

Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form.



MOODY DISTANCE LEARNING

Course Number, Name, and Credit Hours

CRI3303 Problem Solving and the Challenges of the Church, 3 credit hours

Course Description

This course will guide you in the development of a critical consciousness through the analysis of various issues facing the contemporary church. Emphasis is placed on the ability to think critically, assess information, and develop consistent and coherent arguments which seek to address the challenges of the Christian church worldwide.

Course Objectives

By the completion of this course you should be able to:

1. Analyze a particular problem to determine possible solutions
2. Use the Bible to form theological responses to problems and challenges in the church
3. Apply decision making skills to respond to problems and challenges in the church
4. Defend one's response to an ethical challenge facing the church

Required Materials

Required textbooks for all Moody Online classes can be found on the [Required Textbooks](#) section of the Moody website.

NOTE: Additional content or links to Internet content may be required and will be provided in the course.

Assignments

See the Syllabus page in the Blackboard course for general assignment instructions.

All assignments are due according to the schedule listed on the Course Schedule.

1. **CLASS PARTICIPATION:** Active participation is expected in this online course. Participation includes two main areas: discussion boards and reading. **Class Participation account for 25% of the final course grade.**
 - a. **Discussion Boards:** You must maintain a significant presence in the discussion board. Please refer to the discussion board rubric included in the Resources section of this course for more information on how your participation in the discussion board will be assessed. Unless otherwise directed, post your initial response to the discussion question by mid-week (Friday, 11:59pm CT). Then read and respond to at least TWO of your classmates' initial posts by the end of the week (Monday, 11:59pm CT).
 - b. **Course Expectations:** The completion of the course reading, audio/video reviews, online articles, etc. is an important part of the course. You are expected to complete the weekly expectations prior to your discussion boards each week so you are able to discuss the concepts with others in the course.

2. **ASSIGNMENTS:** There will be several projects in this course requiring skills learned that include work with Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. The assignments in the course are:

a. **Assignment 1: Response Paper #1 – Ministry Dilemma**

This paper should reflect your analysis of the ministry dilemma "Adult Sunday School" in Lesson One and present a recommended solution. Your response should answer the following questions:

- 1) What are the possible solutions to the problem/dilemma?
- 2) Who will be affected by the decision made regarding this ministry?
- 3) How would you resolve the problem/dilemma?
- 4) What personal values, principles and/or loyalties guide your recommended solution?
- 5) How will the church be impacted by this proposed solution?

Your response should be four (4) pages.

(Due Week 1)

b. **Assignment 2: Response Paper #2 - The Role of Scripture in Decision Making**

This paper should explain the role of theology and scripture in decision making and problem solving. Your paper should answer the following questions:

- 1) How does the nature of scripture inform our understanding of its role in decision making and problem solving?
- 2) How can we misuse scripture in decision making and problem solving?
- 3) How should theology and scripture inform our decision making and problem solving?

Your response should be four (4) pages.

(Due Week 2)

c. **Assignment 3: Principles for Using the Scriptures in Decision Making and Problem Solving Paper**

You will create a list of ten (10) principles for using Scripture. Using the examples given (Hays' Guidelines, O'Collins and Kendall's Ten Principles, and Rodriguez's 'Principles for Theological Use') and the course readings from Lessons 2 and 3, you should formulate your own list of ten principles for using scripture. Each principle should be one to two (1-2) sentences long. At the end of the list you will provide a two (2) paragraph long rationale for the principles listed. The paragraphs should explain why the principles are important and the organic connection between the principles. The principles listed should explain the role of scripture and provide guidelines for "using" scripture well to inform decision making. Footnotes should be included to indicate the use of sources provided.

(Due Week 3)

d. **Assignment 4: Case Study Response #1**

This case study response should reflect your analysis to "Gambling, Pornography and Divorce: Where is the Church."

After reading the case study you should prepare a four (4) page response that:

- 1) Describes the problem(s)/dilemma(s) and identifies the individuals affected by the situation,
- 2) Provides possible solutions to the problem(s)/dilemma(s) and its impact on the individuals affected, and
- 3) Proposes a particular response or plan of action that indicates how your personal values, loyalties, and understanding of scripture informed the proposed solution(s).

