

MN-601: Foundations of Christian Leadership
University of Dubuque

INSTRUCTOR Rev. Dr. Marcus Allen

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DESCRIPTION

This course introduces a Christian understanding of leadership. Attention is focused on Jesus being the model for exceptional leadership, the importance of a strong devotional life for leaders, the significance of the leader is influenced by the Holy Spirit, and how to lead through transition and uncharted territory. This is a course designed to establish a strong foundation for Christian leadership.

OBJECTIVES

Master of Divinity (MDiv) Course Learning Outcomes:

1. Engage contemporary theological and ethical issues with insight and humility
2. Educate and equip individuals and congregations to live and minister joyfully and faithfully as part of their own denomination and the ecumenical church
3. Integrate theology and practice in all areas of life and ministry

Master of Arts in Mission and Discipleship:

1. Articulate and reflect critically and constructively on the biblical and theological foundations of God's mission to the world.
2. Develop, implement, and assess strategies for missional living in a specific cultural context.
3. Adopt spiritual practices that nurture their personal lives as faithful disciples and witnesses.

Master of Arts in Christian Leadership (MACL) Course Learning Outcomes:

1. Develop a missional strategy with attention to a particular cultural context.
2. Apply a coherent philosophy of Christian leadership to a particular context.
3. Identify and interpret key themes from the Christian scriptures.

Course Learning Objectives:

- Identify and interpret key themes on leadership in the life of Jesus Christ.
- Develop a plan to produce successful change in a church or religious organization.
- Demonstrate an ability to evaluate and improve organizational structures.
- Examine a process for developing strategies through strategic thinking resulting in effective leadership in the local church and the community.
- Set a priority and develop a plan for private devotion for establishing a strong foundation for leadership.

RESOURCES

Allen, Marcus. *I Got Next: Ten Essential Lessons for an Effective Pastoral Transition*. Bloomington, IN.: WestBow Press, 2020, ISBN 1973692538

Bolsinger, Tod. *Canoeing the Mountains*. Downers Grove, Ill.: Intervarsity Press, 2015. ISBN 978-0830841264

Cordeiro, Wayne. *The Divine Mentor: Growing Your Faith as You Sit at the Feet of the Savior*. Ada, MI: Bethany House Publishers, 2007. ISBN 076420579X

Rainer, Thom. *The Post-Quarantine Church: Six Urgent Challenges and Opportunities That Will Determine the Future of Your Congregation*. Carol Stream, IL. Tydale House Publishers, ISBN 978-1-4964-5275-7

Baker, Dori, Lewis, Stephen, Williams, Matthew. *Another Way: Living and Leading Change on Purpose*. St. Louis, MO. Chalice Press. ISBN 9780827200838

In addition, each student will read and analyze a book of Scripture selected in consultation with the instructor. Other video and written resources will be provided online.

REQUIREMENTS

Weekly Discussions and Responses: Students must respond to the weekly discussion question and one (1) other student's response in the class.

Critical evaluation of textbooks: This assignment will be written in Turabian Format and the length of this assignment should be three (3) pages, 12 font, Times New Roman, Double spaced.

The four books the students are required to Prepare a 3-page critical evaluation are:

Allen, Marcus. *I Got Next: Ten Essential Lessons for an Effective Pastoral Transition*.
 Bolsinger, Tod. *Canoeing the Mountains*.
 Rainer, Thom. *The Post-Quarantine Church: Six Urgent Challenges and Opportunities That Will Determine the Future of Your Congregation*.
 Cordeiro, Wayne. *The Divine Mentor: Growing Your Faith as You Sit at the Feet of the Savior*

Course Project

This assignment will be written in Turabian Format and the length of this assignment should be three (3) pages in length, 12 font, Times New Roman, Double spaced

Prepare a report, "Why our church should _____ (make some decision). This report should be in a form that could be given to pastoral staff, deacons, or other decision-making groups. It should contain sections on reasons for making a decision now, the importance of the decision, alternative solutions (with pros and cons of each), a recommended solution with a strong presentation defending it, and a plan for implementing the decision. If the decision has been made, then an evaluation should be included.

Assignment Policies:

Each assignment should be completed according to the calendar. Late work may not be penalized at the instructor's discretion if notified before the due date.

A. Grading Scale

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| 90-100 | A |
| 80-89 | B |
| 70-79 | C |
| 60-69 | D |
| 59 and below | F |

CALENDAR

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| September 7, 2021 | Fall Seminary Courses Begin Online Introductions What is Christian Leadership? |
| September 14, 2021 | |
| September 21, 2021 | Critical Book Evaluation due |

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| | Baker, Dori, Lewis, Stephen, Williams, Matthew. <i>Another Way: Living and Leading Change on Purpose.</i> |
| September 28, 2021 | |
| October 5, 2021 | Study Days |
| October 12, 2021 | Critical Book Evaluation due Bolsinger, Tod. <i>Canoeing the Mountains.</i> |
| October 19, 2021 | |
| October 26, 2021 | |
| November 2, 2021 | Critical Book Evaluation due Allen, Marcus. <i>I Got Next: Ten Essential Lessons for an Effective Pastoral Transition.</i> |
| November 9, 2021 | |
| November 16, 2021 | Complete Church Strategy Diagram |
| November 23, 2021 | Research and Thanksgiving Break |
| November 30, 2021 | |
| December 7, 2021 | Course Project due |
| December 13, 2021 | Last day of class |