. 2-3; Mar. 30-31  
Syllabus Date: December, 2012

I. Course Description  
This course explores the foundational teachings and primary metaphors of leadership in the Bible. These teachings and metaphors are understood in the context of God’s larger calling on the covenant community in redemptive history. Some attention is also given to contemporary metaphors for ministry.

II. Course Relationship to the Curriculum  
NT/OT/CL518 is the bridge between Bible content surveys and the focused study of ministry and leadership.

III. Course Objectives  
For students to:
1. Value the importance of biblical theology, i.e., understanding biblical concepts exegetically and within the context of progressive revelation.  
2. Understand the primary biblical themes and metaphors related to church and ministry.  
3. Build a biblical theology of leadership.

IV. Course Textbooks and Reading  
Laniak, T. S. Shepherds After My Own Heart. Downers Grove, IL: IVP, 2006. 0830826211  
Clarke, A. D. Serve the Community of the Church. Grand Rapids: Erdmann’s, 2000. 0802841821  

Supplementary reading on Biblical Theology:  
V. Course Requirements and Grading

1. Write a 3-5 page **critical reflection** (critique) on each of four required textbooks: Clarke, Fernando, and Laniak (Shepherds-IVP and Shame and Honor). **At the beginning of each critique, note the pages read, including those in McNeal and the CDEL resource.** Together, these critiques are worth **20%** of the final grade.

A critical reflection or critique is not a book report or a summary of what you felt while reading; rather, it thoughtfully engages a number of the book’s key topics and perhaps its structure, noting weaknesses and strengths. Criticisms and reflections should encompass biblical, ecclesial, personal, and/or logical issues with balance. You are assessing the book on the basis of what it purports to deliver, not what you would like it to be. Please check with Dr. Mayer’s materials on critical reading for more detail. **Critiques are due in hard copy form, stapled separately.**

2. Write an 8-10 page **case study** on a biblical character or metaphor and be prepared to make a 10-12 minute (maximum) summary presentation in class. The case study investigates the biblical data exegetically and presents principles on leadership that emerge. Use appropriate exegetical secondary sources. Note which Bible translations you quote. This case study and presentation is worth **30%** of the final grade. There will be faculty and peer feedback on the quality of the presentation. **All case studies should be turned in electronically by email (not through CAMS or SAKAI) to the professor on or before the day of presentation. Name the file as in the following example (name-topic-term-campus): “SmithJohn-Saul-Sp12 CLT.doc”**

3. Write an 18-20 page paper (1” margins, 12 pt font, excluding bibliography) on your biblical theology of leadership. **(See Grading Rubric below)** Worth **50%** of the final grade, this essay is meant to be a summary of several *key principles* that surface repeatedly across Scripture. Be specific with your principles and provide lots of examples and references from various genres. Use appropriate secondary sources. Note which Bible translations you quote. **All papers must be double-spaced with a minimum of 1” margins and 12 point font. The page length includes bibliography. Please consult the most recent version of the Turabian style guide for all questions related to form and style.**

*Please note: Exceeding the page limits on any assignment will result in a diminished grade.*

**Grades**

Letter grades for all work assumes the following standard guidelines:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Excellent Work</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Good Work</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Satisfactory Work</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Inferior Work</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Failure</td>
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Note: All incompletes (I) and withdrawals (W) must meet the deadlines and guidelines of the Registrar’s office and the school catalogue.

(Pluses and minuses are given except in the case of A+)

VI. Course Administration

**Late Penalties**

A **late penalty of 1/3 letter grade per day** will be assessed on work submitted after due dates, unless the work is already discussed in class. In such cases alternative assignments will be given.
VII. Course Outline

Due on February 3
Read Part 1 (pp. 1-70) of McNeal’s *Work of Heart*
Read Laniak’s *Summary of Biblical Leadership* on the CDEL CD-ROM
Read pp. 1-114 of Laniak’s *Shepherds After My Own Heart*

Weekend 1
Introduction to Biblical Theology as a Foundational Discipline
   The Centrality of Narrative and the Role of Characters and Crises
   The “Case Study” Approach (Esther)
   The Significance of Metaphor
General Overview of Leadership in the Bible
   Discussion of CDEL resources; nature of “critical reflections”
The Image of God and Human Leadership (fundamental tensions)
   Ruling as Stewardship (Authority and Service)
   Human Talent and the Breath/Spirit of God, Calling, and Gifting
   Solitary/Hierarchical and Plural/Shared Leadership
   Gender
   The Covenant Community and the Meta-narrative of Scripture
Sample Case Studies in Community and Leadership

Due on March 3
Finish Laniak’s *Shepherds After My Own Heart*; Critical Reflection due
Read Laniak’s *Shame and Honor in the Book of Esther*; Critical Reflection due
Case Study Presentations due (for some)

Weekend 2
The Importance of Metaphor for Theology and Ministry
Case Study in Shepherd Leadership
   Nurture
   Protection
   Guidance
Student Case Study Presentations

