



# HARDING

## SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

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### BMIN 5874 – MINISTRY CALL AND CONTEXT FALL SEMESTER, 2017, HYBRID ONLINE/HST LIVE, CRN 95341

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#### INSTRUCTOR CONTACT

**Dr. Carlus Gupton**

Professor of Ministry

1000 Cherry Road

Memphis, TN 38117

Web: <http://www.lifeandleadership.com>

Web: <http://discpersonalitysource.com>

**Phone:** 901-432-7724

**Email:** [cgupton@harding.edu](mailto:cgupton@harding.edu)

**Office:** Mansion, Room 224

**HST Live/Zoom Sessions:** Thursdays

6:00 – 8:45 pm, Aug 31, Sept 21, Oct 19,

Nov 2 and 16, Dec 7. Zoom ID

<https://zoom.us/j/9018651234>

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**Please read your syllabus carefully, and refer to it frequently.  
Any questions or concerns need to be addressed to Dr. Gupton.**

#### COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course helps participants explore and clarify their ministry call, gifts and orientation. It brings theological and practical resources to bear on the nature of ministry in scripture and history, the contours of ministry in the current cultural milieu, the facets of ministry that integrate the full range of God's work of reconciliation (e.g. evangelism and social action), and the importance of local churches in God's economy.

#### COURSE READINGS

- DISC Profile, Concise Version: Go to <http://www.personalityservice.com/portal/RNBM/store>. The cost is \$12.95. **Save a .pdf copy.** You may take any of the more extensive versions that are compared at <http://www.discpersonalitysource.com/buy-disc-profile/disc-profile-comparison-chart.html>, but you are only required to take the Concise Version. Disclosure: if you purchase this way, instructor receives a commission that helps with the expense of maintaining the website. Another way to get the same profile at the same cost is to click the following link and follow the instructions: <http://www.personality-insights.com/shop/adult-disc-personality-profile-concise-mini-version-6-pages->

[english-discovery-report](#). NOTE: If you have already taken this version of the DISC Profile (perhaps for use in HST Field Education, BMIN 5883, etc.), there is no need to retake it as long as you have a .pdf copy with your alphanumeric code to use in the applications. If you have taken a different version of DISC (e.g. *DISC 2.0* from Inscape/Wiley, *Uniquely You*, etc.), you must still take the version designated above, as the code you receive upon completion is necessary for the course applications.

- Brad Harper and Paul Louis Metzger, *Exploring Ecclesiology: An Evangelical and Ecumenical Introduction*. Brazos Press, 2009. [353 pages; ISBN 978-1587431739]
- Bill Hybels, *Holy Discontent: Fueling the Fire That Ignites Personal Vision*. Zondervan, 2007. [160 pages; ISBN 978-0310272281]
- Scot McKnight, *Kingdom Conspiracy: Returning to the Radical Mission of the Local Church*. Brazos Press, 2014. [304 pages; ISBN 978-1587433603]
- Herb Miller, *Leadership is the Key: Unlocking Your Ministry Effectiveness*. Nashville, TN: Abingdon, 1997. [162 pages; ISBN 978-0687013753]
- \*\*Tom Rath and Barry Conchie, *Strengths-Based Leadership*. New York, NY: Gallup Press, 2009. [266 pages; ISBN: 978-1595620255]
- Tidball, Derek. *Ministry By the Book: New Testament Patterns for Pastoral Leadership*. IVP Academic, 2009. [277 pages; ISBN: 978-0830838592]
- Gupton, Carlus. *Course Notebook*. An e-copy will be available at no cost on Canvas.

\*\*NOTE: You must purchase a **NEW** copy of Rath and Conchie's *Strengths-Based Leadership*, because it includes a code that allows you to take the leadership version of the Strengths-Finder profile. This is the case unless you have already taken the leadership version of StrengthsFinder and use these results for class assignments.

**Additional Readings** – Specific articles/readings will be assigned for specific topics. See “Course Calendar.”

**Note: Textbooks** can now be ordered through a link on the HST website. Check the book list provided on the Textbooks page (<http://hst.edu/students/textbook-services/>) for correct ISBN's and editions to insure correct ordering. Follow this link to Amazon where you will only need to enter the ISBN to order your books. By going through our website, HST will receive some credit from the order. Thank you for your support.

## **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

The primary bibliographic resource for this course will be through the use of <http://www.lifeandleadership.com/ministry-resource-guide-index>, an annotated, web-interactive guide to resources on the life and leadership of those who serve churches.

## **LIBRARY RESOURCES**

If you have not taken 5990 (Advanced Theological Research) or 5770 (Research in Counseling), or took either class more than a year ago, go to the HST Web site ([www.hst.edu](http://www.hst.edu)) for information concerning library services to students. Under the “library”

Syllabus, BIBM 5874, Ministry Call and Context, HST Live/Zoom ID <https://zoom.us/j/9018651234>

tab you will find a link to and instructions for searching the HST online catalog. There are also instructions for using the following databases available through the library: OCLC FirstSearch, EBSCOhost, Infotrac, PsycINFO, and Religious and Theological Abstracts. Contact the library for passwords to these databases. Also available are the research guides distributed in 5990 and 5770. These annotated bibliographies list basic tools you will find helpful in your research.

