SYLLABUS

PASTORAL MINISTRY 511

July 21-25, 2008

Baptist Missionary Association
Theological Seminary
Jacksonville, Texas
8:30 a.m.—5:30 p.m.

Instructor:

Dr. Larry Silvey
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Hope, AR 71802-0223
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Text:


Course Description:

The class will begin by giving attention to biblical perspectives concerning the nature and call to pastoral or other ministry positions. From that context, the class will consider matters of personal preparation for ministry. Practical application of ministry activities will follow as the class examines specific ministry opportunities in the contexts of worship, leadership, and personal discipleship.

Course Objectives:

Upon completion of the course, the student should be able to:

1. Demonstrate a personal conviction regarding a knowledge of the call to specific ministry.

2. Comprehend the relation of ministry to the church in its local and cooperative activities.

3. Apply biblical principles to personal life in practical ways so as to develop a more effective ministry.
Assignments:

1. Class attendance, punctuality, and participation will constitute 15 percent of the course grade.

2. The student will read the MacArthur text and prepare a one-page summary of each chapter. The summary should include two paragraphs: the first paragraph will state briefly the major points of the chapter with a sentence or two describing each point; the second paragraph will offer specific examples of how the student can make personal application of the chapter’s content.

   The papers are to be double-spaced with one-inch margins. The student’s name and the date of the assignment will be at the top of the first page. These reports will constitute 20 percent of the course grade.

   The reading assignments are to be completed before July 21. The reports should be ready to turn in at the first class meeting.

3. The instructor will give periodic assignments and occasional tests. Evaluation of those assignments and scores on the tests will constitute 15 percent of the course grade.

4. Each student will prepare a twenty-page paper on a personal ministry project chosen from the accompanying list or one approved by the instructor. The paper will be due on or before September 19, 2008. The paper will constitute 25 percent of the course grade.

5. The final examination will be on July 25 and will constitute 25 percent of the course grade.

6. The syllabus is subject to changes as announced in class meetings.

Personal Ministry Project Paper:

With reference to Item 4 under Assignments, the project should assist each student in the development of personal ministry leadership skills which find their expression in specific activities in the student’s church. By September 19, 2008, each student will complete and turn in a Personal Ministry Project Report, consisting of no more than twenty pages, double-spaced.

Although content and relevance are of primary importance, the student should give attention to correct grammar and clarity of expression. The student should consult five to ten resources related to the subject. In addition to giving evidence of sufficient investigation into the related field, the student must emphasize how the research has led to practical application in
the student’s personal ministry. Following are some sample projects to help define clearly the intent of the assignment.

Improving My Use of Time as a Leader
Developing Goals for the Church’s Deacon Ministry
Preparing a Church Constitution/Policy Manual
Discovering and Cultivating the Spiritual Gifts of Our Members
Planning the Worship Services of Our Church
Selecting and Leading a Planning Committee
Developing a Ministry Action Plan for Our Church
Formulating Steps for Developing Our Church Budget
Planting a New Church
Will a Church Council Work in Our Church?
Priorities Among Ministry Needs in Our Church
Creating a Discipleship Ministry in Our Church
Preparing Job Descriptions for Our Church Staff
Preparing for a Building Program
Evaluating Our Current Facilities for Future Growth
Incorporating New Members Into Our Church Body
Preparing New Converts for Baptism
Planning a Christian Wedding
Ministering to the Bereaved
Developing a Plan for Expository Preaching

The project should provide a positive answer to the following questions: (1) Does it interest me? (2) Does it relate to a real need in my life or the life of my church? (3) Is it the place to begin in addressing the needs of that ministry? (4) Can it be realistically accomplished? (5) Will it have a positive impact upon my church’s ministry?

The paper should include extensive research into the observations of qualified sources. It is important to include related principles, statistics, approaches, and concepts. Based upon
those insights, the heart of the paper will show how the research has informed the student in
the development of his own approach to the subject as it will relate to ministry in the church.

Class Schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Class Discussion Topics</th>
<th>Text Reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 21</td>
<td><strong>Part I. Biblical Perspectives</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>An Overview of Pastoral Ministry</td>
<td>Pages i-63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Part II. Preparatory Perspectives</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Character and Call to Pastoral Ministry</td>
<td>Pages 67-91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Training for Pastoral Ministry</td>
<td>Pages 92-120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ordination to Pastoral Ministry</td>
<td>Pages 121-161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Part III. Personal Perspectives</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Pastor’s Personal Life</td>
<td>Pages 162-188</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Part IV. Pastoral Perspectives</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 22</td>
<td>Worshiping</td>
<td>Pages 189-203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Preaching</td>
<td>Pages 204-213</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 23</td>
<td>Modeling</td>
<td>Pages 214-227</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Leading</td>
<td>Pages 228-246</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 24</td>
<td>Outreaching</td>
<td>Pages 247-260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Discipling</td>
<td>Pages 261-271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 25</td>
<td>Watching and Warning</td>
<td>Pages 272-283</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Observing Ordinances</td>
<td>Pages 284-313</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Final Examination</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
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