Due on March 30
Read all of Ford’s *Transforming Leadership*; Critical Reflection due
Read all of Clarke’s *Serve the Community of the Church*; Critical Reflection due
Case Study Presentations due (for remainder)

Weekend 3
Student Case Study Presentations
Discussion: Contemporary Images of Leadership and Community

Due on April 30
Biblical Theology of Leadership Paper
Research Paper Grading Rubric

The following is a grading rubric that will be used to score your final paper. Use this during the drafting process to evaluate how well you have satisfied all criteria.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category and Criteria</th>
<th>Possible Points</th>
<th>Score</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thesis and Content</strong></td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Thesis is clear and significant</td>
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<td>• Thesis is supported throughout</td>
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<td>• Content is interesting and insightful</td>
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<td>• Argument is logical and theoretically sound</td>
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<td>• Essay satisfies the purpose of the assignment</td>
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<td><strong>Supporting Evidence and Citations</strong></td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Good use of a variety of sources</td>
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<td>• Evidence supports the main idea of each paragraph and the central thesis of the essay</td>
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<td>• Source material is properly cited</td>
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<td>• Effective use of paraphrase and direct quotations</td>
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<td><strong>Organization and Paragraph Unity</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Essay is logically organized</td>
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<td>• Introduction effectively introduces the topic and thesis</td>
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<td>• Body paragraphs are unified by a single idea and smoothly transition to one another</td>
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<td>• Conclusion satisfactorily answers the question “So what”?</td>
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<td><strong>Style and Usage</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Sentences are well constructed</td>
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<td>• Style and tone are appropriate for the purpose and audience</td>
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<td>• Word use is appropriate for graduate-level writing</td>
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<td>• Prose reflects the author’s own voice</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Grammar and Mechanics</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Essay is free of grammatical errors</td>
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<td>• Essay is free of spelling errors</td>
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<td>• Essay is free of typographical errors</td>
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<td>• Essay is free of syntactical errors</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Essay is properly formatted</td>
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</tbody>
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100
Recommended Resources

Conn, H. M. Urban Ministry: the Kingdom, the City, & the People of God. Downers Grove, IL: 2001.
Grens, R. “Not 'Leaders' but 'Little Ones' in the Father's Kingdom: The Character of Discipleship in Matthew's Gospel.” (Off print on reserve)
Strauch, A. Biblical Eldership: An Urgent Call to Restore Biblical Church Leadership. Lewis and Roth, 1995
-- Biblical Eldership: Restoring Eldership to its Rightful Place in the Church. Lewis and Roth, 1997.
Academic Standards
Cheating and plagiarism are considered serious breaches of personal and academic integrity. Cheating involves, but is not necessarily limited to, the use of unauthorized sources of information during an examination or the submission of the same (or substantially same) work for credit in two or more courses without the knowledge and consent of the instructors. Plagiarism involves the use of another person’s distinctive ideas or words, whether published or unpublished, and representing them as one’s own instead of giving proper credit to the source. Plagiarism can also involve over dependence on other source material for the scope and substance of one’s writing. Such breaches in academic standards often result in a failing grade as well as other corrective measures. For more information, please consult the Student Handbook.

ADA Policy
The seminary complies with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act. A student with a qualifying and authenticated disability who is in need of accommodations, should petition the seminary in accordance with the stated guidelines in the Student Handbook.

Cancellation of Class
In the event the seminary has to cancel a class meeting (impending storm, professor illness, etc.), the Registration Office will send out an email (via the GCTS email account) notification to all students registered in the respective course. If the cancelation occurs the day of the scheduled meeting, the Registration Office will also attempt to contact students via their primary phone contact on record. The professor will contact the students (via GCTS account) regarding make-up. If a weekend class is cancelled, the class will be made up during the scheduled Make-Up weekend (see the academic calendar for the designated dates). For more info, consult your Student Handbook.

Extension Policy
Arrangements for submission of late work at a date on or before the “last day to submit written work”, as noted on the seminary’s Academic Calendar, are made between the student and professor. Formal petition to the Registration Office is not required at this time. This includes arrangements for the rescheduling of final exams.

However, course work (reading and written) to be submitted after the publicized calendar due date, must be approved by the Registration Office. An extension form, available online, must be submitted to the Registration Office prior to the “last day to submit written work.” Requests received after this date will either be denied or incur additional penalty. For a full discussion of this policy, please consult the Student Handbook.

Grades
Faculty have six weeks from the course work due date to submit a final grade. Grades are posted online within twenty-four hours of receipt from the professor. Students are expected to check their CAMS student portal in order to access posted grades. Those individuals, who need an official grade report issued to a third party, should put their request in writing to the Registration Office.

Returned Work
Submitted hard-copy course work will be returned to the student provided s/he provides a self addressed and postage paid envelope with his/her final work. Work submitted without the appropriate envelope will be destroyed once the grade has been assessed and issued.