

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 682

COMMUNITY CHAPLAINCY

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines a biblical approach to providing chaplain ministry in pluralistic and secular community settings. Attention is given to providing Christocentric chaplain leadership and spiritual care within the context of corporations, colleges, sports organizations, first response teams, and prison systems.

RATIONALE

Chaplains need to be prepared to minister religiously and effectively in secular and pluralistic environments without compromising their theology and spiritual convictions. Chaplains serving in the workplace, college, sports, first-responder, and prison communities must be prepared to assess complex ministry environments, spiritual opportunities, and challenges. It is important for community chaplains to be able to lead spiritually and minister biblically in the unique setting to which God has called them.

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 the unique ministerial role of the community chaplain as set in the historical context of Church and State in America.
- B. Assess the biblical basis for the community chaplain and explain, in light of Scripture, the spiritual, moral, and ethical principles of chaplaincy ministry.
- C. Compare and contrast pluralism in the New Testament world as it relates to the community chaplain working within the pluralistic setting of today.
- D. Evaluate the unique opportunities and challenges of the community chaplain while serving individuals in corporations, colleges, sports organizations, prisons, and first-responder teams.
- E. Explain how the evangelical chaplain can effectively serve in a religiously diverse and secular community.
- F. Create a community ministry plan that provides soul-care for all under the chaplain's charge.

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 create a thread in response to the provided prompt for each forum. Each thread must be at least 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 at least 200 words.
- D. Book Review
The student will select 1 book from the required resource purchases section on the Course Syllabus and write a 1800–2400-word (main body) review of the book. This paper will have 3 sections. Each of the 3 sections will use current Turabian format and have various word counts. The student will include a summary of the book, a reflection of the book, and some concrete responses from the book.
- E. Community Chaplaincy Paper: Topic Selection
The student will submit a 1-paragraph document that outlines the community-based chaplaincy area he/she will be writing about for the Community Chaplaincy Paper along with a preliminary thesis statement.

F. Biblical Rationale for Chaplaincy Paper

The student will write a 1200–1500-word (main body) research-based paper in current Turabian format that focuses on a biblical rationale for a community chaplaincy ministry. The paper must include at least 8 references (Professional Journals, Professional Magazines, and books) in addition to the course textbooks and the Bible. This assignment will explore what aspects of Scripture should guide the ministry of a community chaplain. The paper will include an analysis of how the chaplain should minister in a multi-cultural and pluralistic setting yet maintain a strong commitment to the chaplain’s faith and biblical view.

G. Case Study

From a list of case studies provided, the student will choose 1 study and will write a 900–1200-word paper detailing his/her response to the study. The paper must include at least 5 references. In addition, the student must include a biblical response to the Case Study and provide an understanding of the case in the context as a community chaplain. This paper needs to be well-thought-out and well written to ensure a full understanding of stated issues as well as any issues that might not be stated.

H. Community Chaplaincy Paper

The student will choose a field of community chaplaincy and create a 3000–3600-word ministry plan for the area of chaplaincy. This paper must have at least 10 references in addition to the course textbooks and other required readings for this course. These references can include professional journals and related books. This ministry plan must include the nature of the student’s calling to chaplaincy or ministry, gifts and abilities, personal values, and what energizes him/her in ministry.

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

Course Requirements Checklist	10
Discussion Board Forums (4 at 100 pts ea)	400
Book Review	150
Community Chaplaincy Paper: Topic Selection	25
Biblical Rationale for Chaplaincy Paper	100
Case Study	150
Community Chaplaincy Paper	175
Total	1010

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 [LBTS 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 to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at 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. 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 682

Textbooks: Beckner, *Correctional Chaplains* (2012).

Carson, *The Gagging of God: Christianity Confronts Pluralism* (1996).

Lewis, *The Problem of Pain* (1996).

Livermore, *Cultural Intelligence* (2009).

MODULE/ WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	Lewis: chs. 1–10 2 presentations	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions DB Forum 1	10 0 100
2	Carson: chs. 1–7 2 presentations	Book Review	150
3	Carson: chs. 8–14 1 presentation	DB Forum 2 Community Chaplaincy Paper: Topic Selection	100 25
4	Livermore: chs. 1–8 1 presentation	DB Forum 3	100
5	Livermore: chs. 9–12 1 presentation	Biblical Rationale for Chaplaincy Paper	100
6	Livermore: chs. 13–15 1 presentation	DB Forum 4	100
7	Beckner: chs. 1–5 2 presentations	Case Study	150
8	Beckner: chs. 6–10 1 presentation	Community Chaplaincy Paper	175
TOTAL			1010

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**.