

**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***

---

### **CHPL 640**

#### **CHAPLAIN LEADERSHIP FOR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM**

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course is a comprehensive study of chaplain leadership as it pertains to providing for the free exercise of religion and defending that constitutional liberty. This study will evaluate the chaplain's calling to servant leadership, examine biblical models of servant leadership, discern the internal and external dangers of chaplain leadership, and explore the unique opportunities and challenges chaplains face while seeking to provide spiritual ministry in secular and pluralistic settings. Special attention will be given to the spiritual leadership traits necessary for successful chaplain ministry.

#### **RATIONALE**

The chaplaincy places ministers in secular and pluralistic settings where they are expected to lead spiritually, while navigating structures and cultures vastly different from traditional church and Christian ministry settings. In order to prepare the student for this role, he/she must understand the biblical nature of servant leadership and how to apply that leadership in secular and pluralistic environments in which he/she is called to minister.

#### **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. Blackboard [recommended browsers](#)
- D. Microsoft Word
- E. School of Divinity Writing Guide:  
<https://www.liberty.edu/divinity/index.cfm?PID=28160>

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

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

- A. Analyze biblical servant leadership models and traits necessary for successful chaplain ministry.
- B. Articulate the structures and cultures to which chaplains are called to be spiritual leaders within the military, healthcare, or community chaplaincies.
- C. Analyze the leadership role of a chaplain within a particular context.
- D. Evaluate the depth and breadth of influence of the chaplain servant leader within a particular context.
- E. Evaluate the external and internal dangers to the chaplain leader within the military, healthcare, or community environments.
- F. Demonstrate the spiritual leadership traits necessary for success in military, healthcare, or community chaplaincy settings.
- G. Create a biblical chaplain servant leadership plan focused on military, healthcare, or community settings.

**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 (3)  
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 450 words and demonstrate course-related knowledge. In addition to the thread, the student is required to reply to 2 other classmates' threads. Each reply must be at least 150 words.
- D. Book Review  
The student will complete a practical Book Review on 1 of 2 provided texts. The Book Review must be at least 800 words, focusing on the author's approach in describing and defining Christian leadership and the task of a Christian leader. Citations must be in current Turabian format. (MLO: A, C, D)
- E. Critical Concerns Paper – Bibliography  
The student will submit a title and bibliography page of at least 6 sources, published within the last 5 years, in current Turabian format. At least 2 of the sources must be from professional journals. (MLO: A, B, C, D, E, G)

- F. Personal Leadership Presentation  
 The student will develop a PowerPoint presentation of 15–18 slides on his/her personal leadership style. The presentation will assess various areas of the student’s personal leadership style and growth. The presentation must include a minimum of 5 current sources, published within the last 10 years, in current Turabian format. (MLO: E, F)
- G. Philosophy of Ministry Paper  
 The student will write a paper of 1,800–2,400 words in current Turabian format that focuses on the student’s philosophy of ministry. The paper must include at least 8 references, published within the last 5 years, in addition to the course textbooks. (MLO: A, C, G)
- H. Religious Liberty Paper  
 The student will write a 900–1,500-word paper in current Turabian format that focuses on how religious liberty affects chaplaincy and its work in the future. The paper must include at least 5 references, published within the last 5 years, in addition to the course textbooks. (MLO: H) Critical Concerns Paper  
 The student will present a thorough investigation of a particular critical concern in leadership and religious liberty. The paper must include a description of the issue, an identification of why it is a concern for the chaplain, a theological presentation of the issue, and a theoretical discussion of the concern. In addition, the paper must contain an application of the information in order to enhance personal and professional readiness to minister to those affected by the concern in the student’s chosen field of chaplaincy. The paper must be 3,600–4,500 words, not including the cover and reference pages. The paper must also include a minimum of 10 sources, published within the last 5 years, in current Turabian format. (MLO: A, B, C, D, E, G)

**VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES**

- A. Points
- |   |             |
|---|-------------|
| Course Requirements Checklist             | 10          |
| Discussion Board Forums (3 at 100 pts ea) | 300         |
| Book Review                               | 100         |
| Critical Concerns Paper – Bibliography    | 50          |
| Personal Leadership Presentation          | 150         |
| Philosophy of Ministry Paper              | 150         |
| Religious Liberty Paper                   | 100         |
| Critical Concerns Paper                   | 150         |
| <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.

## F. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online’s Office of Disability Accommodation 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).

If you have a complaint related to disability discrimination or an accommodation that was not provided, you may contact ODAS or the Office of Equity and Compliance by phone at (434) 592-4999 or by email at [equityandcompliance@liberty.edu](mailto:equityandcompliance@liberty.edu). Click to see a full copy of Liberty’s [Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct Policy](#) or the [Student Disability Grievance Policy and Procedures](#).

**VII. BIBLIOGRAPHY**

- Boa, Kenneth. *Conformed to His Image: Biblical and Practical Approaches to Spiritual Formation*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2001.
- Dees, Robert F. *Resilient Warriors*. San Diego: Creative Team Publishing, 2011.
- Echols, Steve and Allen England. *Catastrophic Crisis: Ministry Leadership in the Midst of Trial and Tragedy*. Nashville: B&H, 2011.
- Jindal, Bobby. *Leadership and Crisis*. Washington DC: Regeneray, 2010.
- McCullough, David. *Mornings on Horseback: The Story of an Extraordinary Family, a Vanished Way of Life and the Unique Child Who Became Theodore Roosevelt*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 1982.
- Mitchell, Mark S. *Portrait of Integrity: The Life of Ray C. Stedman*. Grand Rapids: Discovery House Publishers, 2004.
- Pue, Carson. *Mentoring Leaders: Wisdom for Developing Character, Calling, and Competency*. Grand Rapids, Baker, 2005.

Sanders, J. Oswald. *Spiritual Leadership: Principles of Excellence for Every Believer*.  
Chicago: Moody, 1994.

## ***COURSE SCHEDULE***

### **CHPL 640**

Textbooks: Blackaby & Blackaby, *Spiritual Leadership: Moving People on to God's Agenda* (2011).  
 Carson, *Model of Christian Maturity* (2007).  
 MacArthur, *The Book on Leadership* (2004).  
 Robinson & Wall, *Called to Lead* (2012).  
 Sanders, *Spiritual Leadership* (2007).  
 Tripp, *Dangerous Calling* (2012).  
 Winseman, et al., *Living Your Strengths* (2004).

<b>MODULE/ WEEK</b>	<b>READING &amp; STUDY</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENTS</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
<b>1</b>	Blackaby & Blackaby: entire book 1 presentation 1 video	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions DB Forum 1 – Thread	10 0 *
<b>2</b>	Book Review choice: entire book 2 presentations	DB Forum 1 – Replies Book Review Critical Concerns Paper – Bibliography	100 100 50
<b>3</b>	Sanders: entire book Tripp: part 1 2 presentations	DB Forum 2 – Thread	*
<b>4</b>	Winseman et al.: chs. 1–2, 4–5 1 presentation	DB Forum 2 – Replies Personal Leadership Presentation	100 150
<b>5</b>	Carson: entire book 2 presentations	Philosophy of Ministry Paper	150
<b>6</b>	MacArthur: parts 1–2 2 presentations 1 video	Religious Liberty Paper	100
<b>7</b>	MacArthur: parts 3–4 1 presentation	Critical Concerns Paper	150
<b>8</b>	Robinson & Wall: entire book 1 presentation	DB Forum 3 – Thread and Replies	100
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>1010</b>

DB = Discussion Board

\*Grades for each Discussion Board Forum thread will be assigned after the submission of replies for that forum.

**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**.