

**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 681**

#### **HEALTHCARE CHAPLAINCY**

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course examines a biblical approach to theodicy, suffering and redemption, demonstrating the foundation for evangelical ministry in a healthcare environment. Attention is given to providing Christocentric spiritual care to patients and staff within pluralistic and secular settings.

#### **RATIONALE**

Chaplains are called and need preparation for the religious training to effectively minister in the healthcare setting. There needs to be an understanding of the cultures they are involved in and how they minister to them in their own faith- and biblically-based tradition while understanding the needs and feelings of the ones they minister with. It is important for chaplains to be able ministers in the healthcare setting to patients, families, and staff presenting the Christ-Centered care as a model and example to the healthcare setting.

#### **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. Articulate a biblical approach to theodicy, suffering, and redemption, demonstrating the foundation for evangelical ministry in a healthcare environment.
- B. Analyze his/her individual history, spiritual development, and vocational experience, and evaluate the impact of their unique background on ministry in a pluralistic healthcare setting.
- C. Appraise his/her own perspective on denominational identity, race, gender, and sexuality and describe how his/her existing perspectives may impact his/her approach to healthcare ministry.
- D. Prepare a ministry verbatim (the primary learning tool of CPE) reflecting on a spiritual care encounter with a patient, family, or staff member, evaluating the care provided during that encounter with a reflective critique.
- E. Prepare a personal care plan for coping with secondary trauma, grief, and loss while ministering in a healthcare setting.
- F. Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the Clinical Pastoral Education training process for healthcare chaplains.
- G. Synthesize course material and clinical experiences to construct a personal "Philosophy of Evangelical Healthcare Ministry."

#### 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 (4)  
Discussion boards are collaborative learning experiences. Therefore, the student is required to provide a thread in response to the provided prompt for each forum. Each thread must be a minimum of 400 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 a minimum of 200 words.
- D. Personal Call to Chaplaincy Ministry  
The student will write a 2-page essay sharing his/her spiritual journey in which he/she sensed a call from the Lord to serve as a chaplain.

E. Research Paper

Part 1

The student will provide a research paper topic and preliminary bibliography of 7 sources in current Turabian format under the topic of spirituality in chaplain healthcare.

Part 2

The student will write a 3,600–4,500-word research paper on the topic of spirituality in chaplain healthcare. The paper will be in current Turabian formatting and include 10 scholarly sources.

F. Philosophy of Healthcare Chaplaincy

The student will write a 1,500–2,100-word personal philosophy of chaplain evangelism paper in proper Turabian formatting. The paper must include 5 scholarly references along with the textbooks and the Bible.

G. Book Review

The student will write a 1,500–2,000-word book review in current Turabian formatting on a book within the field of healthcare chaplaincy.

H. Healthcare Chaplaincy Toolbox

The student will write an 800–1,000-word essay describing resources he/she deems necessary for review and reference. Additionally, the student will need to develop a contact roster of local churches.

I. Verbatim Case Conference

The student will be provided a verbatim by the instructor and will respond to the contents within in a 600–900-word reflection paper and include 3 references.

J. Essay Exams (2)

Each exam will cover the Reading & Study material for the assigned modules/weeks. Each exam will be open-book/open-notes, contain 5 essay questions, and have a 75-minute time limit.

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

Course Requirements Checklist	10
Discussion Board Forums (4 at 60 pts ea)	240
Personal Call to Chaplaincy Ministry	50
Research Paper: Part 1	35
Research Paper: Part 2	100
Philosophy of Healthcare Chaplaincy	125
Book Review	125
Healthcare Chaplaincy Toolbox	50
Verbatim Case Conference	125
Essay Exams (2 at 75 pts ea)	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](#).

## ***COURSE SCHEDULE***

### **CHPL 681**

Textbooks: Egan, *The Skilled Helper* (2014).  
O'Brien, *Spirituality in Nursing* (2018).

<b>MODULE/ WEEK</b>	<b>READING &amp; STUDY</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENTS</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
<b>1</b>	O'Brien: chs. 1–5 1 presentation	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions DB Forum 1 Thread	10 0 40
<b>2</b>	O'Brien: chs. 6–10 1 presentation	DB Forum 1 Replies Personal Call to Chaplaincy Ministry	20 50
<b>3</b>	O'Brien: chs. 11–14 2 presentations	DB Forum 2 Thread Research Paper: Part 1	40 35
<b>4</b>	O'Brien: chs. 15–17 1 presentation	Essay Exam 1 DB Forum 2 Replies Philosophy of Healthcare Chaplaincy	75 20 125
<b>5</b>	Egan: chs. 1–3 1 presentation	DB Forum 3 Thread Book Review	40 125
<b>6</b>	Egan: chs. 4–7 1 presentation	DB Forum 3 Replies Healthcare Chaplaincy Toolbox Verbatim Case Conference	20 50 125
<b>7</b>	Egan: chs. 8–11 1 presentation	DB Forum 4 Thread Research Paper: Part 2	40 100
<b>8</b>	Egan: chs. 12–14 1 presentation	DB Forum 4 Replies Essay Exam 2	20 75
<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**.