



Syllabus/On-line Course  
Spring 2020

Ministry Roles & Relationships 5875  
Dave Bland

### 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.

### 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](http://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](mailto: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> for helpful video tutorials about using this platform. The HST Live/Zoom Meeting ID for this course is <https://zoom.us/j/9014327722>.

**Students new to HST LIVE should attend the HST LIVE Orientation Monday, January 13, at 6:00-8:00 PM. The Zoom ID for the Orientation session will be 3188055566.**

#### ***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. Order on Amazon.com, <https://goo.gl/jLYfBG>.
- Additional monitor – **Live video conferencing is best facilitated with two monitors.**

#### **Course Requirements**

##### 1. Required Textbook Reading

###### a. Basic Texts:

Calhoun, Adele, *Spiritual Disciplines Handbook: Practices That Transform Us* (Revised and Expanded Ed). Downers Grove: IVP Academic, 2015. ISBN 9780830846054

Heuser, Roger and Shawchuck, Norman, *Leading the Congregation*, Nashville: Abingdon, 2010. ISBN: 9781426711398

Long, Thomas, *Accompany Them with Singing: The Christian Funeral*, Lexington: WJKP, 2009. ISBN: 9780664233198

James Beck and Stanley N. Gundry, *Two Views on Women in Ministry*. Revised Edition. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2005. ISBN 9780310254379

###### 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:
  - 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).
  - Limit to no more than four pages double-spaced.
  - **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 April 10**
    - 3) *Accompany Them* is **due April 24**
- c. Summary and Assessment of *Leading the Congregation* (three different assessment papers)
  - You will submit the three papers on this book at different times during the semester. See syllabus schedule below or online in canvas 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* 46 no 1 (2004): 29-50.

Crisp, Joe. "Toward a Theology of Ministry for Churches of Christ." *Restoration Quarterly* 35 no. 1 (1993): 9-19.

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." *Restoration Quarterly* 36 no 2 (1994): 101-110.

Foster, Doug, Blowers, Paul, Dunnivant, Anthony, Williams, Newell, eds. "Ministry." *Encyclopedia of the Stone-Campbell Movement*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2004.

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

Michael Mahan, "Toward a Restorationist Theology of Leadership: Eldership Implications," *Journal of Biblical Perspectives of Leadership* 4 no. 1 (2012): 70-86.

Marrs, Rick. "Micah and the Task of Ministry." *Restoration Quarterly* 30 (1988): 1-16.

Thompson, James. "Ministry in the New Testament." *Restoration Quarterly* 27 (1984): 143-156.

Willis, Timothy M. "'Obey Your Leaders': Hebrews 13 and Leadership in the Church." *Restoration Quarterly* 36 no 4 (1994): 317-326.

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 7<sup>th</sup>**.
  - a. Mid Term Exam on **Mar 17<sup>th</sup>**. All lecture material up through week 6 and also assigned readings (**except for the one discussed online**) up to that point as well. 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 12<sup>th</sup>**.
    - Class Notes
    - Assigned Articles (**except for the one discussed online**)
    - The exam is primarily Multiple Choice.
3. Two Spiritual Formation assignments and exercises
  - a. Weekly "Food For Thought" videos.
    - i. Designed to reflect on your own spiritual life
    - ii. You will give a brief response to them each week.
  - b. *Spiritual Disciplines Handbook* and Journal Writing
    - i. You will be given directions to complete weekly assignments
    - ii. These assignments are designed to help you develop regular practices for cultivating your spiritual life.
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 Paper
  - 1. 75 pts each, Xs 3
  - 2. Total = 225
- 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. Spiritual Disciplines Journal = total points, to be determined
- F. Weekly Online Discussions = total points, TBD

