I. Course Description
There are many roles that ministers play in the current context – teacher, preacher, administrator, pastor, shepherd, etc. However, a role that is increasingly desired in a congregational context is that of a leader. As the North American church leaves the context of Christendom behind and heads into a more missionary encounter with the culture, ministers need to gain experience in leading change. Making changes in congregations is a very complicated venture, requiring many different facets of leadership. In this course the elements of leadership in a Christian context will be examined from a biblical and historical basis. Particular focus will be upon self-understanding and what parts of leadership will be natural and which ones will need to be acquired.

II. Course Relationship to the Curriculum
The course in Leadership Seminary (MC 707) is ideally taken by students who are in the last year of their seminary studies. The course takes into consideration all the studies in exegesis, theology, history, and preaching—and challenges students to consider how their studies actually are applied in practical ministry.

III. Course Objectives
1) Learn how leadership can be practiced in the context of a congregation
2) Examine biblical and historical examples of leadership
3) Understand the difference in tactical and adaptive change and identify where each is needed.
4) Grow in awareness of personal leadership styles
5) Grasp the Christian character values needed for effective leadership

IV. Course Textbooks

Required:


Recommended:


**V. Course Requirements and Grading:**

1. Attendance is expected at all class periods
2. Students will read a minimum of 1,500 pages from all required texts reading. With the required reading, complete a one page reading report for each book you have read to meet the 1,500 page requirement. These reading reports should provide the title of the text, and the number of pages read. First, summarize the thesis of the book. Then identify the three best, most challenging, or most insightful ideas in each book and why: What will be different because these ideas have come to you? What actions will you take? What attitudes will you change? How will your ministry be different? Each report is to be typed: Single-spaced, 12 point type. **Due: Tuesday, December 3, 2013**

3. Historical Leadership Challenge: Prepare a case study on two “Leadership Challenges” from a real life through reading through a Christian biography like - Roland Bainton’s biography, *Here I Stand: A Life of Martin Luther* – or Eric Metaxas, Bonhoeffer (or another approved biography such as Colin Powell, Nelson Mandela, Martin Luther King, Jr, etc). The biography does not have to be fully read, just scanned for leadership challenges. For this paper, please include the following components: a) Describe 2 different leadership challenges you discover in the life. What situation/opportunity/problem did this person face that he needed to address? Why are those issues important? What kinds of changes were required? b) Describe the results in the 2 leadership challenges this person faced? How would you measure the impact of his leadership? c) Describe the strengths and weaknesses in what was evident in the person’s character. Where was courage needed? What do those issues of character teach you about your leadership? d) What further study does this book suggest for your own life and ministry? **Due: Thursday, November 19, 2013.**

4. A 20 page theological reflection paper that: a) Summarizes key insights of the course material; b) Presents a biblical foundation for leadership ministry; c) Synthesizes the learners’ response to the adaptive challenges of the congregations in this cultural context; and d) Projects a 12-month personal and ministry development path to move your leadership skills forward. **Due: Friday, December 6, 2013.**

(No Final Exam)

**VI. Written Work**

*Please note:* Expectations for ALL written work:

1. Put your name, box number, and preferred email address on the back of the last page.
2. Use 12-point type.
3. Single-space within paragraphs, and double-space between paragraphs.
4. Footnotes may be done within paragraphs instead of below.
VII. Course Calendar

**Read** Prior to Class: Benner, *The Gift of Being Yourself*

September 10 – Congregational Expectations of a the Roles of a Minister
Self-Identity and the Ways Leadership Will Challenge That

**Read**: Beebe, *The Shaping of an Effective Leader*, 9-63

September 12 – What is Leadership? – Part I

Read: Beebe, *The Shaping of an Effective Leader*, 64-178

September 17 – What is Leadership? – Part II

September 19 – Guest Speaker – Mark Roberts

Read: Overstreet, *Unleaders*

September 24 – The Leadership Contrast of Saul and David

Read: Robinson, *Incarnate Leadership*

September 26 – The Incarnation of Jesus as a Pattern for Leadership

Read: Robinson, *Incarnate Leadership*

October 1 – The Incarnation of Jesus as a Pattern for Leadership – Part II

**Read**: Lowney, *Heroic Leadership*, 1-94

October 3 - Character and Relational Qualities of Leaders

**Read**: Lowney, 95-168

October 8 – How the Inner World of the Leader Impacts Leadership

**Read**: Lowney, 169-295

October 10 – Guest Teacher: Dana Allin (President of ECO)
Self-Management and Leadership
October 15 – **Reading Week**

*Scan:* Wiseman, et al., *Living Your Strengths*
Take Test and Print Your Results
Reflect on What You Learn (Due, October 24)

October 17 – **Reading Week**

October 22 – Gifts and Giftedness and Personality in Leadership

Prepare to Share Learning from Test
Consider Taking Myers-Briggs Personality Profile

October 24 – Emotional and Relational Intelligence in Leadership

October 29 – Leadership in the Context of Shared Leadership

October 31 – Skills for Developing and Mentoring Others in Ministry

**Read:** Ford, *Transforming Church*

November 5 – Leading Organizational Change

November 7 – Leading Organizational Change – Part II
Tactical and Adaptive Change

November 12 – **Reading Week**

**Read:** Dickson, *Humilitas*

November 14 – **Reading Week**

November 19 – Case Study Discussions – Luther, Calvin, Bonhoeffer, etc

**Read:** Osterhaus, *Thriving Through Ministry Conflict*

November 21 – Leading Through Conflict

November 26– Leading Change Through Preaching, Teaching, and Visionary Roles
November 28 – **Thanksgiving**

December 3 – The Dark Sides of Leadership
   Ethical Issues Related to Power in Leadership

December 5 – Redemption in Leadership

December 10-12 (Exam Week – but No Exam for this Course)

**VIII. Bibliography**


