

**SYLLABUS**  
**INTRODUCTION TO CHURCH MINISTRY – MINISTRY 1117**

- I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:** Introduction to Church Ministry is a study of the various means of preparation for ministry. Attention will be given to an examination of a call to ministry and the minister's role in the mission of the church.
- II. TEXTS:**  
Blackaby, Henry & Richard. Spiritual Leadership. Nashville, Tennessee: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 2001.
- III. LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**
- A. To assist the student in clarification of a divine call.
  - B. To introduce the student to the disciplines of spiritual formation.
  - C. To introduce the student to the study of the local church and its ministry.
  - D. To assist the student in discovering his/her spiritual gifts for ministry.
  - E. To lead the student to realize the importance of developing ministry skills.
- 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. Initial Self-Assessment Essay: Each student will be required to write a 2-3 page (double-spaced, typed) essay describing his/her **present** understanding of his/her call to Christian ministry as a vocation. The essay may be appropriately structured so as to answer these questions:
    - 1. What constitutes a call to Christian ministry?
    - 2. Am I called to Christian ministry as a vocation?

3. If so, to what Christian ministry vocation?

**The self-assessment essay will be due at the beginning of the second week of class.**

- D. Each student will complete a spiritual gifts assessment under the direction of the course instructor. These will be done the fourth week of class.
- 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. GRADING:**

A. Class Discussion	10%
B. Self-Assessment Essay	30%
C. Spiritual Gifts Assessment	10%
D. Final Examination	<u>50%</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
- “Ministry Formation in Balance”

### Week One: Session Two

- The Leadership Crisis
- A Definition of Spiritual Leadership

### Week One: Session Three

- The Nature of Call
- Clarification of Call

Week Two: Session One (Blackaby pp. ix-55)

- Self-Assessment Essays are due
- Recognition of Call

Week Two: Session Two

- Licensing & Ordination

Week Two: Session Three

- The Spiritual Disciplines—the Inward Spiritual Disciplines

Week Three: Session One (Blackaby pp. 56-118)

- The Spiritual Disciplines—the Outward Spiritual Disciplines

Week Three: Session Two

- The Spiritual Disciplines—the Corporate Spiritual Disciplines

Week Three: Session Three

- The Human Shape of a Minister

Week Four: Session One (Blackaby pp. 119-199)

- The Human Shape of a Minister (continued)
- Spiritual Gifts and Christian Ministry (with assessment)

Week Four: Session Two

- Spiritual Gifts and Christian Ministry (continued)

Week Four: Session Three

- Spiritual Gifts and Christian Ministry (continued)

Week Five: Session One (Blackaby pp. 200-288)

- Review and Preparation for the Final Examination

Week Five: Sessions Two & Three - The Final Examination

- Final Examination