

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

LEAD 625

PREVENTING MINISTRY FAILURE

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This class will help the student (and their spouse) better prepare themselves for the rigors of 21st century ministry, avoid common pitfalls, and prevent potential problems. It will deal with such significant issues as setting realistic expectations, dealing with church boards, marriage, children, finances, burnt-out, stress, time management and more.

RATIONALE

Long-term ministry in the 21st century is becoming the exception rather than the rule. The Christian world has been rocked by the number of prominent leaders, in both church and para-church organizations, who have been compromised by moral, ethical, and theological failures. Thousands of other pastors leave the ministry each year never to return do to issues of stress, burn-out, divorce, bankruptcy, and family issues. This course is designed to prepare the Christian worker for the rigors of ministry and to prevent ministry burnout and dropout.

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. Assess his/her health in the area of intimacy with God, others, his/her mate, or themselves as a single adult.
- B. Establish boundaries to help them affair-proof his/her marriage and build a strong Christian family.
- C. Compose a strategy for effectively acquiring and assuming a call to a specific ministry.
- D. Establish patterns for best managing stress, time, and money.
- E. Write a plan for effectively resolving conflict.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Textbook readings and lecture 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 (4)
The student will post a minimum 400-word thread to the forum topic presented for the assigned module/week. In the following module/week, the student will reply to the threads of at least 2 classmates using at least 200 words for each response to complete the discussion for the topic of the previous module/week. Discussion Board Forum assignments are required in every module/week.
- D. Book Critiques (3)
The student will read the Dickson, Harley, and Swenson texts and submit a well-written, 3–5-page critique in current Turabian format for each text.
- E. Emotional Needs Assessment
The student will complete the Emotional Needs Questionnaire in Appendix B of the Harley text and write a 1 page paper, evaluating and summarizing his/her findings according to given parameters.
- F. Weekly Schedule and Finances Evaluation
The Weekly Schedule and Finances Evaluation will consist of 3 parts, submitted as a whole. The student is required to create a document of his/her current schedule and summarize it. Based on his/her current schedule and a summary, the student will then create another “proposed schedule”, marking the changes that need to be made.

G. Final Exam

The Final Exam will cover the Reading & Study material for the entire course. The exam consists of 5 questions which the student will answer in essay form of 400–500 words each. The student will have 2 hours to complete the exam.

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

Course Requirements Checklist	10
Discussion Board Forums (4 at 100 pts ea)	400
Book Critiques (3 at 100 pts ea)	300
Emotional Needs Assessment	50
Weekly Schedule and Finances Evaluation	100
Final Exam (Module 8)	150
Total	1010

B. Scale

A = 940–1010 A- = 920–939 B+ = 900–919 B = 860–999 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

LEAD 625

Textbooks: Dickson, *Humilitas* (2011).

Harley, *His Needs, Her Needs: Building and Affair Proof Marriage* (2011).

Swenson, *Margin* (2004).

Wilson & Hoffman, *Preventing Ministry Failure* (2007).

MODULE/ WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	Harley: chs. 1–5 Wilson & Hoffman: Introduction and Foundation Stone I 1 presentation	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introduction DB Forum 1 Thread	10 0 *
2	Harley: chs. 6–10 Wilson & Hoffman: Foundation Stone 3 1 presentation	DB Forum 1 Reply	100
3	Harley: chs. 11–14 Wilson & Hoffman: Foundation Stone 4 1 presentation	DB Forum 2 Thread Book Critique: Harley	* 100
4	Swenson: chs. 1–5 Wilson & Hoffman: Foundation Stone 5 1 presentation	DB Forum 2 Reply Emotional Needs Assessment	100 50
5	Swenson: chs. 6–10 1 presentation	DB Forum 3 Thread Book Critique: Swenson	* 100
6	Dickson: entire text 1 presentation	DB Forum 3 Reply Book Critique: Dickson	100 100
7	Wilson & Hoffman: Foundation Stone 6 1 presentation	DB Forum 4 Thread Weekly Schedule and Finances Evaluation	* 100
8	Wilson & Hoffman: Foundation Stone 7 2 presentations	DB Forum 4 Reply Final Exam	100 150
TOTAL			1010

DB = Discussion Board

*Grades will not be entered until the completion of each Discussion Board Forum.

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.