FLOURISH | GORDON CONWELL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Flourish Courses Developed by Gordon-Conwell.

CL/MC707 Leadership in the Local Church
Course Developer: Dr. James Singleton
Course Instructor: Dr. Tim Dolan

Summer 2022 (May 24th – August 29th)
Required Web Meetings:
Tuesday, May 31st (8-9 PM ET/6-7 PM CT/5-6 PM PT)
Tuesday, July 5th (8-9 PM ET/6-7 PM CT/5-6 PM PT)
Tuesday, August 4th (8-9 PM ET/6-7 PM CT/5-6 PM PT)
Tuesday, August 16th (8-9 PM ET/6-7 PM CT/5-6 PM PT)

*Leadership is energizing a community of people toward their own transformation
in order to accomplish a shared mission in the face of a changing world. ~ Tod Bolsinger*

Contacts
Course Instructor: Dr. Tim Dolan at timdolan73@gmail.com
Flourish: registrar@flourishmovement.org

Course Description
There are many roles that ministers play – teacher, preacher, equipper, pastor, shepherd, etc. Today a congregation yearns for the role of skilled servant leader in a congregational context. As the North American church leaves the context of Christendom behind and heads into a more missionary encounter with the culture, ministers need to gain experience in leading change. Making changes in congregations is a very complicated venture, requiring many different facets of leadership. In this course, we will examine the elements of leadership in a Christian context from a biblical and historical basis. Particular focus will be upon self-understanding, and what parts of leadership will be natural and which ones will need to be acquired.

Course Objectives
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:
- Grow in self-awareness and social awareness
- Grasp the Christian character and values needed for effective leadership
- Begin to reflect on personal leadership styles and strengths
- Examine biblical and historical examples of leadership
- Grow in understanding the leadership needs of a church and/or a Christian ministry

- Begin to learn how to practice leadership and visioning in the context of a congregation
- Understand the difference in tactical and adaptive change and identify where to use each

Course Modality

This course is offered online at flourishmovement.org. This online course has a fixed start and end date with scheduled weekly Lessons and associated Assignments and Activities. Although this course is primarily asynchronous (meaning that students usually do not have to be online at certain times to complete course requirements), students will need to adhere to weekly due dates. In addition, students will have to be present for four (4) web meetings scheduled by the Instructor. Finally, students will be placed in small groups of 4-5 that will have several web meetings. More information will be available in the course site.

Those taking the course for personal enrichment are strongly encouraged to stay on track with the schedule for credit-seeking students. Access to course content is not guaranteed after the course end date.

Course Schedule

The course is organized into fourteen weeks: eleven weeks of content (lessons), a holiday week mid-way, and two weeks at the end for study and final assignments. Course-weeks begin on a Tuesday and end on a Monday.

Week(s)	Dates	Lesson Title
1	May 24-30	Lesson 1, Introduction to the Course/Leadership Definitions
2	May 31-June 6	Lesson 2, The Spiritual Life of the Leader
3	June 7-13	Lesson 3, The Shaping of a Leader's Character
4	June 14-20	Lesson 4, Emotional Intelligence and Leadership
5	June 21-27	Lesson 5, What are We Leading? Church Government
6	June 28-July 4	**Week of July 4 – Break; No Coursework Due**
7	July 5-11	Lesson 6, Family Systems in the Church
8	July 12-18	Lesson 7, Church Life Cycles and Health
9	July 19-25	Lesson 8, How Do We Lead? Mission and Vision
10	July 26-Aug. 1	Lesson 9, Team-Based Ministry
11	Aug. 2-8	Lesson 10, Leading Through Conflict
12	Aug. 9-15	Lesson 11, Models for Leading
13-14	Aug 16-29	Final Course Assignments Completion Period

Course Requirements

I.   Readings

Students are required to obtain and read several books for this course. Books can be obtained through any online retailer. Weekly reading assignments are posted in the course site.

Students are required to complete the readings to pass the course and will submit a course report at the end of the course attesting that they have completed this requirement (and others).

