Course Description:
This course helps participants engage their ministries in the complex matrix of roles, responsibilities, and relationships. It begins by establishing a biblical perspective on ministry responsibilities. The course also addresses church governance and ministry in the Stone-Campbell tradition and considers issues of gender and diversity in the church setting. A good portion of the class covers best practices in traditional congregational responsibilities such as pastoral care and administration, and practical concerns such as ministry finances, conflict management, etc.

Outcomes
Students will:
- Be able to integrate the scriptures and theological tradition with diverse contemporary cultural contexts.
- Demonstrate knowledge and competencies associated with providing ministerial leadership for churches and communities.

Credit Hour Workload
For every course credit hour, the typical student should expect to spend at least three clock hours per week of concentrated attention on course-related work, including but not limited to time attending class, as well as out-of-class time spent reading, reviewing, organizing notes, preparing for upcoming quizzes/exams, problem solving, developing and completing projects, and other activities that enhance learning. Thus, for a three-hour course, a typical student should expect to spend at least nine hours per week dedicated to the course.

Textbooks
Textbooks can now be ordered through a link on the HST website. The Textbooks tab can be viewed on the navigation bar on any page of the website. Check the book list provided under the Textbooks tab (http://hst.edu/students/textbook-services/) for correct ISBN’s and editions to insure correct ordering. A link provided there will take you 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. Thanks for your support.
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.

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) for information concerning library services to students. Under the “library” 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.

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.

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: dbland@harding.edu
Office Phone Number: 901-432-7722

Canvas On-line 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 about a class related issue, always use the email system contained in the Canvas learning management system. This provides a secure convenient means of tracking communication between you and your professor.
Harding University gives each student an email address that also utilizes your user name. 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.

**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](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/9014327722](https://zoom.us/j/9014327722).

Students new to HST LIVE should attend the HST LIVE orientation session scheduled for January 9 at 6:00-8:00 p.m.

**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.
- Additional monitor – Live video conferencing is best facilitated with two monitors.

**Course Requirements**

1. Required Textbook Reading
   a. Basic Texts:


   b. Two Book Reviews
      - Book reviews of two required texts: *Accompany Them with Singing* and *Women in Ministry.*
• Review format: Use the IDeA format for doing the review:
  o Devote a paragraph to **Identify** (identify the author, similar books
    author’s written, and the context of the book, i.e., a series, a follow-
    up, etc.), one page to **Describe** (or summarize) and two pages to
    **Assess** (or evaluate).
  o Limit to no more than four pages double-spaced.
  o **Use three other reviews on the books to aid you in your critique.**
    1) Review is to be 3-4 typed pages in length (double-spaced)
    2) **Women in Ministry** is due **the end of week 12**
    3) **Accompany Them** is due **the end of week 14**
    4) See the end of this syllabus for more details regarding the form you
       are to use in writing the review.

c. **Summary and Assessment of two required texts**
   • **Leading the Congregation** (three different assessment papers)
   • **Hidden Lives of the Congregations** (two different assessment papers)
   • You will submit papers on these two books at different times during the
     semester. See syllabus schedule below for the dates.
   • For each paper submitted, half the paper should be a summary and the
     other half an assessment of the contents.
   • See schedule below for the length of these papers. The papers should reflect
     a clear understanding of what was read and a substantive
     engagement/interaction with the material as you assess.

d. **Special articles assigned through the course of the semester** (These articles are
   found on the Canvas homepage on each week’s page).

Coco, Malcolm, Coburn, Tim, Siburt, Charles. “Ministerial compensation
Among Churches of Christ in the United States.” **Restoration Quarterly**

Crisp, Joe. "Toward a Theology of Ministry for Churches of Christ."

Ferguson, Everett. "Authority and Tenure of Elders." **Restoration
Quarterly** 18 no 3  (1975): 142-150.

Flatt, Bill. "The Misuse of Power and Sex in Helping Relationships."

Highfield, Ron. “Dangers, Challenges, And Rewards of a Life of Ministry:
Autobiographical Reflections,” October, 31, 2008 (HST, Chapel, W.B.
West Lectures).


2. Exams-- **please send me the name and email address of someone who will proctor the exams for you**. This person must not be a family member. You will take the exams in the presence of the proctor with your computer screen always accessible to the proctor. Please send this name and email to my graduate assistant by Feb 2nd.

a. Mid Term Exam, all lecture material up to “Studying Congregations” (week 7) and also assigned readings (except for the one discussed online) up to that point as well, on Mar 23rd.

   All the articles and readings assigned to this point in the class beginning with Marrs and ending with Youngblood will be on this test (see schedule below as well as on the canvas home page). The exam is primarily Multiple Choice.

b. Final Exam May 10th.

   Class Notes
   Assigned Articles (except for the one discussed online)

   The exam is primarily Multiple Choice.

3. Weekly “Food For Thought” videos.

   a. Designed to reflect on your own spiritual life
   b. You will give a brief response to them each week.

