

**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, and should not be used to purchase course materials.**

## ***COURSE SYLLABUS***

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### **CHPL 598**

#### **SPIRITUAL AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE CHAPLAIN**

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course addresses the professional and spiritual formation of chaplains. Students will observe and evaluate, first-hand, various chaplain ministries. Attention is given to the biblical nature of chaplain ministry and its practical application within the secular and pluralistic contexts of the military, healthcare, and community chaplain settings. Special emphasis is given to formation of godly character necessary for successful chaplain ministry.

#### **RATIONALE**

The chaplain needs to understand the biblical nature of chaplain ministry and its application within secular and pluralistic contexts. The student needs to observe and evaluate various chaplain ministries first-hand in order to best understand how to provide soul-care, as well as lead spiritually within the framework of secular, pluralistic environments. Additionally, a chaplain must be spiritually grounded and growing in the Lord in order to minister within military, healthcare, and community chaplain settings.

#### **I. PREREQUISITE**

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the [Academic Course Catalog](#).

#### **II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE**

Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm>

#### **III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING**

- A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Microsoft Word

#### **IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Appraise the biblical nature and work of chaplaincy within military, healthcare, and community settings.
- B. Assess the value of chaplain ministry as observed firsthand in pluralistic chaplaincy contexts.

- C. Summarize the biblical basis for spiritual disciplines and daily living.
- D. Analyze the disciplines essential for a strong spiritual formation.
- E. Critique the evidence of spiritual disciplines in his/her life.
- F. Create a spiritual growth plan pertinent to a specified type of chaplaincy ministry.
- G. Demonstrate knowledge of spiritual formation as revealed in the spiritual disciplines and pastoral leadership.

## V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations
- B. Course Requirements Checklist
 

After reading the Course Syllabus and [Student Expectations](#), the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.
- C. Discussion Board Forums (2)
 

Discussion boards are collaborative learning experiences. Therefore, the student is required to create a thread in response to the provided prompt for each forum. Each thread must be at least 400 words. In addition to the thread, the student will reply to at least 4 classmates' threads. Each reply must be at least 100 words.
- D. Journals (7)
 

The student will write Journals recounting his/her ministry observations and spiritual reflections. Prompts for each journal will be provided. The student must incorporate at least 1 biblical integration and write a minimum of 300 words for each Journal. (MLO: A, C, D)
- E. Spiritual Assessment
 

The student will complete a personal Spiritual Assessment as the basis for a Spiritual Development Plan. The student will reflect intently on his/her daily relationship with the Lord in 6 parts and complete a personal SWOT analysis as the seventh part. The Spiritual Assessment paper must be at least 900 words. (MLO: C, E)
- F. Shadow Evaluations (4)
 

The student will complete a 3-hour interview/shadow with 4 chaplains (for a total of 12 hours and 4 evaluations). The student will evaluate his/her shadowing experience. Each of the 4 evaluations must be at least 1,300 words and incorporate at least 2 course textbook citations. (MLO: A, B, C, D)
- G. Shadow Evaluation Paper
 

The student will compare and contrast his/her 4 Shadow Evaluations and write a paper based on lessons learned. The Shadow Evaluation Paper must be at least 1,600 words, follow current Turabian format, and incorporate at least 3 course textbook citations and 3 biblical integrations. (MLO: B, E, G)
- H. Spiritual Development Plan

The student will create a Spiritual Development Plan. The Spiritual Development Plan will focus on specific and measurable steps the student will take over the coming module/weeks to implement/practice chosen spiritual disciplines. The purpose in creating a Spiritual Development Plan is to intentionally map the student's part of the spiritual formation process. The Spiritual Development Plan must be at least 2,500 words, follow in current Turabian format, and must incorporate at least 5 scholarly citations and 3 biblical integrations. (MLO: E, F)

I. Quizzes (3)

Each quiz will cover the material found within the course textbooks and presentations for the modules/weeks in which they are assigned. Each quiz will be open-book/open-notes, contain 20 multiple-choice questions, and have a 30-minute time limit. The student will be permitted 2 attempts per quiz in an effort to achieve his/her best score. (MLO: D, G)

**VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES****A. Points**

Course Requirements Checklist	10
Discussion Board Forums (2 at 50 pts ea)	100
Journals (7 at 20 pts ea)	140
Spiritual Assessment	60
Shadow Evaluations (4 at 75 pts ea)	300
Shadow Evaluation Paper	100
Spiritual Development Plan	180
Quiz (3 at 40 pts ea)	120
<b>Total</b>	<b>1010</b>

**B. Scale**

A = 940–1010    A- = 920–939    B+ = 900–919    B = 860–899    B- = 840–859  
 C+ = 820–839    C = 780–819    C- = 760–779    D+ = 740–759    D = 700–739  
 D- = 680–699    F = 0–679

**C. Style Guidelines**

All assignments for this course are to be formatted in accordance with the [LUSD Writing Guide](#) and the latest edition of the Turabian style manual (A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations). Discussion assignments and essay examinations may use the parenthetical citation style. All other written assignments should use the footnote citation style. Supplemental writing aids are available via the [Online Writing Center](#).

**D. Extra Credit**

No additional “for credit” assignments will be permitted beyond those given in the course requirements stated above.

**E. Course Changes**

Course requirements are subject to change by the administration of the University at any time with appropriate notice.

**G. Disability Assistance**

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online’s Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at [LUOODAS@liberty.edu](mailto:LUOODAS@liberty.edu) to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at [www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport](http://www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport).

## ***COURSE SCHEDULE***

### **CHPL 598**

Textbooks: Boa, *Conformed to His Image* (2001).  
 McArthur, *Pastoral Ministry: How to Shepherd Biblically* (2005).  
 Murray, *Humility* (2012).  
 Tozer, *The Pursuit of God* (2011).  
 Whitney, *Spiritual Disciplines for the Christian Life* (2014).

<b>MODULE/ WEEK</b>	<b>READING &amp; STUDY</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENTS</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
<b>1</b>	Boa: chs. 1–12 MacArthur: chs. 1–8 Whitney: ch. 1 7 presentations	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions DB Forum 1	10 0 50
<b>2</b>	Boa: chs. 13–18 MacArthur: chs. 9–11 Whitney: chs. 2–4 6 presentations	Spiritual Assessment Shadow Evaluation 1 Journal 1	60 75 20
<b>3</b>	Boa: chs. 30–35 MacArthur: chs. 12–22 Whitney: chs. 5–6 6 presentations	Shadow Evaluation 2 Journal 2 Quiz 1	75 20 40
<b>4</b>	Boa: chs. 19–20, 24–26 Whitney: chs. 7–8 3 presentations	DB Forum 2 Shadow Evaluation 3 Journal 3	50 75 20
<b>5</b>	Boa: chs. 27–29 Whitney: chs. 9–10 4 presentations	Shadow Evaluation 4 Journal 4 Quiz 2	75 20 40
<b>6</b>	Boa: chs. 21–23, 36 Tozer: entire text Whitney: chs. 11–13 2 presentations	Shadow Evaluation Paper Journal 5	100 20
<b>7</b>	Murray: entire text 4 presentations	Spiritual Development Plan Journal 6	180 20
<b>8</b>	Boa: Appendices A–B 1 presentation	Journal 7 Quiz 3	20 40
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>1010</b>

DB = Discussion Board

**NOTE:** Each course module/week begins on Monday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Sunday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final module/week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on **Friday**.