(Due Week 4)

e. **Assignment 5: Case Study Response #2**

This case study response should reflect your analysis to “Abortion: We don’t want to talk about it.”

After reading the case study you should prepare a four (4) page response that:

- 1) Describes the problem(s)/dilemma(s) and identifies the individuals affected by the situation,
- 2) Provides possible solutions to the problem(s)/dilemma(s) and its impact on the individuals affected, and
- 3) Proposes a particular response or plan of action that indicates how your personal values, loyalties, and understanding of scripture informed the proposed solution(s).

(Due Week 5)

f. **Assignment 6: Case Study Response #3**

This case study response should reflect your analysis to “Sexual Deviation: Sexuality in the Church.”

After reading the case study you should prepare a four (4) page response that:

- 1) Describes the problem(s)/dilemma(s) and identifies the individuals affected by the situation,
- 2) Provides possible solutions to the problem(s)/dilemma(s) and its impact on the individuals affected, and
- 3) Proposes a particular response or plan of action that indicates how your personal values, loyalties, and understanding of scripture informed the proposed solution(s).

(Due Week 6)

g. **Assignment 7: Case Study Response #4**

This case study response should reflect your analysis to “Child Molestation: The sins of the father.”

After reading the case study you should prepare a four (4) page response that:

- 1) Describes the problem(s)/dilemma(s) and identifies the individuals affected by the situation,
- 2) Provides possible solutions to the problem(s)/dilemma(s) and its impact on the individuals affected, and
- 3) Proposes a particular response or plan of action that indicates how your personal values, loyalties, and understanding of scripture informed the proposed solution(s).

Additionally you will include a timeline indicating the order of steps taken to put the proposed solution into practice. You can use Word or Excel to create a timeline. To use Word, you can watch this YouTube video: <http://youtu.be/jOjOacVCoQM> . To use Excel, you can watch this YouTube video: <http://youtu.be/n2T4h5XRJ0c> or you can use the Excel template provided.

(Due Week 7)

h. **Assignment 8: Case Study Response #5**

This case study response should reflect your analysis to “Sexual Harassment: The Philandering Elder.”

After reading the case study you should prepare a four page response that:

- 1) Describes the problem(s)/dilemma(s) and identifies the individuals affected by the situation,
- 2) Provides possible solutions to the problem(s)/dilemma(s) and its impact on the individuals affected, and
- 3) Proposes a particular response or plan of action that indicates how your personal values, loyalties, and understanding of scripture informed the proposed solution(s).

Additionally you will include a timeline indicating the order of steps taken to put the proposed solution into practice. You can use Word or Excel to create a timeline. To use Word, you can watch this YouTube video: <http://youtu.be/jOjOacVCoQM> . To use Excel, you can watch this YouTube video: <http://youtu.be/n2T4h5XRJ0c> or you can use the Excel template provided.

(Due Week 8)

Assessments

Your grade for this course will consist of:

Class Participation (Discussion 15% + Reading 5%)	25%
Assignment 1: Response Paper #1	5%
Assignment 2: Response Paper #2	5%
Assignment 3: Principles for Using the Scriptures in Decision Making and Problem Solving Paper	5%
Assignment 4: Case Study #1	12%
Assignment 5: Case Study #2	12%
Assignment 6: Case Study #3	12%
Assignment 7: Case Study #4	12%
Assignment 8: Case Study #5	12%
	100%

Letter grades are determined by the following scale:

Letter Grade	Percentage Equivalent	Letter Grade	Percentage Equivalent
A	96% or higher	C	73 - 76.9%
A-	90 - 95.9%	C-	70 - 72.9%
B+	87 - 89.9%	D+	67 - 69.9%
B	83 - 86.9%	D	63- 66.9%
B-	80 - 82.9%	D-	60 - 62.9%
C+	77 - 79.9%	F	Below 60%