4. You are responsible for quality weekly interaction in the online discussion forums.

   a. This involves posting a thoughtful response in the discussion forum to the initial topic for that week **by no later than Wednesday night**.
   b. It involves reading all the other posts and reflecting on and responding to at least two of them by Friday at 5:00pm.

Grading

A. Book Reviews
1. 75 points each Xs 2 reviews
2. Total = 150 points

B. Summary and Assessment Papers
   1. 75 pts each, Xs 5
   2. Total = 375

C. Exams:
   1. Mid-term = 75 pts
   2. Final = 100 pts

D. Weekly “Food for Thought” videos
   1. 5 pts each X14
   2. Total = 70 pts.

E. Weekly Online Discussions = total points, to be determined
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>Zoom Meeting Jan. 17th 10:00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>Biblical Perspectives on Ministry</td>
<td>Highfield (2008)</td>
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<td>Two-page summary/assessment due of Parts One &amp; Two in <em>Hidden Lives of Cong.</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>Biblical Perspectives on Ministry</td>
<td>Marrs (1988);</td>
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<td>Thompson (1984)</td>
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<td>Crisp (1993; online discussion)</td>
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<td>Send name and email of proctor by end of Week 3</td>
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<td>Week 4</td>
<td>Discipleship and the Burden of Ministry</td>
<td>Youngblood (2007)</td>
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<td>Two-page summary and assessment due of Part One in <em>Leading the Congregation</em></td>
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<td>Week 5</td>
<td>Conflict Management/Part 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 6</td>
<td>Conflict Management/Part 2</td>
<td>One-and-half-page summary/assessment due of Chapter 10 in <em>Leading the Congregation</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 7</td>
<td>Studying Congregations</td>
<td>Two-page summary/assessment due of Part Three in <em>Leading the Congregation</em></td>
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<td>Week 8</td>
<td>On Campus Intensive Courses/ No On-line Lecture</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td>Spring Break</td>
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Week 10  Financial Responsibility in the Church and Ministry  Mid Term Exam, Mar 23rd  Coco (2004)


Week 12  Developmental Stages of Ministry  Bk Review of Women in Ministry  Due the end of the week

Week 13  Authority of Elders  Ferguson (1975)  Willis (1994)

Week 14  Special Occasions: Funerals and Weddings  Funeral Directors (2014)  Funeral Sermons 1 & 2 (2014; online discussion)  Bk Review of Accompany Them with Singing  Due the end of the week

Week 15  Sexual Temptations in Ministry  Flatt (1994)

Week 16  Women in Ministry, Discussion

Week 17  Final Exam  Wednesday, May 9th
Study Guide Questions from Articles by 
Marrs, Thompson, Bennett, Crisp, Coco

1. What are several goals implicit in Micah's ministry as identified in the article by Marrs?
2. Where, according to Marrs, does Micah take his stand in ministering to the people?
3. What is the model of ministry that is depicted in the Gospels, according to Thompson?
4. Despite the diversity in the NT regarding the view of ministry, there is consistency. What are three elements of consistency that Thompson identifies?
5. What was McGarvey's position on located preachers? Why?
6. What was McGarvey best known for?
7. What did McGarvey believe the relationship was between the elders and the evangelist?
8. According to Bennett, what was one of the most significant contributions McGarvey made to the church?
9. Crisp believes that ministry is in danger of becoming a helping profession. Why?
10. What does Crisp mean by "apostolicity"?
11. Crisp uses Richard Niebuhr's taxonomy of four things that are necessary for a church to have a clear understanding of ministry. The ministers Crisp interviewed had only one of those four. What was the one? Did Crisp view this as a danger sign?
12. What should provide the framework for doing ministry according to Crisp?
13. Be able to identify an example of indirect compensation Coco gives.
14. What are the factors that contribute to ministerial compensation, according to Coco?
15. Be familiar with Robert Dale's cycles churches go through.
16. What are the factors Dale says contributes to stress?

Questions from Articles by Ferguson, Flatt, and Willis

1. In the article on elders by Tim Willis, of the three types of authority (charismatic, traditional, and legal-rational) which did Willis believe was representative of the way we in the Church of Christ view the basis for the authority of elders? Why?
2. How does Willis believe the phrase in Hebrews 13:17 "obey your leaders" should be translated? Why?
3. What is the authority of the elder-led communities according to Willis?
4. Ferguson, in his article "Authority and Tenure of Elders," speaks of the interrelationship of three items in the NT that relate to one being qualified to serve as elder. What are they and how are they interrelated?
5. According to Ferguson, what kind of authority does an elder have?
6. What does Ferguson have to say about the different kinds of organizational structures that were known to the ancient world? How does the organization of the church fit into and compare with these structures?
7. What does Ferguson have to say about assigning stipulated terms to elders?
8. What does Bill Flatt maintain is the primary issue behind sexual exploitation of women?
Books and Articles for Congregational Ministry


