



HARDING SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

BMIS 5901 SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP, Fall 2023, Thursdays. 8:15-10:55 a.m.
Dr. Steve Cloer

Course description

A study of the dynamics of spiritual leadership and discovery of leadership emergence patterns.

The course contributes to the following degree outcomes:

- Demonstrate commitment to personal spiritual formation (MACM)
- Demonstrate the skills associated with leadership in their ministry specialization. (MACM)
- Demonstrate the skills required for theological reflection (M.Div.)
- Demonstrate the skills associated with providing ministerial leadership for churches and communities. (M.Div.)

Additional course objectives

- Discern the God's leadership developing in one's life, particularly in the areas of spiritual giftedness, authority, and ministry maturity.
- Cultivate spiritual habits and perspectives that allow God to work in one's life to develop integrity and Christ-like character for the purpose of faithful leadership.

Required textbooks

J. Robert Clinton, *The Making of a Leader*, rev.ed. (Colorado Springs: NavPress, 2012).

Ruth Haley Barton, *Strengthening the Soul of Your Leadership* (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2018).

Peter Scazzero, *The Emotionally Healthy Leader* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2015).

Keith Anderson, *Reading Your Life's Story: An Invitation to Spiritual Mentoring* (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2016).

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 ensure correct ordering. A link provided there will take you to Amazon where you will only need to enter the ISBN to order your books.

Additional required readings

Miles Stanford, "Time," from *Principles of Spiritual Growth* (Back to the Bible, 1982).

Accessed online here: <https://pembrokebiblechapel.com/pdf/PrinciplesofSpiritualGrowth.pdf>

Warren Wiersbe, "Principles" *Leadership* (1.1 Winter: 1980), 81-88. Accessed online here: <https://www.christianitytoday.com/pastors/1980/winter/warren-wiersbe-advice-to-new-pastors.html>

Robert Clinton, "Listen Up, Leaders!" *Barnabas Publishers Reprint* (1990), 1-24.
Accessed online here: <http://www.cityvision.edu/courses/coursefiles/304/leaders.PDF>

Additional readings, course notes, a place to submit assignments, and grades are available on Canvas. To access the Canvas course page, go to <http://elearning.harding.edu>.

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: secloer@harding.edu

Office Phone Number: 901-432-7724

Office: Ijams Administration Building 209

Requirements and grading

1. Reading of assigned texts and class participation (10%)
2. Biblical Leader Essay (10%)
3. Spiritual Biography Essay (15%)
4. Midterm Exam (20%)
5. Personal Leadership Emergence Paper (25%)
6. Final Exam (20%)

Grading scale: 100-90 (A), 89-80 (B), 79-75 (C), 74-70 (D), 69 and below (F)

Students should complete all readings before the session for which they are assigned and should be prepared to contribute to the discussion of the readings in class.

If a student is absent from a class session (or unable to be fully present), the student must communicate with the professor ahead of time. The student must watch the recording of the class session and write a 500 word summary of the class lecture and discussion. This is due no later than one week after the absence. Failure to do so will result in a deduction of the class participation grade.

Students who are absent more than two class sessions (without approval by the dean) will be penalized ten points off the final grade.

Late assignments will be deducted one letter grade. For every day further the assignment is late, three points per day will deducted on top of the one letter grade.

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.

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.

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 took it 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, and Religious and Theological Abstracts. Contact the library for passwords to these databases. Also available are the research guides distributed in 5990. These annotated bibliographies list basic tools you will find helpful in your research.

Course schedule

August 17

- (1) Review Syllabus
- (2) A Brief Theology of Spiritual Leadership, Providence, and Calling

August 24

- (1) Clinton, pgs. 1-55
- (2) A Brief Theology of Spiritual Leadership, Providence, and Calling
- (3) Stanford article

August 31

- (1) Clinton, pgs. 56-98
- (2) Sovereign Foundations, Inner Life Growth, Ministry Maturing
- (3) Biblical Leadership Essay Due**

September 7

- (1) Clinton, pgs. 99-174
- (2) Ministry Maturing, Life Maturing, Convergence

September 14

- (1) Clinton, pgs. 175-211
- (2) Wiersbe article

(3) Convergence, Afterglow, Ministry Principles

September 21

- (1) Clinton, Leaders article
- (2) Finishing Well, Discussion of Biographies
- (3) Spiritual Biography Essay Due**

