

Syllabus

INTRODUCTION

Pastoral Ethics is a biblical study of what a pastor does. This includes the essential components that Dr. David Larsen calls “the roots of pastoral ministry.” Issues such as the nature of a local church, the unique role of the pastor, and the pastor’s personal integrity provide the root system for any fruitful ministry. The roles of pastoral ministry are specific functions germane to the pastor such as preaching, leading, and shepherding. We will also review the pastor’s relationships in his home, community, and the church that are vital to successful ministry. Rites are those observances that particularly involve the pastor such as baptism, Communion, children’s dedications, weddings, and funerals. We will conclude by rethinking pastoral ministry in relation to the pastor’s place of service, his style of leadership, and the length of his service.

As you enter into this study, may I encourage you to select a pastor whom you will support in prayer and one who will be able to speak with you concerning issues that you will be studying in this course.

The Nature and Purpose of the Course

The course is a study on the subject of pastoral ministry. Upon completing it, you should be able to

- identify the biblical qualifications of a local church pastor.
- describe the biblical functions of a local church pastor.
- define helpful methodology in serving as a local church pastor.

Components of the Course.

This course consists of the Study Guide and two textbooks.

1. The Study Guide

This study guide contains the complete set of lessons for this course, as well as *Proctor Approval Forms* and *Request for Service Forms*. Each lesson consists of the *Introduction*, the *Supplement*, the *Study Questions*, and the *Self-Check Quiz*. The *Introduction* lists the assignments and objectives of the lesson. The *Supplement* provides a discussion of the lesson content. The *Study Questions* are designed to guide you in your study of the Supplement. *They are not to be sent in for evaluation*. The *Self-Check Quizzes* are designed to prepare you for the examinations. The answers for these are in a key at the end of the study guide. Please correct your own Self-Check Quizzes. Like the Study Questions, *do not send them to Moody Independent Studies for grading*.

2. Textbooks: The textbooks required for this course are:

- Cedar, Paul, Kent Hughes, and Ben Patterson. *Mastering the Pastoral Role*. Portland: Multnomah, 1991. ISBN 088070439X.
- Larsen, David L. *Caring for the Flock*. Wheaton: Crossway Books, 1991. ISBN 0891076093.

Specific instructions on the reading assignments from these texts are found in the Introduction for each lesson. In order to gain the most benefit from this course, you should read the assignment in the text or texts first, then read through the Supplement for that lesson.

REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES

Requirements. For this course you must successfully complete two exams, write two papers, read the assigned Scripture, read two textbooks, develop a six-month teaching/preaching calendar, and memorize the assigned Scripture.

Procedures. The following are the procedures and instructions for completing the requirements in this course. As you complete each assignment, mail it to Moody Independent Studies, 820 N. LaSalle Boulevard, Chicago, IL 60610-3284, along with a self-addressed, stamped envelope for the return of your graded work. *We recommend that you use the envelope sets that we have provided.*

1. The Exams

The two exams for this course are made up of 50 multiple-choice questions each. The exams will be electronically graded; *for this reason you must use a No. 2 lead pencil for marking all of your answers.* The required number of scantron answer sheets for the exams will be sent with your Student Information Sheet (see Student Information Sheet section).

In addition, it is required that a proctor supervise while you take the exams. You will find *Proctor Approval Forms* at the end of the study guide. For the approval of your proctor, you can either:

- a. Fill out the appropriate forms and mail them to Moody Independent Studies. Please allow four weeks before you plan to take the exams and be sure to indicate in your request if you would like the exams mailed or emailed to the proctor.
- b. Email the Proctor Approval Form information to MDLinstruction@moody.edu. Requests received via email will be able to be fulfilled within two working days.

In both situations, be sure to use the provided Scantron(s) with you when you take your exam(s).

- Exam 1 covers Lessons 1-6 (Units 1 and 2).
- Exam 2 covers Lessons 7-13 (Units 3, 4, and 5).

2. The Projects

a. The Papers

Each paper must be

- prefaced with a separate title page, which should include the title of the paper; the name of the course; the date; your name and address; and your student identification number.
- typescript or printout on 8 ½ -by-11-inch paper.
- double-spaced
- bordered by one-inch margin on all sides
- correct in grammar, punctuation, and spelling. No more than four errors per page are acceptable.
- documented in MLA style if documentation is necessary.