### **INSTRUCTOR ACCESSIBILITY**

HST professors are accessible to local and distance students. Please use the following to arrange appointments with me (in person or by phone):

- Email: [cgupton@harding.edu](mailto:cgupton@harding.edu) (best means of contact)
- Phone: 901-432-7724 (use only alongside and as back up for email)

### **USE OF TECHNOLOGY**

Assignments in this course require students to demonstrate technological proficiency in the following ways:

- Use of library and electronic databases to do research (see Library Resources above)
- Use of web-based search engines for resources.
- Use of online technology for communication with the class, and class participation via the Canvas Online Learning System and Zoom, which is described below.
- HST Live/Zoom Meeting ID for this course is <https://zoom.us/j/9018651234>

### **COMMUNICATION WITH THE CLASS**

Harding University gives each professor and student an email address that also utilizes your user name. Your instructor's email address is [cgupton@harding.edu](mailto:cgupton@harding.edu). Many students use other email addresses as their preferred address. You can set your Harding G-mail account to forward messages to an alternative email address if you want; however, **it is your responsibility to check your Harding email account regularly because this is the official Harding email address to which all Harding-related email will be sent.**

### **CANVAS ONLINE LEARNING SYSTEM**

In addition to the live video platform Zoom.us (see below), this course uses Harding's *Canvas Online Learning System*, which is accessed at <http://elearning.harding.edu>. If you have problems gaining access to Canvas, contact HU technical support (501) 279-4545. You will need your HST username and your password to log into Harding Pipeline. These are the same credentials you use to register for classes via Pipeline.

When you need to contact your professor via email, you may use the email system contained in the Canvas learning management system, although it is best to email directly to [cgupton@harding.edu](mailto:cgupton@harding.edu).

## **HST LIVE INTERACTIVE VIDEO EDUCATION (HST LIVE) via ZOOM**

In addition to Canvas (see above), this HST-Live course is supported with the video platform Zoom.us. For new Zoom platform users, go to <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/categories/200101697-Getting-Started> for helpful video tutorials about using this platform. The HST Live/Zoom Meeting ID for this course is <https://zoom.us/j/9018651234>.

### ***Equipment Requirements for LIVE Sections:***

- Internet access using a latest version of a web browser such as Firefox (preferred).
- Latest version of Zoom software. This changes periodically without notification. If you already have Zoom, use that account. Basic Zoom.us is available free.
- Laptop or tablet with camera or desktop computer with camera.
- Ear buds with microphone - Apple MD827LL/A EarPods with Remote and Mic work well with our system. Order on Amazon.com, <https://goo.gl/jLYfBG>.
- Additional monitor – Live video conferencing is best facilitated with two monitors.

## **CREDIT HOUR WORKLOAD**

For every course credit hour, a student should expect to spend at least three clock hours per week of concentrated attention on course-related work (nine hours for a three hour course). This includes all learning activities such as attending class, out-of-class reading, notes, preparing for upcoming quizzes/exams, projects, etc.

## **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

Academic dishonesty in all its forms is inconsistent with Christian faith and practice, and will result in penalties which could include a failing grade for the assignment, a failing grade for the course, dismissal from the course, and even dismissal from the school.

## **STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

It is the policy of Harding University to accommodate students with disabilities, pursuant to federal and state law. Any student with a disability who needs accommodation should inform the instructor at the beginning of the course. Students with disabilities are also encouraged to contact Steve McLeod, the Associate Dean, at 901-761-1353.

## **DEGREE OUTCOMES**

This course will contribute to the following objectives for students in the Master of Divinity and Master of Arts in Christian Ministry:

### **Master of Divinity**

- Exhibit an understanding of the general history of the church and of doctrine, including the Stone-Campbell Movement in particular.
- Be able to integrate the scriptures and theological tradition with diverse

- contemporary cultural contexts.
- Evidence a love for God and others and a personal commitment to spiritual formation.
- Demonstrate knowledge and competencies associated with providing ministerial leadership for churches and communities.
- Be able to communicate effectively in written, oral, and multi-media forms.

### **Master of Arts in Christian Ministry**

- Exhibit a general understanding of the doctrine and history of the church and of doctrine, and of the Stone-Campbell Movement in particular.
- Become a leader in their ministry specialization within the broader range of ministry and the broader social context in which they minister.
- Evidence a love for God and others and a personal commitment to spiritual formation.
- Gain an understanding and skills for leadership in their area of specialization.

### **COURSE GOALS**

1. Examine one's gifts and orientations as they apply to practical ministry contexts.
2. Recognize ministry models from scripture, tradition and contemporary culture, and evaluate their significance for one's ministry.
3. Understand the breadth of kingdom mission and the importance of local churches in God's economy.
4. Evaluate the impact of cultural trends on the practice of ministry.
5. Develop or clarify one's ministry identity or call.

