

**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 810**

#### **PRACTICAL THEOLOGY OF CHAPLAINCY**

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

The course provides a practical study of the theology of chaplaincy, as well as the application of the chaplain's theology in the secular and pluralistic contexts. Emphasis is given to the tension that exists for chaplains ministering to individuals from broad theological backgrounds. The course will prepare the chaplain to minister in pluralistic contexts, as well as, advise and mentor chaplains from a diversity of theologies.

#### **RATIONALE**

The course is designed to build a strong strategic understanding of chaplaincy and its relationship to evangelical theology that produces advanced knowledge, skill and abilities in practical theological interpretation using Osmer's four core tasks. This course aims to build advanced interpretive and decision making skills as it is related to the 10 functional areas of chaplaincy, allowing the participant to function at the strategic levels of chaplaincy leadership.

#### **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. Define an understanding of an evangelical practical theology of chaplaincy from scriptural, religious, and secular foundations using Osmer's four core tasks as a model of interpretation.
- B. Evaluate the pluralistic context in which chaplaincy thrives and tensions that exist within its diverse environments.
- C. Create a practical theology of chaplaincy based on being a bearer of the presence of God and the Ministry of Presence.
- D. Evaluate and defend evangelism versus proselytism as a foundational understanding and chaplaincy skill and ability from a biblical foundation.
- E. Assess and explain an evangelical theological identity of chaplaincy from non-evangelical and non-Christian traditions.

**V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS**

- A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations/notes

- 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 (5)

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 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 200 words. The student will use Scripture as a source for his/her reasoning.

- D. Practical Theology of Chaplaincy Research Paper

Part 1

The student will submit the title of the proposed paper, thesis statement, and rough outline of the paper using Osmer's 4 Core Tasks as the main body outline titles, example, introduction, at least 4 main body points, and conclusion. Sub points under the main points in the body of the paper may be used if desired. The thesis and rough outline must be completed in current Turabian format in author-date style.

## Part 2

The student will submit a detailed annotated bibliography of all material used in the paper. The annotated bibliography must contain a minimum of 1 citation from each of the 4 course textbooks, 3 outside scholarly book resources and 3 outside scholarly journal articles. Each annotation must be a minimum of 100 words and current Turabian format in author-date style.

## Part 3

The student will submit a 3000-word final draft of the research-based paper in current Turabian format (using author-date style). The paper will focus on a practical theology of chaplaincy using Osmer's 4 core tasks as a foundational model for interpretation. The paper must include a minimum of 4 course textbook citations and 6 outside journal article references in addition to 3 other outside scholarly book resources and the Bible.

## E. Journals (8)

The student will write module/weekly journal entries recounting his/her assigned course readings, using Osmer's 4 Core Tasks as a model of interpretation. Each Journal must be a minimum of 300 words.

**VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES**

## A. Points

Course Requirements Checklist	10
Discussion Board Forums (5 at 100 pts ea)	500
Practical Theology of Chaplaincy Research Paper	
Part 1	80
Part 2	100
Part 3	160
Journals (8 at 20 pts ea)	160
<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 810**

Textbooks: Crick, *Outside the Gates* (2011).  
 Milton, *Silent No More* (2013).  
 Osmer, *Practical Theology* (2008).  
 Purves, *Reconstructing Pastoral Theology* (2004).

<b>MODULE/ WEEK</b>	<b>READING &amp; STUDY</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENTS</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
<b>1</b>	Crick: ch. 2 Milton: ch. 2.2 Osmer: ch. 1 Purves: ch. 2 1 website	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions DB Forum 1 Journal 1	10 0 100 20
<b>2</b>	Crick: ch. 14 Milton: chs. 3.13–16 Osmer: chs. 2–3 Purves: ch. 3 1 website	DB Forum 2 Journal 2	100 20
<b>3</b>	Crick: ch. 9 Milton: ch. 2.3 Osmer: ch. 4 Purves: ch. 4 2 websites	PTCRP: Part 1 Journal 3	80 20
<b>4</b>	Crick: ch. 3 Purves: ch. 8	DB Forum 3 Journal 4	100 20
<b>5</b>	Crick: chs. 6–8 Milton: ch. 4.3 Purves: ch. 8 1 website	PTCRP: Part 2 Journal 5	100 20
<b>6</b>	Crick: ch. 5 Milton: ch. 4.6 Purves: chs. 9–10	DB Forum 4 Journal 6	100 20
<b>7</b>	Crick: ch. 4 Milton: ch. 3.11	PTCRP: Part 3 Journal 7	160 20
<b>8</b>	Milton: chs. 2.1, 3.8	DB Forum 5 Journal 8	100 20
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>1010</b>

DB = Discussion Board

PTCRP = Practical Theology of Chaplaincy Research Paper

**NOTE:** Each course module/week begins on Sunday 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**.