<u>Required Books</u>
Students should purchase the following books:
- Barton, Ruth Haley. *Strengthening the Soul of Your Leadership: Seeking God in the Crucible of Ministry.* (Downers Grove, Ill: IVP, 2008) (ISBN-13: 978-0-8308-3513-3) (228 pages)
- Bolsinger, Tod. *Canoeing the Mountains: Christian Leadership in Uncharted Territory.* (Downers Grove, Ill: IVP, 2015) (ISBN-13: 978-0-8308-4126-4) (247 pages)
- Creech, R. Robert. *Family Systems and Congregational Life: A Map for Ministry*. (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 2019) (ISBN-13: 978-1-5409-6157-0) (226 pages)
- Hartwig, Ryan T. and Warren Bird. *Teams That Thrive: Five Disciplines of Collaborative Church Leadership.* (Downers Grove, Ill: IVP, 2015) (ISBN-13: 97800-8308-4119-6) (268 pages)
- Mancini, Will and Warren Bird. *God Dreams: 12 Vision Templates for Finding and Focusing Your Church's Future* (Nashville, TN: B&H, 2016) (ISBN-13: 978-1-4336-8845-4) (261 pages)
- Osterhaus, James, Joseph M. Jurkowski, and Todd A Hahn. *Thriving Through Ministry Conflict*. (Grand Rapids, MI.: Zondervan, 2005) (ISBN-13: 13:978-0-310-86438-7) (155 pages)
- Overstreet, Jane. *Unleader: The Surprising Qualities of a Valuable Leader* (Colorado Springs: Biblica, 2011) (ISBN-13: 978-1-60657-039-5) (112 pages)
- Robinson, Bill. *Incarnate Leadership: 5 Leadership Lessons from the Life of Jesus*. (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2009 (ISBN-13: 978-0-310-29113-8) (122 pages)
- West, John Lee, Roy M. Oswald, and Nadyne Guzman. *Emotional Intelligence for Religious Leaders*. (Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 2018) (ISBN-13: 978-1538-0914-4) (115 pages)

<u>Recommended Books</u>
These books are recommended by the Course Developer, but are not required for purchase:
- Bradberry, Travis and Jean Greaves. *Emotional Intelligence* 2.0 (San Diego, CA: TalentSmart, 2009) (ISBN-13: 978-0-9743206-2-5) (255 pages) (**EI Test Included**)
- Winseman, Albert L, Donald O. Clifton, and Curt Liesveld, *Living Your Strengths: Discover Your God-Given Talents and Inspire Your Community.* (New York: Gallup Press, 2003) (ISBN-13: 1-59562-002-8) (230 pages) (**Free Strengths Finder test with the book**)
- Zissner, William, *On Writing Well: The Classic Guide to Writing Non-Fiction.* ISBN-13: 978-0060891541

II.   Lectures

Students are required to watch weekly lecture videos. These videos are posted in the course site. Students are required to watch all of the lecture videos to pass the course and will

submit a course report at the end of the course attesting that they have completed this requirement (and others).

III. Web-Meetings with Course Instructor

Students will meet four times with the Course Instructor as a class to discuss course content and student insights. Dates and times are specified at the top of this syllabus. Information on how to connect will be available in the course site.

IV. Activities and Assignments

Students will complete various activities and assignments associated with the content of the Lessons. Instructions and due dates for all the activities and assignments are in the course site.

V. Small Groups

Students taking the course for credit (whether taking for CLP credit alone or those taking it for both CLP and Gordon-Conwell credit) will be placed in groups of 4-6 students. In this course, groups will be required to find a mutually agreeable time to meet in select lessons (four times) via Zoom to discuss course content. Each student will submit a summary of each group session. Instructions and discussion prompts are in the course site.

VI. Discussion Forums

Students will engage in written discussion forums in select lessons (three times). Full descriptions of the discussion forums are in the course site.

VII. Papers

Students will prepare 1 large paper and 5 small papers:
- Leadership Reflection
- Congregational Analysis – Family Systems
- Congregational Analysis – Life Cycle
- Analysis of your Leadership Style
- Leadership Experience (Best and Worst)

Full descriptions of these papers are in the course site.

VIII. Course Reports

At the end of the course, students will complete a Course Report verifying completion of all non-graded activities including reading, lecture viewing, small group attendance, and class video session attendance.

Assignment Formatting and Submission

Writing assignments should be submitted as either a Microsoft Word document or PDF file in the course site (email submissions are not accepted).