September 28 Mid Term Exam

October 5

- (1) Barton, pgs. 1-85
- (2) Spiritual Rhythms of Leadership

October 12 STUDY WEEK

October 19

- (1) Barton, pgs. 86-153
- (2) Spiritual Rhythms of Leadership

October 26

- (1) Barton, pgs. 154-221
- (2) Spiritual Rhythms of Leadership

November 2

- (1) Emotional Health of Leadership
- (2) Scazzero, pgs. 1-176

November 9

- (1) Emotional Health of Leadership
- (2) Scazzero, pgs. 177-300

November 16

- (1) Coaching and Mentoring
- (2) Anderson, pgs. 1-97

November 23 THANKSGIVING BREAK

November 30

- (1) Coaching and Mentoring
- (2) Anderson, pgs. 98-200

December 4 **Personal Leadership Emergence Pattern Paper Due**

December 7 **Final Exam**

Biblical Leadership Essay

Students are required to write a brief essay of 3-4 pages that chronicles the life of a leader in Scripture. The student is to select a key leader, read all pertinent Scriptures involving their life, sketch a brief timeline – noticing both strengths and weaknesses, turning points, and key moments, and outline key principles that were critical to their spiritual leadership. The essay is to be submitted on Canvas by 11:59pm (CST) on **Thursday, Aug. 31**. Below are some suggested leaders to choose.

- Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Aaron, Miriam, Joshua, Deborah, Gideon, Ruth, Samuel, David, Solomon, Elijah, Elisha, Esther, Job, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Jonah, Ezra, Nehemiah, Mary, John the Baptist, Peter, Paul, Stephen, Barnabas, Timothy.

Spiritual Biography Essay

Students are required to write an essay of 7-8 pages that chronicles the life of a historical or contemporary spiritual leader. The student is to read a biography of the leader and access other pertinent resources to understand the spiritual leadership development over the lifetime. The essay should sketch a brief timeline using the leadership emergence pattern described by Clinton. Students should notice and highlight key process items in the leader's life where God was shaping and developing this person. The essay should outline key ministry principles that became critical to their spiritual leadership. The paper is to be submitted on Canvas by 11:59pm (CST) on **Thursday, September 21**. Below is a brief list of possible leaders and corresponding biographies. The student can also choose a different leader to write on, but the professor must approve it first.

- Dietrich Bonhoeffer (*Bonhoeffer: Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy*, Eric Metaxas)
- Martin Luther (*Martin Luther: The Man Who Rediscovered God and Changed the World*, Eric Metaxas)
- William Wilberforce (*Amazing Grace: William Wilberforce and the Heroic Campaign to End Slavery*, Eric Metaxas)
- George Benson (*Before Any Were Willing*, John Stevens)
- Clifton Ganus (*I'd Do it All Again*, Clifton L. Ganus)
- J. N. Armstrong (*For Freedom*, L. C. Sears)
- Marshall Keeble (*Roll, Jordan, Roll*, J. E. Choate)
- Samuel Cassius (*To Save My Race From Abuse*, Edward Robinson)
- T. B. Larimore (*The Man From Mars Hill*, J. M. Powell)
- Jimmy Allen (*Fire in My Bones*, Jimmy Allen)
- Barton Stone (*Barton Stone: A Spiritual Biography*, Newell Williams)
- Annie Tuggle (*I Was Under a Heavy Burden*, Edward Robinson)
- Hudson Taylor (*Hudson Taylor's Spiritual Secret*, Howard and Geraldine Taylor)
- George Muller (*George Muller: Delighted in God*, Roger Steer)
- Jim Elliott (*The Shadow of the Almighty*, Elisabeth Elliott)
- Timothy Keller (*Timothy Keller*, Collin Hansen)
- Amy Carmichael (*A Chance to Die*, Elisabeth Elliott)
- Gladys Aylward (*The Little Woman*, Gladys Aylward)
- Martin Luther King, Jr (*The Preacher King*, Richard Lischer)
- Sojourner Truth (*Sojourner Truth*, Nell Irvin Painter)
- Juan Monroy (*Juan Antonio Monroy: An Autobiography*, trans. by Carolina Archer)

Personal Leadership Emergence Pattern Paper

Students are required to write a reflective essay on the leadership emergence happening in their life. The paper should be 15 pages and should sketch a brief timeline of the student's life utilizing Clinton's framework and process items. The goal of this exercise is to notice key patterns where God is forming, shaping, preparing the student for future spiritual leadership. The paper should outline key ministry principles that the student has gained thus far in their development. Finally, the paper should offer a theological vision for how God is calling and preparing the student for the future. A rubric for the paper will be given in class. The paper is to be submitted on Canvas by 11:59pm (CST) on **Monday, December 4**.

