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) Grow in self-awareness
2) Begin to reflect on personal leadership styles
3) Examine biblical and historical examples of leadership
4) Begin to learn how leadership can be practiced in the context of a congregation
5) Understand the difference in tactical and adaptive change and identify where each is needed.
6) Grasp the Christian character values needed for effective leadership

IV. Course Textbooks

Required:

Ford, Kevin G. *Transforming Church: Bringing Out the Good to Get to Great.* (Carol Stream, Ill.: Tyndale, 2007) (ISBN: 978-1-4143-0893-7) (227 pp.)


**Recommended:**


**V. Course Requirements and Grading:**

1. On time Attendance and class participation is expected at all class periods. This is a class for leaders so it is time to develop the responsibilities of a leader.

2. Students will read the required texts which total 1,500 pages (1447 for 8 books plus particular pages from Winseman) from all required texts reading. Substitutes may be chosen from the recommended list with approval from the professor. With the required reading, each student will complete a one page reading report for each book chosen 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: First half (750 pages) is due Thursday, October 23, 2014 and the remainder on December 11, 2014**

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, but enough to discover the leadership challenges. For this paper, please
include the following components: a) Describe 2 different leadership challenges you discover in the person’s 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 or her 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 20, 2014.

4. A 15 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: Tuesday, December 16, 2014.

(No Final Exam)

VI. Written Work

Please note: Expectations for unspecified written work:

1. Put your name, box number, and preferred email address in upper right hand corner
2. Use 12-point type.
3. Double-spaced
4. Footnotes may be done within paragraphs instead of below.

VII. Course Calendar

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

September 11 – Introduction to the Course and Each Other

Congregational Expectations of the Roles of a Minister
Self-Identity and the Ways Leadership Will Challenge That Identity
Discussion of Benner’s book

Read: Barton, *Strengthening the Soul of Your Leadership*

September 18 – What is Leadership? – Part I

What prepares one spiritually to be a leader?
What character development needs to be present?
How much leadership is innate and how much is learned?
What is the relationship of competence and leadership?

Read: Robinson, *Incarnate Leadership*
September 25 – The Incarnation of Jesus as a Pattern for Leadership (Robinson)
  Moses as a Leader
  The Leadership Contrast of Saul and David
  Reflections of Paul and Peter as Leaders
  Jesus as Leader – Symbolic Choices

  Role Playing Leadership Situations –
  “Encouraged Resignation” – Lost Trust
  “Forced Resignation” – Pornography Violation

  Read: Lowney, *Heroic Leadership*

October 2 – The Incarnation of Jesus as a Pattern for Leadership – Part II
  Character and Relational Qualities of Leaders
  Jesuit Leadership Values

  Read: Winseman, et al
  Take Strengths Finder Test and Bring Results
  Write One Page on What You Learn

October 9 – Reflections Upon Your Strengths and Leadership
  Prepare to Share Learning from Test
  Consider Taking Myers-Briggs Personality Profile

October 16 – Reading Week

October 23– Gifts and Giftedness and Personality in Leadership
  Emotional and Relational Intelligence in Leadership

  Role-Playing – Leadership Issues in Committees
  Leadership Issues in a Community Project

October 30 - Leadership in the Context of Shared Leadership
  Development of Others – Team Based Vision
  Skills for Developing and Mentoring Others in Ministry
  Evaluation Processes

  Read: Ford, *Transforming Church*

November 6 – Leading Organizational Change
  Tactical and Adaptive Change
Role Play – Reporting Why We Can’t Stay Here and Must Go There

**Read:** Malphurs, *Look Before You Lead*

November 13 – **Reading Week**

**Read:** Osterhaus, *Thriving Through Ministry Conflict*
**Write:** Biographical Case Study

November 20 – Case Study Discussions – Luther, Calvin, Bonhoeffer, etc
Leading Change Through Preaching, Teaching, and Visionary Roles
Can a Leader Facilitate Culture Change?
Leading Through Conflict

December 4 – The Dark Sides of Leadership
Ethical Issues Related to Power in Leadership
Redemption in Leadership

December 8-12 (Exam Week – but No Exam for this Course)

**VIII. Additional Bibliography**