1. Position Paper 1 (3-6 pages)

State what you believe the Bible teaches are the personal qualifications for one in pastoral ministry. You might find helpful such passages as: 1 Timothy 3:1-11; Titus 1:6-9; 1 Peter 5:1-4.

2. Position Paper 2 (3-6 pages)

State what you believe the Bible teaches on the subject of divorce and remarriage. You might find helpful such passages as: Genesis 1:27; Deuteronomy 21:10-14; 24:1-4; Matthew 5:31, 32; 19:1-12; 1 Corinthians 7:10-16.

Writing these papers will help you think through what the Bible says on the pastoral ministry and on divorce and remarriage. You should be able to identify what the pertinent issues are, why you take the position you do, and the biblical support you find for your position.

b. The Preaching/Teaching Calendar

You will be required to develop a six-month calendar (26 weeks) on which you will include the following information:

- (1) A sermon or lesson title for that week
- (2) The corresponding biblical text reference that you would use to preach or teach that message

3. The Reading Assignments

You will be required to read the assigned Scriptures as they are given in the lessons of the study guide and textbooks.

4. The Scripture Memorization.

You will be required to memorize the following passages:

- a. Psalm 23:1-6 (Lesson 1)
- b. Psalm 78:70-72 (Lesson 4)
- c. John 10:11-16 (Lesson 6)
- d. Hebrews 13:20-21 (Lesson 9)
- e. 1 Peter 5:1-4 (Lesson 11)

You will be tested on your memorization by writing out the verses during the exams. Please be sure to indicate the translation you used for memorization.

5. The Sequence. The work for this course is due in the following order:
 - a. Position Paper 1 is due at the completion of Lesson 6.
 - b. Exam 1 is due after Lesson 6.
 - c. Position Paper 2 is due at the completion of Lesson 11.
 - d. The Preaching/Teaching Calendar is due at the completion of Lesson 12.
 - e. Exam 2 is due after Lesson 13.

ACADEMIC POLICIES AND INFORMATION

Grading and Credit. You will receive grades for the two exams, the two Position Papers, the reading of Scripture and textbooks, the Preaching/Teaching Calendar, and the Scripture memorization. Your final grade will be a composite of these. Each part of your grade is valued as follows:

Position Paper 1	15%
Exam 1	25%
Position Paper 2	15%
Exam 2	25%
Preaching/Teaching Calendar	10%
Scripture memorization assignment	<u>10%</u>
	100%

Letter grades are determined as follows:

A	95-100%	B-	86%	D+	75%
A-	94%	C+	85%	D	71-74%
B+	93%	C	77-84%	D-	70%
B	87-92%	C-	76%	F	69% and below

Time Limits. You are allowed six months after your enrollment to complete your study. If circumstances are such that you are unable to complete the course within the six months, please request an extension. An extension fee may be required. An extension request form is found in the www.my.moody.edu portal under student forms, or you can e-mail mdlc@moody.edu for assistance. **The payment and extension request must be submitted on or before the original completion date.**

Students are permitted one extension following the original six months. In order to continue and complete a course after one full year from the time of enrollment, you will need to enroll in the course a second time. A letter grade of F or FN will be posted upon the completion date for all courses that are incomplete and not assigned a passing earned grade of 70% (D-) or higher.

Bible Versions. You will need a Bible to complete each of the lessons in this course. In the lessons, quotations and references have been taken from the *New American Standard Bible* (NASB). You may also use the *New International Version* (NIV), the *King James Version* (KJV), or the *New Scofield Reference Bible* (NSRB).

Request for Service Forms. At the end of this study guide you will find *Request for Service Forms*. Please use these forms to send in address changes, questions for your instructor, or requests for prayer as you have needs. The Distance Learning staff meets regularly for prayer on behalf of its students.

Student Information Sheet. The Independent Studies office will be sending you a Student Information Sheet (you may have received it already). Fill out this sheet and mail it in with your first submission (exam or paper). This information will help your instructor become better acquainted with you. Along with the information sheet, you will also receive the required number of scantron answer sheets (if applicable) for this course.