## Schedule

Week	Subject	Assignment
Week 1	Introduction	
Week 2	Biblical Perspectives on Ministry	<b>Zoom Meeting Feb 4<sup>th</sup> 10:00am Highfield (2008)</b>
Week 3	Biblical Perspectives on Ministry	<b>Marrs (1988); Thompson (1984) Crisp (1993; <b>online discussion</b>)</b>
<b>Send name and email of proctor by end of Week 3</b>		
Week 4	Discipleship and the Burden of Ministry	<b>Youngblood (2007) Two-page summary and assessment due of Part One in <u>Leading the Congregation</u></b>
Week 5	Conflict Management/Part 1	
Week 6	Conflict Management/Part 2	<b>One-and-half-page summary/assessment due of Chapter 10 in <u>Leading the Congregation</u></b>
Week 7	<b>On Campus Intensive Courses/ No On-line Lecture</b>	
Week 8	<b>Spring Break</b>	
Week 9	Financial Responsibility in the Church and Ministry	<b>Mid Term Exam, Mar 17<sup>th</sup> Coco (2004)</b>
Week 10	Studying Congregations	<b>Two-page summary/assessment due of Part Three in <u>Leading the Congregation</u></b>
Week 11	Developmental Stages of Ministry	<b>Mahan (2012; <b>online discussion</b>)</b>

Week 12	Issues of Authority	<b>Bk Review of <u>Women in Ministry</u> Due the end of the week</b>
Week 13	Authority of Elders	<b>Ferguson (1975) Willis (1994) "Ministry" Stone/Campbell (2004)</b>
Week 14	Special Occasions: Funerals and Weddings	<b>Funeral Directors (2014) Funeral Sermons 1 &amp; 2 (2014; <b>online discussion</b>)  <b>Bk Review of <u>Accompany Them with Singing</u> Due the end of the week</b></b>
Week 15	Sexual Temptations in Ministry	<b>Flatt (1994)</b>
Week 16	Women in Ministry, Discussion	
Week 17	Final Exam	<b>Tuesday, May 12<sup>th</sup></b>



**Study Guide Questions from Articles by  
Marrs, Thompson, Bennett, Crisp**

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 Niebhhr'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?

**Questions from Articles by Coco, Coss, Foster et.al., Ferguson, Flatt, and Willis**

1. Be able to identify an example of indirect compensation Coco gives.
2. What are the factors that contribute to ministerial compensation, according to Coco?
3. According to Foster et. al. what was Campbell's view of the whole "clergy" system?
4. According to Foster, what did Stone believe about a congregation having an elder, bishop, or pastor?
5. What did Campbell believe early on about who should preach in a congregation?
6. What was at the root of the division between Disciples and Christian Churches?
7. In the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, what was one feature that characterized Churches of Christ?
8. 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?
9. How does Willis believe the phrase in Hebrews 13:17 "obey your leaders" should be translated? Why?
10. What is the authority of the elder-led communities according to Willis?

11. 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?
12. According to Ferguson, what kind of authority does an elder have?
13. 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?
14. What does Ferguson have to say about assigning stipulated terms to elders?
15. What does Bill Flatt maintain is the primary issue behind sexual exploitation of women?
16. What is the first principle a minister should practice when counseling someone dealing with sexual addiction according to Jordan Coss in his paper?
17. In the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, what was one feature that characterized Churches of Christ, according to Foster?

Books and Articles for Congregational Ministry

- Anderson, Leith. Dying for Change. Minneapolis: Bethany House, 1990.
- Anderson, Lynn. "Why I've Stayed." Leadership. Summer (1986): 76-82.
- Armstrong, Richard Stoll. The Pastor-Evangelist in the Parish. Louisville: Westminster/John Knox Press, 1990.
- Barna, George. The Power of Vision: How You Can Capture & Apply God's Vision for Your Ministry. Barna Research Group, 1992.
- Bennett, Weldon. "J. W. McGarvey's Concept of the Ministry." Restoration Quarterly 24 no. 3 (1981): 167-174.
- Bierly, Steve, R. Help for the Small-Church Pastor. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1995.
- Bratcher, Edward. The Walk-On-Water Syndrome. Waco: Word Books, 1984.
- Burt, Steven E. and Roper, Hazel Ann. The Little Church That Could: Raising Small Church Esteem. Valley Forge: Judson Press, 2000.
- Camp, Lee C. Mere Discipleship: Radical Christianity in a Rebellious World. Grand Rapids: Brazos Press, 2003.
- Campolo, Tony. The Success Fantasy. Wheaton: Victor, 1980.
- Carroll, Jackson W. As One With Authority: Reflective Leadership in Ministry. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1991.
- Casey, Shaun. "Scholarship and Ministry." Restoration Quarterly 29 (1987): 153-161.
- Coco, Malcolm, Coburn, Tim, Siburt, Charles. "Ministerial compensation Among Churches of Christ in the United States." Restoration Quarterly 46 no 1 (2004): 29-50.
- Concklin, Robert. How to Get People to Do Things. Chicago: Contemporary, 1979.
- Covey, Stephen, R. et al. First Things First. New York: Simon & Schuster, 1994.
- Crisp, Joe. "Toward a Theology of Ministry for Churches of Christ." Restoration Quarterly 35 no. 1 (1993): 9-19.

