

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

PS-3382 The Care of the Ministry Leader's Soul, 3 credit hours

Course Description

This course will attempt to help the student assess and diagnose the state of their soul and acquire habits and practices promoting spiritual health. Included is an exploration into the concepts of soul care, spiritual formation, and spiritual direction. Focus is placed on developing the spiritual health of those going into ministry in order that they may foster spiritual vitality in those to whom they minister.

Course Goals

In this course you will:

- Evaluate the state of your spiritual health
- Discern how God is working in your hearts and how to guard your hearts against temptation
- Identify and engage in practices for spiritual health
- Explore how to create margins in your lives for sustainable ministry

Course Objectives

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

1. Identify barriers—including idols—which work against a leader's intimacy with God
2. Develop and articulate habits and practices which promote greater spiritual health and intimacy with God
3. Describe how God works in the hearts and lives of leaders in general and in yourself in particular
4. Create margins for sustainable ministry through daily, weekly, and annual Sabbath rest
5. Know how to strengthen yourself in the Lord when facing adversity

Course Textbook(s) and/or Supplemental Information

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

Assignments

All assignments are due according to the schedule listed on the Course Schedule. Please submit all papers and the Half Day Retreat report as Microsoft Word compatible documents.

1. **CLASS PARTICIPATION:** Active participation is expected in this online course. Participation includes two main areas: discussion boards and reading
 - a. **DISCUSSION BOARDS:** You must maintain a significant presence in the discussion board. Please refer to the discussion board rubric included in the Course Resources section of this course for more information on how your participation in the discussion board will be assessed.
 - b. **READING:** The completion of the course reading is an important part of the course. You are expected to complete the reading prior to class for discussion

purposes. You will be required to submit a reading report at the end of each week.

Important Note: You will need to read an average of 93 pages per week for this course. Reading at this stage of your college career will call for rapid reading to get through the materials yet at the same time retaining and absorbing that which was read. It is recommended that you read ahead in order to keep up the pace and respond to the discussion boards each week in a timely and thoughtful manner.

2. **ASSIGNMENTS:**

a. **ASSIGNMENT 1: REFLECTION PAPERS**

You are required to complete five (5) Reflection Papers. Each paper should be single-spaced and contain between 600-750 words (roughly one (1) page). The topics and due dates for the papers are provided in the Course Schedule. You are not expected to cite any sources since these papers are based on your reflection on assigned reading, biblical passages, interviews, etc.

b. **ASSIGNMENT 2: BARRIER PAPER**

Prepare a single-spaced paper of 1,200-1,500 words (roughly two (2) pages) identifying your barrier and your strategy for your own growth as enabled by the Holy Spirit.

c. **ASSIGNMENT 3: HISTORICAL FIGURE'S INNER LIFE PAPER**

Your paper should be single-spaced, and it should be 3,000-4,000 words (five to six (5-6) pages) in length. In addition to this, your paper should contain a bibliography with at least four (4) sources.

Potential figures to study: Jonathan Edwards, Richard Baxter, Robert Murray M'Cheyne, Andrew Fuller, George Whitfield, Charles Wesley, John Wesley, John Calvin, Martin Luther, Augustine, Charles Spurgeon, D.L. Moody, John Owen, Amy Carmichael, Elizabeth Elliot, Joni Erickson Tada, Marva Dawn, John Stott, William Wilberforce, Chuck Colson, Deitrich Bonhoeffer, etc.

d. **ASSIGNMENT 4: HALF-DAY RETREAT AND REPORT**

Plan and experience a four-hour spiritual retreat. The goal is to spend time in communion with God. You will prepare a report of 1200-1500 words (roughly two (2) pages) which describes *what* you did and *how* it impacted you. What did you learn? What worked? What did not work for you? You may experience the retreat any time during the eight week class. The report is due at the end of the final week of class.

Assessments

Your grade for this course will consist of:

Class Participation: Reading/Discussion Boards	40%
Assignment 1: Reflection Papers	20%
Assignment 2: Barrier Paper	10%
Assignment 3: Historical Figure Paper	20%
Assignment 4: Report on Half-Day Retreat	10%
	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%

Course Resources

Online students have access to the Moody Library. Though students may wish to check out books via inter-library loan, the online database has a number of articles and reviews available for download. You can access the online database by logging into your account at my.moody.edu.

In addition to the resources available at the Moody Library, you may wish to visit <http://www.biblicalstudies.org.uk> or www.bible.org. These sites contain content on various topics written by competent biblical scholars. It is also suggested that you download a free version of the NET Bible at bible.org.

The final resource that deserves mention here is iTunes University. Apple has developed a platform for colleges and universities to post audio and video content. There are a number of lectures available on iTunes U. Various schools such as Dallas Theological Seminary, Seattle Pacific University, Duke, and Yale have posted content related to biblical and theological studies. In addition, Covenant Theological Seminary has an Old Testament podcast.

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Course Bibliography

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