### **COURSE OVERVIEW**

- Unit 01 – Understanding Ministry Gifts and Orientations (Course Objective 1)
- Unit 02 – Biblical, Traditional, Contemporary Ministry Models (Course Objective 2)
- Unit 03 – Kingdom Mission as Church Mission (Course Objective 3)
- Unit 04 – Cultural Realities of Contemporary Ministry (Course Objective 4)
- Unit 05 – Discerning Ministry Call (Course Objective 5)

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

1. **Attendance.** Attendance is measured by posting assignments, participating in forums, and attending HST Live sessions according to the schedule in the Assignment Guide.
2. **Required Readings/Session Assignments:** The Course Calendar (available via Canvas on July 31) will categorize readings for each module and provide the schedule for completion of readings. Completion of readings will be evaluated by the thirteen Reading Reports. Each report counts 5 points for a total of 60 points during the semester. **65% of course grade.**
3. **Participation in HST Live/Zoom Sessions:** There are six HST Live/Zoom Sessions during the semester as described in the Assignment Guide. These meetings are scheduled Thursday evenings, 6:00-8:45 pm, on the following dates: August 31,

September 21, October 19, November 2, November 16, and December 7. Attendance and participation in HST Live/Zoom Meetings constitutes **10% of course grade**.

- 4. Statement of Ministerial Identity and Call** – Prepare a statement/presentation of your ministerial identity and/or call. Peruse the (revised) syllabus to insure you are incorporating the full range of course topics. Consider all course texts, profiles/assessments, and class lectures. It may help to think of it in these terms: *Based on the practical and theological explorations this semester and my experiences as a servant of Christ, here is my current state of self-awareness and sense of calling, and the implications this has for my ministry going forward.* This is an academic, first person reflection (e.g., no contractions). Otherwise, you have considerable freedom in the form and content of the paper, as long as it conspicuously integrates insights from course materials. Estimated 2,000 words, single-spaced, 12 pt. Times font, single-spaced within each paragraph and double-spaced between paragraphs. **Due on the date listed in the Assignment Guide, posted in the appropriate Canvas folder. 15% of course grade.**
- 5. Final Essay Exam (open-note, open-book):** Using insights from course texts, class lectures and supplemental materials, synthesize your learnings into your top twelve major insights from the class. Express each insight as a succinct statement in bold, followed by paragraphs of explanation. Consider all four divisions of the course:
- Ministry Gifts and Orientations
  - Biblical, Traditional and Contemporary Models for Ministry
  - Kingdom Mission as Church Mission
  - Cultural Realities of Contemporary Ministry

While you do not have to balance your insights along all four divisions (i.e. three per division), there must be at least one insight from each section, with a clear appreciation on the place of the local church in God's economy. Estimated 2,000 words, single-spaced, 12 pt. Times font, single-spaced within each paragraph and double-spaced between paragraphs. **Due on the date listed in the Assignment Guide, posted in the appropriate Canvas folder. 10% of course grade**

### **STUDENT EVALUATION**

- Weekly Reading Reports, Attendance and Interactions (Online and HST Live) – 75%
- Statement of Ministerial Identity and Call – 15%
- Essay on Kingdom Ministry in Context – 10%

### **GRADING STANDARDS**

Grading is based on common standards of graduate study, which include::

- High volume of reading concentrated over a shorter period of time.
- Advanced standards in writing, no tolerance for poor grammar and composition.

- Increased student responsibility and initiative – At all levels, your education is your responsibility, but this is even more so in graduate work. The assignments and structure of the graduate class simply guide your self-initiated quest. The syllabus outlines baseline expectations. It is your responsibility to clarify what you do not understand and fulfill class requirements. There may not be reminders.
- Desire for a highly developed philosophical, theoretical, and theological framework for exercising one’s profession as a servant of Christ, with the ability to reflect deeply and conduct research in one’s field.
- Desire for advanced practical experience and expertise in a specialized discipline

In keeping with this, there is no grade entitlement. Grades are earned each step of the way, according to this scale.

- “A” (93-100) – *exceptional, outstanding, impressive* work in the aspects listed above. Few or no flaws, superior grasp of material
- “B” (85-92) – *good, competent, above-average* work in the aspects listed above. Few mistakes, understands material very well.
- “C” (75-84) – *average, passable, adequate* work in the aspects listed above. Moderate level of mistakes, understands material well enough, but will require remedial work to progress to the resident apprenticeship.
- “D” (72-84) – *poor, inadequate, incomplete* work in the aspects listed above. Many mistakes, inadequate grasp of material, incapable of earning a graduate degree. You will not progress to the resident apprenticeship with this grade.
- “F” (Below 72) – failure

Other:

- All assignments are due on the dates listed in the course calendar.
- Extensions are not guaranteed but may be granted in cases of illness or death in the family, or other extreme circumstances. It is the responsibility of the student to contact the professor *before* the assignment due date(s) with a request.
- Extensions and incompletes, if granted, will most likely result in grade reduction.

**ASSIGNMENT GUIDE / COURSE CALENDAR**

The Assignment Guide and Calendar will be posted on Canvas by July 31, 2017.