



Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary-Charlotte
Project Course (CL 720) Petition
Philosophy of Leadership

Please read the catalog section on Project Courses and then note the following.

What is the Philosophy of Leadership Paper?

The Philosophy of Leadership Paper is your “doctrinal statement” concerning leadership. The paper’s purpose is to be a capstone of principles concerning leadership. The categories addressed would be: 1. The Person of the Leader and their impact upon leading 2. The Leaders world view and its impact upon working with culture and people (for instance what is your view concerning spiritual gifts, What is your theology of measurement? What is God asking us to measure? Not measure? What do you believe about church growth—church health? Why? Conversion and sanctification—what is our role as leaders in the process? The Role of the Holy Spirit? What do you believe about strategic planning? What is the role of : staff, volunteers, governing board? What do you believe about Leadership?

It is important to meet with Dr. Cooper for further clarification and categories.

What is a Project Course?

This guided research course in leadership is designed for a student to pursue a specific topic in of leadership by means of an in-depth research project based upon actual ministry experience or a proposed course of action if in charge of a ministry or ministry department. The project should incorporate a need for the project, the content and strategic plan on the implementation of the project and if possible, the results of its implementation. For instance, if one were to decide to develop a training manual on how to resolve conflicts among staff members in a church there would need to be a rationale as to why this is necessary; content to be covered in the training manual; sample lessons of how it would be taught and implemented and if possible results garnered from the actual participants of the training. The project should integrate firm theoretical and biblical perspectives with a student’s actual or proposed praxis of ministry.

Policies pertaining to Project Courses:

- ◆ **All Project courses require approval of Dr. Cooper and the Registrar before permission to register will be granted.** They are not ‘last minute’ possibilities. To avoid problems, requests should be made early; they will not be accepted after the last day of the Drop/Add period. In addition, at the directing professor’s discretion, a prerequisite course or courses may be required.
- ◆ **Philosophy/Project courses are subject to all the policies, deadlines, and procedures governing other ‘standard’ courses.** Philosophy/Project courses are only permitted during last year of the MACL program. (Fall and Spring). Special permission may be granted for a Summer Session course provided the student can justify why the course cannot be completed during normal semesters.

What do I need to include with this petition? (Dr. Cooper can assist you in this prep.)

- Details noting the number of times and approximate dates you will meet with the directing professor.
- A clear and concise description of the project
- "Personal Learning goals" form, which specifies intended purpose, a description of the work that will be undertaken, and expected measurements of the outcomes.

Procedures for developing your "Project Plan":

1. Develop a written proposal, including a rationale for the project, a description of the work that will be undertaken, and the anticipated outcomes. (Use attached chart as a starting point.) At the directing professor's discretion, a prerequisite course or courses may be required.
2. Identify at least four proposed times for appointments with the directing professor, as follows:
 - a. Project plan approval
 - b. Progress check at beginning – after 25% of hours
 - c. Mid-project – 50% of hours
 - d. At completion
 - e. Any other times you need help or feedback

Project Evaluation

The final product of the project course will be a well-written paper of 15-20 pages. In addition to the written text, artifacts created for the project such as notebooks, videos, and curriculum can be included. Projects will be graded on the ability of the student to do the following in the project.

- Provide a sufficient biblical and theological background to the area of ministry
- Discuss personal experiences or observations in ministry and resulting impact upon the student
- Explain personal readiness and shortcomings in the ministry area
- Demonstrate awareness of the key contributors to practice and models of ministry involved in the particular area
- Integrate previous seminary courses and readings into the practice of ministry.