

Theory and Practice of Ministerial Leadership
CMLE 607 – Fall 2009
Instructor, Dr. Jeffrey Jones
Syllabus

Course Description: The key to effective leadership in the congregation is a blending of art and skill, of personal traits and developed abilities. The art of leadership comes from who we are as persons of faith. The skill of leadership comes from the use of appropriate methods for achieving desired goals. This course will explore both the art and skill of leadership in the congregation, with particular attention to the specific practices that are essential to leading faithfully in today's church.

Course Goals: At the end of the course students will be able to

- 1) describe challenges facing ministerial leaders in the contemporary context and apply both theoretical and practical understandings of leadership to them;
- 2) express their own understanding of key ministerial leadership practices;
- 3) state their own understanding of ministerial leadership.

Grading Policy:

- 1) Leadership Inventory Participation – 10%
- 2) Panel – 25%
- 3) Book Analysis – 25%
- 4) Final Paper – 40%

Leadership Inventory: Each student will participate in a leadership assessment to explore leadership styles. As part of the assessment each student will complete two on-line inventories during the first two weeks of the course and receive a personalized report that describes approaches to leadership. This report is personal information intended to aid your growth as a leader. As part of the assessment process we will spend the third session of the class looking at the inventories. Dr. Stephen Ott of the Center for Career Development and Ministry will lead us in this process.

Panel: Each student will be assigned to a panel that will respond to the lecture and/or reading for the week and lead the class discussion. Panels will provide leadership on week 6-12 of the course. See further information attached.

Book Analysis: Each student will select an additional book on leadership from an approved list and write a 1500-2000 word analysis of its content in light of course concerns. The paper is due Friday, November 13 and should be submitted as an e-mail attachment in rich text or Word 2003 format. The papers will be posted on Connect so that they will be available as a resource to other class members. See further information attached.

Final Paper: Each student will write a 3500-4000 word paper that explores one of the three underlying leadership concepts explored in the course (servant leadership, change, role), one of the seven practices explored in the course or another topic that has been approved by the instructor. Submit the topic for your final paper in class on December 3 or by e-mail no later than December 4. The paper is due on Friday, December 18 and should be submitted as an e-mail attachment in rich text or Word 2003 format. See further information attached.

Texts:

Heart, Mind and Strength by Jeffrey D. Jones

Leadership on the Line by Ronald Heifetz and Marty Linsky

Primal Leadership by Ronald Goleman et al

The Leadership Challenge by James Kouzes and Barry Posner

Schedule:

Week 1 – September 17

Setting the Context – Course Introduction

Leading in a Post- World

Week 2 – September 24

Exploring Self – The Who and What of Leadership

Read: *Heart, Mind and Strength*, chapter 1

Additional assignment: Complete the leadership inventory assessment tools.

Week 3 – October 1

Exploring Self – Personal Leadership Issues and Styles (Class attendance required)

No reading assignment. Use this week to get ahead on the reading for the rest of the semester or to begin reading the book for your analysis paper.

We will be meeting with Stephen Ott from the Center for Career Development to review the leadership inventories.

Week 4 – October 8

Exploring the Reality of Change – How It Transforms the Role of Leaders

Read: *Heart, Mind and Strength*, chapter 2; *Leadership on the Line*, Parts 1 and 2; *The Leadership Challenge*, Part 4

Week 5 – October 15

Exploring Servanthood – Biblical and Theological Considerations

Exploring Leader Roles – Practical Implications

Read: *Primal Leadership*, Part 1

Week 6 – October 22

Attending to Self

Read: *Heart, Mind and Strength*, chapter 3; *Leadership on the Line*, Part 3

Week 7 – October 29

Modeling Faithfulness

Read: *Heart, Mind and Strength*, chapter 4; *The Leadership Challenge*, Parts 1 and 2

Week 8 – November 5

Discerning and Communicating Vision

Read: *Heart, Mind and Strength*, chapter 5; *The Leadership Challenge*, Part 3

Week 9 – November 12

Creating Common Ground

Read: *Heart, Mind and Strength*, chapter 6; *The Leadership Challenge*, Part 6

Book analysis due Friday, November 13.

Week 10 – November 19

Empowering Others

Read: *Heart, Mind and Strength*, chapter 7; *The Leadership Challenge*, Part 5; *Primal Leadership*, Part 2

FALL BREAK

Week 11 – December 3

Working with Groups

Read: *Heart, Mind and Strength*, chapter 8; *Primal Leadership*, Part 3

Submit the topic for your final paper in class or by e-mail no later than December 4.

Week 12 – December 10

Dealing with Institutional Stress and Conflict

Read: *Heart, Mind and Strength*, chapter 9.

Final Paper due Friday, December 18.