

**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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### **CLED 815**

#### **CHARACTER & ETHICS IN LEADERSHIP & EDUCATION**

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course builds on the CLED 800. Building upon this study of the Imago Dei (Image of God), this course further studies the essential character qualities of effective biblical servant leaders, and the principles for ethical influence, communication, instruction, problem-solving, and decision-making. Ethical dilemmas will be considered in case study format to aid students in applying ethics to leadership and education decisions.

#### **RATIONALE**

Christian leaders must be persons of integrity and character. Skillful and successful leadership is insufficient measure of leadership performance for the Christian leader. This course focuses on the character and ethical aspects of Christian leadership. The theological studies done earlier in the program are now applied in this course as students have opportunity to reflect upon and discuss character and ethics issues found in relevant leadership case situations.

#### **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>

#### **I. RECOMMENDED RESOURCE**

American Psychological Association. *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (Current ed.). Washington, DC: Author.

#### **II. 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. APA Style Central

<http://ezproxy.liberty.edu/login?url=http://APAStyleCENTRAL.apa.org>

### III. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

- A. Define and describe the nature of servant leadership.
- B. Compare and contrast servant leadership as present in the Scriptures with contemporary concepts of servant leadership as presented in the leadership literature.
- C. Articulate biblical character qualities essential to effective Christian leadership.
- D. Articulate biblical principles for ethical decision-making in leadership and management.
- E. Evaluate ethical situations by applying ethical reasoning to selected case situations.

### IV. 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 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 400 words.

- D. Christian Leadership Ethics Paper Proposal

The student will present a proposal for the Christian Leadership Ethics Paper that identifies the specific topic of the paper, a suggested thesis statement for the paper, and at least 10 sources for the paper. The paper must address a topic related to leadership character and ethics. This assignment must be in current APA format.

- E. Annotated Bibliography

The student will complete an Annotated Bibliography with at least 20 sources, including at least 5 articles, for the Christian Leadership Ethics Paper. The annotations must demonstrate how the resources are likely to be important to a thorough academic analysis of your topic. Each annotation must be 150–200 words and in current APA format.

Any website used must have a direct, unique, and relevant bearing on the specific paper or research and how it will be utilized. This assignment is designed to support the student's future research.

The paper will be evaluated stringently, so the student must make sure that his or her annotated bibliography is well prepared as it will be needed to successfully write this portion. As always, the student must edit the document well for grammar and sentence structure, be concise and thorough in his or her argument, and display critical analysis and interaction between writers—i.e. avoiding an “encyclopedic” listing in his or her writing.

F. Book Critique

The student will write a 750–1,000-word book critique in current APA format on the following textbook:

- *Ethical leadership and decision making in education*

G. Six Dimensions of Character Personal Assessment

The student will produce a personal assessment of his or her leadership character by reviewing the six dimensions of character address by Henry Cloud in the textbook, *Integrity: the courage to meet the demands of reality*.

H. Christian Leadership Ethics Paper

The student will write a 4,000–4,500-word research-based paper in current APA format that focuses on the biblical and theological understanding and practice of leadership ethics in a ministry context or educational context. The paper must include at least 20 references in addition to the course textbooks and accurately applied biblical support.

I. Reflection on Course

The student will write a 1,000-word reflection essay in current APA format. The essay will answer the question, “How has this course shaped your thinking in the following areas related to character and ethics in leadership and education: 1) personal and professional integrity, 2) leadership ethics for the Christian leader/educator, and 3) influence of ethics on decision-making?”

V. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

Course Requirements Checklist	10
Discussion Board Forums (4 at 75 pts ea)	300
Christian Leadership Ethics Paper Proposal	100
Annotated Bibliography	100
Book Critique	100
Six Dimensions of Character Personal Assessment	100
Christian Leadership Ethics Paper	200
Reflection on Course	100
<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

### CLED 815

Textbooks: Caro, *The Means of Ascent: The Years of Lyndon B. Johnson II* (1991).  
 Cloud, *Integrity: The Courage to Meet the Demands of Reality* (2009).  
 Shapiro & Stefkovich, *Ethical Leadership and Decision Making in Education* (2016).

MODULE/ WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	Caro: chs. 1–4 Shapiro & Stefkovich: chs. 1–3 2 presentations	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions DB Forum 1	10 0 75
2	Caro: chs. 5–9 Shapiro: chs. 4–6 1 presentation	DB Forum 2	75
3	Caro: chs. 10–14 Shapiro & Stefkovich: chs. 7–9 1 presentation	DB Forum 3 Christian Leadership Ethics Paper Proposal	75 100
4	Caro: chs. 15–18 Shapiro & Stefkovich: chs. 10–12 1 presentation	DB Forum 4 Annotated Bibliography	75 100
5	Cloud: chs. 1–6 1 presentation	Book Critique	100
6	Cloud: chs. 7–13 1 presentation	Six Dimensions of Character Personal Assessment	100
7	1 presentation	Christian Leadership Ethics Paper	200
8	1 presentation	Reflection on Course	100
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>1010</b>

DB = Discussion Board

**NOTE:** Each week begins Monday morning 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**.