

SYLLABUS
THE WORK OF THE MINISTER – MINISTRY 1119

- I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:** The Work of the Minister is a study of the day-to-day tasks and challenges of the contemporary minister. Attention will be given to such tasks as conducting weddings, funerals, church ordinances, and to the ministry of pastoral care.
- II. TEXTS:**
- Gibbs, Eddie. Church Next: Quantum Changes in How We Do Ministry. Downer's Grove, Illinois: Intervarsity Press, 2000.
- Clinton, J. Robert. The Making of a Leader. Colorado Springs, Colorado: Navpress, 1988.
- III. LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**
- A. To introduce the student to the challenges and diversity of ministry through the local church.
 - B. To introduce the student to the concept of ministry development as a lifetime process.
 - C. To lead the student to develop his or her own theology of ministry, based on biblical revelation, historical and contemporary models, and personal experience.
 - D. To assist the student in developing ministry skills for local church ministry.
 - E. To provide the student with opportunities to observe and evaluate the ministry of an experienced vocational Christian minister.
- IV. STRUCTURE AND REQUIREMENTS OF THE COURSE:**
- A. The course will utilize a critical thinking approach to learning. Students are expected to be highly interactive with the instructor and with one another. Due to the interactive nature of the course, students are expected to prepare adequately for each class session.
 - B. Reading sections will be assigned for each class session. Students are expected to know the materials and be prepared to discuss them in class. Based on this preparation, the student should be able to offer intelligent questions in class and to make connections to previous materials that have been discussed and to previous knowledge of the Bible, spiritual leadership and Christian ministry.

- C. Each student will be required to conduct a ministry interview with an individual who is actively engaged in Christian ministry as a vocation. The following should be used as a guide to conducting and completing this project:
 1. The student is encouraged to select someone currently active in a ministry of his or her interest.
 2. The student should conduct an interview with the selected individual and ask questions to gain a deeper understanding of that person's ministry vocation.
 3. Interview questions may include: preparation for ministry, challenges in ministry, lessons learned, suggestions for someone starting out in ministry, future plans for ministry, etc.
 4. Following the interview, each student must prepare a four-page report that includes stating the interview questions with the responses, as well as application of the interview responses to the student's life and ministry.
 5. Ministry interviews will be due the last week of class.
- D. Complete a Personal Leadership Development Timeline (see explanation below).
- E. The final examination will cover all that occurs in class, all specified assignments, as well as all reading materials during the testing period.
- F. Students **must attend a minimum of twelve** of the fifteen class sessions in order to be eligible to receive credit for the course.

V. PERSONAL LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT TIMELINE

- A. Each student must complete a detailed personal leadership development timeline based upon the terms, explanations and guidelines found in Clinton's, *The Making of a Leader*.
- B. Requirements for the Personal Timeline:
 1. One page will consist of a graphic portrayal of the personal leadership development timeline.
 2. The remainder of the report should include a narrative description of each aspect of the personal leadership development timeline, incorporating the terminology used by Clinton in *The Making of a Leader*.
 3. The personal leadership development timeline should reflect an understanding of the terms and concepts contained in *The Making of a Leader*.
 4. The timeline should be submitted at the time of the final exam.

VI. GRADING:

- A. Class Discussion 10%

B. Ministry Interview/Report	25%
C. Personal Leadership Timeline	25%
D. Final Examination	<u>40%</u>
Total	100%

Students who earn

- 90 points or above earn an A
- 80-89 points earn a B
- 70-79 points earn a C
- 60-69 points earn a D
- 59 points or less earn an F

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week One: Session One

- Teacher/Student Introductions
- Overview of Syllabus and Course Requirements

Week One: Session Two

- "Ministry Formation in Balance" (review)
- Introduction to Leadership Development as a lifetime process

Week One: Session Three

- Introduction to Leadership Development (continued)
- Leadership Development Timeline discussion

Week Two: Session One (Gibbs pp. 9-64, Clinton pp. 9-55)

- Essential Elements of a Local Church

Week Two: Session Two

- Clarifying Christian Ministry

Week Two: Session Three

- Clarifying Christian Ministry (continued)

Week Three: Session One (Gibbs pp. 65-119, Clinton pp. 57-97)

- Postmodernity and Challenges/Opportunities for Christian ministry

Week Three: Session Two

- Conflict management in the local church

Week Three: Session Three

- Stress and Burnout in Ministry

Week Four: Session One (Gibbs pp. 120-192, Clinton pp. 99-151)

- Transition in Ministry

Week Four: Session Two

- Conducting the Ordinances

Week Four: Session Three

- Conducting funerals
- Conducting weddings

Week Five: Session One (Gibbs pp. 193-239, Clinton pp. 153-205)

- Conducting church business meetings
- Pastoral care in the local church

Week Five: Sessions Two & Three - The Final Examination

- Leadership Development Timelines are due
- Final Examination