Recommended resources

- Anderson, Lynn. *They Smell Like Sheep, Vol. 2.: Leading With the Heart of a Shepherd*. NY: Howard Book, 2007.
- Blackaby, Henry and Richard Blackaby, *Spiritual Leadership: Moving People on to God's Agenda*. Nashville: Broadman, 2001.
- Cormode, Scott. *Making Spiritual Sense: Christian Leaders as Spiritual Interpreters*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2006.
- Elshof, Greg Ten. *I Told Me So: Self-Deception and the Christian Life*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2009.
- Erwin, Gayle D. *The Jesus Style*. Cathedral City, CA: Yahshua Publishing, 1983.
- Foster, Richard. *Celebration of Discipline: The Path to Spiritual Growth*. Harper & Row, 1978.
- McIntosh, Gary L. and Samuel D. Rima, *Overcoming the Dark Side of Leadership: The Paradox of Personal Dysfunction*. Baker, 1997.
- McNeal, Reggie. *A Work of Heart: Understanding How God Shapes Spiritual Leaders*. Jossey-Bass, 2000.
- Mulholland, M. Robert. *Invitation to a Journey—A Road Map for Spiritual Formation*. Downers Grove, Ill.: IVP Books. 1993.
- Nelson, Tom, *The Flourishing Pastor*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2022.
- Peterson, Eugene H. *Long Obedience in the Same Direction: Discipleship in an Instant Society*. IVP, 1980.
- _____. *Working the Angles: The Shape of Pastoral Integrity*. Eerdmans, 2000.
- _____. *Christ Plays in Ten Thousand Places: A Conversation in Spiritual Theology*. Eerdmans, 2005.
- Pettit, Paul, ed., *Foundations of Spiritual Formation: A Community Approach to Becoming Like Christ*. Kregel, 2008.
- Scazzero, Peter. *Emotionally Healthy Discipleship: Moving from Shallow Christianity to Deep Transformation*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2021.
- _____. *Emotionally Healthy Spirituality: Unleash a Revolution in Your Life for Christ*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 2006.
- Sell, Charles M. *Transitions Through Adult Life*. Zondervan, 1991.
- Shaffer, Stephen and Tod Vogt. *Catalyze Coaching: Kenotic Conversations for Growth and Change* (ChurchSmart Resources, 2021)
- Smith, Stephen. *Inside Job: Doing the Work Within the Work*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2015.

Good Podcasts

Strengthening the Soul of Your Leadership
The Emotional Healthy Leader
The Daily Liturgy
Spiritual Life and Leadership
Unhurried Living

Use of technology

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 or email your professor directly at secloer@harding.edu.

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 can be found on Canvas.

Students new to HST LIVE should watch the HST LIVE orientation video before the first day of class. That video can be found at <https://hst.edu/students/canvas-online-learning/>.

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.

LIVE Etiquette:

- HST Live is a convenience for distance broadcast and attendance. In terms of responsibilities, it is no different than on-campus participation. Attendance at all class sessions is required just as if in residence on the Memphis campus.
- “Making up” a missed session by watching the recording will be granted only in extreme cases such as illness or family emergency (the same policy for those on the Memphis campus). Please make arrangements in your ministry context or employment to be in attendance for all scheduled sessions (e.g. a staff meeting is not an excused absence). The same applies to arriving late or leaving early.
- Be seated in an environment that approximates a classroom setting (for example, a chair at a desk in your office). Create a distraction free environment. It is not acceptable to sit or lie down on your bed or in a recliner, lounge on your deck or on the beach, or sit in a coffee shop, etc.
- Remain stationary at your computer during the class session except during breaks. If you must go to the restroom & mute your audio/video, Then return to your screen, un-mute, and resume the class.
- Arrange for your HST Live environment to be distraction free (for example, no family noise, TV, etc.).
- Failure to observe these and related etiquette matters will result in grade reductions at the professor’s sole discretion.