- Cueni, R. Robert. What Ministers Can't Learn in Seminary: A Survival Manual for the Parish Ministry. Nashville: Abingdon, 1988.
- Dale, Robert. Surviving Difficult Church Members. Nashville: Abingdon, 1984.
- Dawn, Marva, and Eugene Peterson. The Unnecessary Pastor: Rediscovering the Call. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2000.
- Dittes, James E. When the People Say No. San Francisco: Harper and Row, 1979.
- Dorr, Luther M. The Bivocational Pastor. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1988.
- Eckert, Richard E. The Stress Myth: Why the Pressures of Life Don't Have to Get You Down. Downers Grove: Inter Varsity Press, 1985.
- Exley, Richard. Perils of Power. Honor books, 1988.
- Flatt, Bill. "The Misuse of Power and Sex in Helping Relationships." Restoration Quarterly 36 no 2 (1994) : 101-110.
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- Ferguson, Everett. The Church of Christ: A Biblical Ecclesiology for Today. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1996.
- Foster, Richard J. Money, Sex & Power. San Francisco: Harper & Row, 1985.
- Gibbs, Eddie. Church Next: Quantum Changes in How We Do Ministry. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2000.
- Gray, Patrick T. "Ministry in the New Testament and the Early Church." Consensus 12 (Spring 1986): 53-70.
- Gaede, Beth Ann, ed. Size Transitions in Congregations. Alban Institute, 2001.
- Grubbs, Bruce. The First Two Years: A Pastor's Guide to Getting Started in a Church. Nashville: Convention Press, 1979.
- Gulley, Philip. *Home to Harmony*. San Francisco: Harper, 2004.
- Harris, John C. The Minister Looks for a Job. Washington, DC: The Alban Institute, 1977.

- Hart, Archibald D. Coping with Depression in the Ministry and Other Helping Professions. Word, 1984.
- Hart, Larry. "Some Theological Observations on Ministry." Restoration Quarterly 27 no. 2 (1984) : 93-106.
- Hauerwas, Stanley M. and William H. Willimon. Resident Aliens. Nashville: Abingdon, 1989.
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- Hoge, Dean R. and Jacqueline E. Wenger. Pastors in Transition: Why Clergy Leave Local Church Ministry. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2005.
- Hughes, Kent and Barbara. Liberating Ministry From the Success Syndrome. Wheaton: Tyndale, 1987.
- Jung, L. Shannon and Agria, Mary A. Rural Congregational Studies: A Guide for Good Shepherds. Nashville: Abingdon, 1997.
- Kimball, Dan. The Emerging Church: Vintage Christianity for New Generations. Zondervan, 2003.
- London H.B. and Neil B. Wiseman. *The Heart of a Great Pastor: How to Grow Strong and Thrive Wherever God has Planted You*, Regal, 2006.
- Malherbe, Abraham J. Paul and the Thessalonians: The Philosophic Tradition of Pastoral Care. Philadelphia: Fortress, 1987.
- Marrs, Rick. "Micah and the Task of Ministry." Restoration Quarterly 30 (1988): 1-16.
- McCarty, Doran C. Leading the Small Church. Nashville: Broadman and Holma Publishers, 1991.
- McNeal, Reggie. A Work of Heart: Understanding How God Shapes Spiritual Leaders. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2000.
- Miller, Kevin A. Secrets of Staying Power: Overcoming the Discouragement of Ministry. Waco: Word, 1988.
- Narramore, Clyde M. Why a Christian Leader May Fall. Westchester, IL: Crossway Books, 1988.

- Olson, Ginny, Diane Elliot, and Mike Work. Youth Ministry Management Tools. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Youth Specialties, 2001.
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- Trebilcock, Robin. The Small Church at Large: Thinking Local in a Global Context. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2003.
- Trull, Joe E. and Carter, James E. *Ministerial Ethics: Moral Formation for Church Leaders*, Second Edition, Baker Academic: Grand Rapids, 2004.
- Willimon, William H., *Pastor: The Theology and Practice of Ordained Ministry*. Nashville: Abingdon. 2002.
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