All assignment file names should follow this convention:

Last updated: April 23, 2021

FirstinitialLastname_AssignmentName_MMDDYY
example: JSmith_ResearchPaper_123119

All written assignments should be double-spaced with one-inch margins and a 12-point standard font and **should follow the most recent edition of Turabian (Chicago Style for Students and Researchers) for paper formatting and citations**.

Course Grading

All course grading will be completed by the Course Instructor. **All assignments and activities must be completed to pass the course.**

Assignments and Weighting

Assignment	Weighting
Final Leadership Reflection	40%
2-Congregational Analysis	20%
2-Personal Reflections	10%
Small Groups	5%
Discussion Forums	5%
8-Reading Reports	20%
Course Report (pass/fail) includes:	
Lecture Viewing	
Class Web Sessions	
Total	**100%**

Grading Scale

A	93-100%	B+	87-89%	C+	77-79%	D+	67-69%		
		B	83-86%	C	73-76%	D	63-66%	F	Below 60
A-	90-92%	B-	80-82%	C-	70-72%	D-	60-62%		

Academic Standards

All submitted materials should be of graduate level academic quality and edited to reflect the student's best effort. Students should ensure that their submitted work is free from spelling, grammatical, and formatting errors. Students who are not confident that their writing meets graduate level standards or who are looking to improve their writing abilities are encouraged to enroll in one or both of the following courses through Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary:

- CT490 – Writing Skills Workshop. CT490 is a one-credit-hour online refresher course that introduces seminary students to essential grammar and composition skills necessary for pursuit of graduate-level writing.
- CT500 – Introduction to Theological Research and Writing. CT500 introduces students to graduate-level research and writing skills with specific attention to academic writing, theological research, integrating sources, understanding and avoiding plagiarism, and the proper citation of sources following the Turabian style manual.

To enroll in one of these courses, please contact charlotteadmissions@gordonconwell.edu.

Cheating and plagiarism are considered serious breaches of personal and academic integrity. Cheating involves, but is not necessarily limited to, the use of unauthorized sources of information during an examination or the submission of the same (or substantially same) work for credit in two or more courses without the knowledge and consent of the instructors. Plagiarism involves the use of another person's distinctive ideas or words, whether published or unpublished, and representing them as one's own instead of giving proper credit to the source. Plagiarism can also involve over-dependence on other source material for the scope and substance of one's writing. Such breaches in academic standards often result in a failing grade as well as other corrective measures.

Accommodations, Dropping the Course, and Extensions

If you are a student in need of accommodation due to disability, please contact registrar@flourishmovement.org for guidelines and next steps. It is the responsibility of the student to notify the Instructor of the documented accommodations at the beginning of the semester.

If you would like to drop the course, you are able to do so. The deadlines and amount you will be refunded or asked to pay depends on the type of student you are.

If you are a CLP2 student, you have until the start of the 7th week to drop the course for no additional charge. If you drop after the start of the 7th week, you will be asked to pay a $150 drop fee. For the spring semester, the date to drop by, with no extra fee, would be July 12th.

If you are a Flourish or CLP1 student, the deadlines and refund percentages are below:
- June 3rd – Last day to drop Spring course(s) for 100% refund
- June 17th – Last day to drop Spring course(s) for 80% refund
- July 1st – Last day to drop Spring course(s) for 50% refund
- August 19th – Last day to drop Spring course(s) with no refund

Once August 19th passes, and you have not completed the coursework, you will be asked to take an "incomplete" for the course.

When you request to drop a class, you will be asked to fill out a form for our records with the name of the course, the reason you are dropping the course, and confirmation that you have paid the additional fee (if applicable) and notified your professor.

Arrangements for submission of late work at a date on or before the end date for the semester are made between the student and Instructor. However, course work to be submitted after the publicized end

date for the semester or term must be approved by Taylor Woods. ***An Extension Petition must be submitted to registrar@flourishmovement.org no later than the Friday before the last day of the course.*** Extensions are only available for those with exigent and unforeseen circumstances and are generally not granted for work, ministry, or educational overload. There will be a fee for extensions of $40 that will need to be paid when the student submits their Extension Petition. To request an Extension Petition, please email Taylor Woods at registrar@flourishmovement.org with the name of the course and the deadline you and your instructor agreed upon.