

**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 600**

#### **CHAPLAINCY MINISTRY IN THE U.S. MILITARY**

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

An intensive study of the theological/practical and military justification of the military chaplain. Attention is directed to discovering the major themes associated with military chaplains as members of a fighting force and ministry in a pluralistic environment. Additional research will be accomplished through personal interviews with active duty and reserve warriors and how chaplains relate and conduct ministry to this group.

#### **RATIONALE**

The chaplain must work within the parameters of the military regulations; however, as an ordained minister of his/her respective denomination, the Christian chaplain must also adhere to the faith tenets of his/her church, and more importantly, to Jesus Christ and Holy Scripture.

#### **I. PREREQUISITES**

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the [Academic Course Catalog](#).

#### **II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASES**

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. Microsoft Word  
(Microsoft Office is available at a special discount to Liberty University students.)

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

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

- A. Describe the unique ministerial role of the chaplain as it is set in the historical context of America and our freedom of Religion.
- B. Compare and contrast pluralism in the apostolic era of the New Testament church as it relates to the military chaplain working within the pluralistic setting of today.
- C. Explain which military regulatory documents specifically govern the role of the chaplain within the armed forces.

- D. Describe the legal obligations, limitations, and ministerial opportunities of the military chaplain within a pluralistic ministry setting.
- E. Explain the biblical justification for “Servant Leadership,” and why the military chaplain should employ it as his/her primary leadership style.
- F. Identify means of maintaining/reflecting your personal Christian faith while being deployed.
- G. Describe the concepts associated with a chaplain’s participation in interfaith worship services, ministry of presence, command-sponsored activities, ministry “inside” the walls, and “ministry outside the walls.”

**V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS**

- A. Textbook readings and presentations
- B. Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Syllabus and [Student Expectations](#), the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.

- C. Discussion Board Forums (5)

The student is required to provide 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. (Outcomes: A, B, C, D, E, F, G)

- D. 4-MAT Book Reviews (2)

The 4-MAT REVIEW is a way of responding to readings, lectures, and life experiences that requires the learner to interact with new ideas on several levels. The student will complete a 5-page 4-MAT Book Review on the textbooks outlined in the course. (Outcomes: A, B, C, D, F, G)

- E. Final Paper

The student will write a research paper on the topic of “The Christian Chaplain in Today’s Military.” The research paper must be 8–10 pages, include 12 citations, and be formatted in current Turabian style. (Outcomes: A, B, C, D, E, F, G)

**VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES**

- A. Points

Course Requirements Checklist	10
Discussion Board Forums (5 at 100 pts ea)	500
4-MAT Book Review (2 at 150 pts ea)	300
Final Paper: Outline	25
Final Paper	175
<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

D. 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](#).

E. Extra Credit

No additional “for credit” assignments will be permitted beyond those given in the course requirements stated above.

F. Course Changes

Course requirements are subject to change by the administration of the University at any time with appropriate notice.

G. Disability Assistance

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

***COURSE SCHEDULE***

**CHPL 600**

**CHAPLAINCY MINISTRY IN THE U.S. MILITARY**

Textbooks: Hutson, *Church and State in America* (2008).

Nash, *Is Jesus the Only Savior?* (1994).

Paget & McCormack, *The Work of the Chaplain* (2006).

Whittington & Davidson, *Matters of Conscience* (2013).

<b>MODULE/ WEEK</b>	<b>READING &amp; STUDY</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENTS</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
<b>1</b>	Hutson: chs. 1–2 Whittington & Davidson: Intro. & ch. 1 1 presentation	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions DB Forum 1	10 0 100
<b>2</b>	Hutson: chs. 3–4 Paget & McCormack: chs. 1–2 Whittington & Davidson: ch. 2 1 presentation	DB Forum 2	100
<b>3</b>	Nash: chs. 1–6 Whittington & Davidson: ch. 3	4-MAT Book Review 1	150
<b>4</b>	Nash: chs. 7–11 Whittington & Davidson: ch. 4 3 presentations 1 website	DB Forum 3 Final Paper: Outline	100 25
<b>5</b>	Whittington & Davidson: chs. 5–6 1 presentation	4-MAT Book Review 2	150
<b>6</b>	Paget & McCormack: chs. 3–9 Whittington & Davidson: ch. 7 2 presentations 4 websites	DB Forum 4	100
<b>7</b>	Paget & McCormack: chs. 10–12 Whittington & Davidson: ch. 8 1 presentation 1 website	DB Forum 5	100
<b>8</b>	Paget & McCormack: conclusion Whittington & Davidson: ch. 9, Epilogue 1 presentation	Final Paper	175
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>1010</b>

DB = Discussion Board

**NOTE:** Each course week begins on Monday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Sunday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday.