



An Overview of Courses offered by

***pastoral leadership***  
INSTITUTE

## PL010: Study Preparatory Course Syllabus

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**Pastoral Leadership Institute**

**Curriculum Author:** Dr. Gene Carpenter & Greg Getz  
revised by Earl Smith & Joe Himes

**Credits:** 3 Hrs

**Version:** 1.1

### **Course Description:**

This course is designed to equip students with various study skills that will be needed throughout the course of the PLI program. These include learning to study, read, manage time, and think as well as other skills pertinent to the successful student. In addition, seventy percent of this course will focus on providing the student with a basic “hands-on” computer-based introduction to the use of Bible Study Resources and Tools using the Logos Bible Software, Series X.

### **Course Objectives:**

Upon completion of this course, successful students will:

- 1) acquire and improve study skills such as time management, reading comprehension, note taking, and critical thinking;
- 2) gain sufficient skill and knowledge to employ the Logos Bible Software Research Library at their fingertips;
- 3) research basic word studies, sermon preparation, Bible studies, college-level research papers (7-10 pp.), and special projects for seminars or conferences using the Logos Bible Software Research Tools.

### **Required Course Materials:**

*Logos Scholar's Library: A Comprehensive Library for Serious Bible Study Using English, Greek and Hebrew Resources.* “Logos Bible Software, Series X: Logos Digital Library System”  
***(Please do not purchase or perform any upgrades until after the completion of this class.)***

Proctor, Morris. CD Seminar. This is a video reference guide to Logos Bible Software, Series X. (Copyright, 2001).

Carpenter, Gene. “Tutorial Workbook for Logos Libronix Research System Series X.” (Unpublished manuscript prepared for use in classes offered in PLI. Workbook is not to be reproduced in any way without the written and express consent of the author.)

CutePDF Software (or an equivalent). This free software will allow you to convert your Logos printouts into digital files that can be viewed by anyone with Adobe Acrobat Reader. The software may be downloaded free of charge at: [http://www.download.com/CutePDF-Printer/3000-6675\\_4-10220039.html?tag=lst-0-1](http://www.download.com/CutePDF-Printer/3000-6675_4-10220039.html?tag=lst-0-1)

## PL111: Biblical Interpretation Course Syllabus

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**Pastoral Leadership Institute**

**Curriculum Author:** Dr. Fred Long, revised by Steve Ganger

**Credits:** 3 Hrs

**Version:** 1.0

### **Course Description:**

This course is an introduction to methods of Bible study and to the principles of biblical interpretation. An inductive approach to biblical interpretation is emphasized.

[Prerequisite Courses: Study Prep and Writing Skills Development]

### **Course Objectives:**

**General:** This course will introduce and train students in basic hermeneutical principles and methodology for interpreting Scripture in order to handle God's Word properly—with its theological content and various historical settings and genres—for the purpose of preaching and teaching.

**Specific:** Through selected readings and by completing specified individual and group assignments, this course will train students to:

- 1) become sensitive to the historical and cultural gap between the modern reader and the ancient text and to learn the tools and strategies for bridging that gap
- 2) become proficient in interpreting the various literary figures, forms, and genres in the Bible (historical narrative, prophecy, parable, epistle, etc.)
- 3) recognize literary structures of various sorts used by the biblical authors to help convey meaning and truth
- 4) learn specific, complementary tasks involved with interpretation (word studies, grammatical and structural analyses, etc.)
- 5) learn an inductive approach to the interpretation of Scripture which involves careful observation, interpretation, application, and correlation into a biblical theology
- 6) prepare to teach other persons how to study the Bible inductively and with integrity
- 7) grow in one's love for God and His wonderful Word and apply it in all of one's life

### **Required Course Materials:**

Duvall, J. Scott and J. Daniel Hays. *Grasping God's Word: A Hand's On Approach to Reading, Interpreting, and Applying the Bible*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2005.

Duvall, J. Scott and J. Daniel Hays. *Grasping God's Word: A Hand's On Approach to Reading, Interpreting, and Applying the Bible Workbook*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2001.

Logos Bible Software Series X: Logos Digital Library System (Logos Research Systems, Bellingham, Washington). [www.logos.com](http://www.logos.com)

**PL121: Old Testament Survey**  
Course Syllabus

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**Pastoral Leadership Institute**

**Curriculum Author:** Dr. Gene Carpenter, revised by Eric Flood

**Credits:** 3 Hrs

**Version:** 1.1

**Course Description:**

This course is a study of the literature, historical background, geography and significance of the books of the Old Testament. Emphasis will be placed upon the plotline of the Old Testament. This will be accomplished by building a bridge from original meaning to contemporary significance of God's revelation of Himself. The relationship between the Testaments will also be examined.

[Prerequisite Courses: Study Prep and Writing Skills Development]

**Course Objectives:**

- 1) The student will learn that the Bible is not primarily about history but about God.
- 2) The student will build a framework for understanding the Old Testament by memorizing key terms, places, people, dates, and chapters.
- 3) The student will explore the major themes of the Old Testament.
- 4) The student will understand the relationship between the Old Testament and the New Testament.
- 5) The student will be able to articulate the importance of the Old Testament to the Christian faith.
- 6) The student will continue to develop and increase interpretive skills by applying them in the preparation of projects, assignments, and quizzes.
- 7) The student will learn to apply the Old Testament by building a bridge from original meaning to contemporary significance.
- 8) The student will develop a biblical worldview that includes the great truths of the Old Testament.

**Required Course Materials:**

A modern translation of the Bible of both Old and New Testaments

Hill, Andrew E., and John H. Walton. *Old Testament Today*, Grand Rapids: Zondervan 2004.

Logos Logos Bible Software Series X: Logos Digital Library System

## PL141: New Testament Survey Course Syllabus

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**Pastoral Leadership Institute**

**Credits:** 3 Hrs

**Curriculum Author:** Dr. Fred Long & Steve Ganger, revised by Earl Smith

**Version:** 2.0

### **Course Description:**

This course is a study of the literature, historical background, geography and significance of the books of the New Testament. Emphasis will be placed upon learning the structure, main themes, and the interpretation of key verses and passages within each New Testament book as well as basic terms and facts concerning history, geography, and theology.

[Prerequisite Courses: Study Prep and Writing Skills Development]

### **Course Objectives:**

Upon completion of this course, students will have a greater understanding of:

- 1) the historical and cultural setting of the New Testament;
- 2) the central messages in each New Testament book, therefore increasing the effectiveness of each student's use of God's Word for devotions, teaching, and preaching;
- 3) the timeline and significance of Jesus the Messiah's life, death, and resurrection;
- 4) the issues related to the geographic and ethnic expansion of the early church;
- 5) the formation of the New Testament canon—the criteria used and the opinions held about Scripture by the Early Church Fathers;
- 6) using Logos Bible Software Research Library to advance the research of various New Testament issues, interpretive skills, continuing to develop and increase those skills by applying them in the preparation of interpretive assignments and all other requirements of this course.

### **Required Course Materials:**

Any modern study Bible with Old and New Testaments.

Elwell, Walter A., and Robert W. Yarbrough, *Encountering the New Testament*, Grand Rapids: Baker, 1998. (This textbook will be abbreviated ENT below.) *Note: This textbook comes with an interactive CD that will greatly enhance your learning experience by giving you pictures and interactive learning, review test questions, and glossary of key terms.*

deSilva, David A., *An Introduction to the New Testament*, Downers Grove, InterVarsity Press, 2004. (This textbook will be abbreviated INT below.)

Logos Bible Software Series X: Logos Digital Library System

## PL211: Systematic Theology I

### Course Syllabus

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**Pastoral Leadership Institute**  
**Curriculum Author:** Dr. David M. Waid

**Credits:** 3 Hrs  
**Version:** 4.1

#### **Course Description:**

Systematic Theology I is a historico-systematic theological study of the doctrines of God, Christology, Pneumatology, creation, sin, and man. This course will help the student gain a coherent explanation of the need for theology, the Bible, God (including the Trinity, Christology and Pneumatology), Anthropology, and Hamartiology, based primarily upon the Bible and historical thought, from the context of culture, using current idiom, and related to issues in life.

[Prerequisite Courses: Study Prep, Writing Skills Development, and Biblical Theology]

#### **Course Objectives:**

To produce a competent theologian in a short time span, PLI has undertaken some unusual steps in the teaching methodology of our theology courses so that PLI students will shine when they interview with denominational credentialing (licensing) committees.

For that reason, the level of intensity and range of expectations and experiences in PLI theology courses will differ from other PLI courses, and significantly more interaction with the coach\* and the eProf is required to succeed in these courses. **DO NOT ASSUME ANY SIMILARITIES TO OTHER PLI COURSES.** Read this syllabus carefully, count the cost in time and effort, and make plans to meet its expectation if you wish to fare well in a licensing interview.

This course is designed to introduce the learner to the basic concepts, problems and challenges of theology. Attention will be given to five essential ingredients of theology:

1. the *biblical* utilizes the tools and methods of biblical research;
2. the *systematic* draws on all of the Scripture and relates various positions to each other;
3. the *cultural* draws from human understanding, especially in the areas of history, cosmology, psychology, and philosophy;
4. the *contemporary* relates God's truth to today's circumstances; and
5. the *practical* does not merely declare objective doctrine, but relates to life itself.

By successfully completing this course, the learner will:

1. demonstrate knowledge of the major topical themes of historico-systematic theology;
2. identify the key issues of theological discussion in Evangelical Christianity;
3. identify the basic alternatives on key theological issues; and
4. present position papers and a synthesis paper on core theological topics.

**\*NOTE:** Students exempt from the PLI internship (e.g., those who are already pastoring a church) are NOT exempt from working with an academic coach when taking PLI theology courses. You must find an academic coach (e.g., retired pastor, former pastor, pastor friend) for this class. If you need help in enlisting a coach, please contact PLI's Administrator immediately.

**Required Course Materials:**

Lewis, Gordon R. and Bruce A. Demarest. *Integrative Theology: Historical, Biblical, Systematic, Apologetic, Practical*, Three Volumes in One. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1996.

Grenz, Stanley J., et. al. *Pocket Dictionary of Theological Terms*. Downers Grove: IVP, 1999. (a “handy-dandy” listing of many basic theological terms and concepts)

Logos Bible Software Series X: Logos Digital Library System

## PL221: Systematic Theology II

### Course Syllabus

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**Pastoral Leadership Institute**  
**Curriculum Author:** Dr. David M. Waid

**Credits:** 3 Hrs  
**Version:** 4.1

#### **Course Description:**

Systematic Theology 2 is a historico-systematic theological study of the doctrines of the work of the Holy Spirit, the gifts and fruit of the Spirit, the church and its order and ordinances, and the end times. This course attempts to give a coherent explanation of the Doctrines of Soteriology, Ecclesiology, and Eschatology, based primarily upon the Bible, from the context of culture, using current idiom, and related to issues in life.

[Prerequisites: Study Prep, Writing Skills Development, Biblical Theo, and Systematic Theo 1]

#### **Course Objectives:**

Due to a desire to produce a competent theologian in a short time span, PLI has undertaken some unusual steps in the teaching methodology of our theology courses. We are aiming for an unusually high success rate for our graduates when it comes to interviewing well before denomination credentialing (licensing) committees.

For that reason, the PLI Systematic Theology courses have a different level of intensity and range of expectations and experiences compared to other PLI courses. Significantly more interaction with the coach\* and the eProf are required to succeed in these courses. **DO NOT ASSUME ANY SIMILARITIES TO OTHER PLI COURSES.** Read this syllabus carefully, count the cost in time and effort, and make plans to meet its expectation.

This course is designed to introduce the learner to the basic concepts, problems and challenges of theology. Attention will be given to five essential ingredients of theology:

1. the *biblical* utilizes the tools and methods of biblical research;
2. the *systematic* draws on all of the Scripture and relates various positions to each other;
3. the *cultural* draws from human understanding, especially, in the areas of history, cosmology, psychology, and philosophy;
4. the *contemporary* relates God's truth to today's circumstances; and
5. the *practical* does not merely declare objective doctrine, but relates to life itself.

Then by successfully completing this course, the learner will:

1. demonstrate knowledge of the major topical themes of historico-systematic theology;
2. identify the key issues of theological discussion in Evangelical Christianity;
3. identify the basic alternatives on key theological issues; and

4. present position papers and a synthesis paper on core theological topics.
5. prepare for the credentialing committee theology position paper and interview.
6. participate in a 3-hour telephone interview with eProf over the completed Ministerial License Application (Part II) - Doctrinal Statement.
- 7.

**\*NOTE:** Students exempt from the PLI internship (e.g., those who are already pastoring a church) are NOT exempt from working with an academic coach when taking PLI theology courses. You must find an academic coach (e.g., retired pastor, former pastor, pastor friend) for this class. If you need help in enlisting a coach, please contact PLI's Administrator immediately.

**Required Course Materials:**

Lewis, Gordon R. and Bruce A. Demarest. *Integrative Theology: Historical, Biblical, Systematic, Apologetic, Practical*, Three Volumes in One. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1996.

Grenz, Stanley J., et. al. *Pocket Dictionary of Theological Terms*. Downers Grove: IVP, 1999. (a “handy-dandy” listing of many basic theological terms and concepts)

Logos Bible Software Series X: Logos Digital Library System

## PL251: Homiletics Course Syllabus

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**Pastoral Leadership Institute**  
**Curriculum Author:** Greg Getz

**Credits:** 3 Hrs  
**Version:** 1.3

### **Course Description:**

This course attempts to produce the best beginning preachers possible outside of a conventional classroom and within a short course period. The student will learn the fundamentals of the theology (purpose) of preaching as well as the practical aspects of expository preparation and preaching, storytelling, use of illustrations, and culturally sensitive preaching.

[Prerequisite Courses: Both Prereq courses as well as all other Level One courses]

### **Course Objectives:**

Through selected reading and by completing specified assignments, this course will equip students to:

- 1) Prepare and deliver an expository sermon.
- 2) Learn how to tell an unforgettable story and integrate the story into the sermon.
- 3) Develop a preaching calendar that takes holidays in consideration.
- 4) Develop a filing system for illustrations.
- 5) Explore what it means to preach to a postmodern congregation.

### **Required Course Materials:**

Johnston, Graham McPherson, *Preaching to a Post-Modern World: A Guide to Reaching Twenty-First Century Listeners*, Grand Rapids: Baker, 2001

MacArthur, John Jr., *Rediscovering Expository Preaching*, Dallas: Word, 1992 (**Logos X Scholars Library**)

Robinson, Haddon W., *Biblical Preaching: The Development and Delivery of Expository Messages*, Second Edition, Grand Rapids: Baker, 2001

Walsh, John, *The Art of Storytelling: Easy Steps to Presenting an Unforgettable Story*, Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2003

Wiersbe, Warren, *Elements of Preaching*, Wheaton: Tyndale, 1986 (**Logos X Scholars Library**)

## PL271: Fundamentals of Church Leadership Course Syllabus

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**Pastoral Leadership Institute**  
**Curriculum Author:** Steve Jones

**Credits:** 3 Hrs  
**Version:** 2.0

### **Course Description:**

This course explores the principles of Christian leadership that create the underpinnings of every successful local church. The student will examine principles of leadership from a Biblical basis, and will learn the practice of applying those principles to their specific local church situations so that they become adept at exercising active leadership.

### **Course Objectives:**

The successful student will...

- 1) Acquire the skill of situational analysis.
- 2) Develop an internally consistent set of Biblical leadership principles.
- 3) Successfully apply those principles to current situations through the implementation of specific precepts.
- 4) Improve ministry potential through identifying personal strengths and weaknesses in leadership, with a goal of polishing leadership strengths and correcting leadership weaknesses. The student's DISC profile will be examined to this end.

### **Required Course Materials:**

Covey, Stephen. *First Things First*. New York: Fireside, 1995. Chapters 2 (*The Urgency Addiction*) and 4 (*Quadrant Two Organizing: The Process of Putting First Things First.*) You are welcome to borrow the book or check it out of the library.

DePree, Max. *Leadership Jazz*. New York: Doubleday, 1992

Ford, Leighton. *Transforming Leadership*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1993.

Forman, Rowland (and the Church-Based training Alliance). *Church Leadership*. Richardson: Center for Church-Based Training, 1999

Marshall, Tom. *Understanding Leadership*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2003

Sanders, J. Oswald. *Spiritual Leadership*. Chicago: Moody, (Revised Edition) 1994

## PL311: Pastoral Caregiving Course Syllabus

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**Pastoral Leadership Institute**  
Curriculum Author: John Oelze

**Credits:** 3 Hrs  
**Version:** 3.0

### **Course Description:**

Overseeing pastoral care is a significant task in ministry. This course is designed to strengthen each of these areas through readings, projects and chat discussions. Ministry will consume your life if you allow it to. Often ministry is handled in a “macro-management” manner. No one will be following you each step of the way. You must learn to manage your time effectively and to prioritize what is most important and when. In this class you will have several projects with final deadlines for each. It is up to you to plan your own timeline to make sure that you are progressing at an appropriate pace to complete your projects on time.

### **Course Objectives:**

This course is designed to help students:

- 1) Develop a biblical foundational understanding of how to care for and relate to others;
- 2) Develop a plan for continual growth in one’s personal journey and pursuit of an ever-growing relationship with spouse and children;
- 3) Raise up other care givers.

### **Required Course Texts:**

Crabb, Larry. *Encouragement: The Key to Caring*, Zondervan, 1990.

Huggins, Kevin D. *Friendship Counseling (Jesus’ Model for Speaking Life-Words to Hurting People)*, NavPress, 2003.

Hybels, Bill. *The Volunteer Revolution*, Zondervan, 2004.

Swindoll, Charles R. *So You Want to Be Like Christ?*, Thomas Nelson, 2007.

**One book of your choice from the following list** (other books optional with eProf approval):

Crabb, Larry, *The Marriage Builder*, Zondervan, 1992.

Allender, Dan B. *How Children Raise Parents*, WaterBrook, 2005.

Allender, Dan B. and Tremper Longman III. *Intimate Allies*, Tyndale House, 1999..

Thomas, Gary L. *Sacred Marriage*, Zondervan, 2000.

Ortberg, John. *The Life You’ve Always Wanted*, Zondervan, 2002.

**PL315: FUNDAMENTALS OF CHRISTIAN COUNSELING**  
**Course Syllabus**

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**Pastoral Leadership Institute**  
**Curriculum Author:** John Oelze

**Credits:** 3 Hrs  
**Version:** 2.1

**Course Description:**

This practical "hands on" course provides a biblical foundation for effective Christian counseling. Students will be expected to focus on issues of their own hearts as a launching pad for understanding more of God's plan for helping others in the local church.

**Course Objectives:**

Because of this course, students will hopefully:

- Experience life-change in their own hearts
- Understand the basic foundation necessary for effective counseling
- Grasp a picture of the role of the church as a healing community
- Picture how impacting the heart changes everything in ministry

**Required Course Texts:**

Crabb, Larry, *Soul Talk*, Nashville: Integrity Publishers, 2003; ISBN: 159145039X

Crabb, Larry, *Inside Out*, Colorado Springs: NavPress, revised 2007; ISBN: 1600060994

Crabb, Larry, *Connecting, A Radical New Vision*, Nashville: Word, 1997; ISBN: 0849914132

## PL331: Principles of Church Administration Course Syllabus

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**Pastoral Leadership Institute**  
**Curriculum Author:** Mike Gilbert

**Credits:** 3 Hrs  
**Version:** 1.0

### **Course Description:**

This course examines basic principles of administration and management of the local church. The student will examine the difficult balance between a spiritually-focused organism of ministry and the maintaining of proper order and structure that keeps the organization functioning smoothly. This study will focus on the “how-to” of leading the local church.

### **Course Objectives:**

Through selected reading and by completing specified assignments, this course will equip students to:

- 1) Use position and authority in a proper way.
- 2) Plan purposefully and strategically for future ministry.
- 3) Properly oversee church finances.
- 4) Work effectively with church boards and other leadership structures.
- 5) Use facility and resources to meet specific ministry goals.
- 6) Be a leader of leaders through recruiting, equipping, and delegation.
- 7) Deal successfully with conflict and crisis.
- 8) Work effectively in multi-staff settings.

### **Required Course Materials:**

Cousins, Don, Leith Anderson, and Arthur DeKruyter. *Mastering Church Management*. Portland: Multnomah, 1990. *(This one is included in your Logos software.)*

Berkley, James D. (editor) *Leadership Handbook of Management and Administration*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1994. **ISBN:** 0801090407

PLI Assessment Report, *Managing for Success: Employer-Manager Version* (taken during PLI application process)

Rohm, Robert A. *You've Got Style*. Atlanta: Personality Insights, 2000

## PL351: Teaching Methods and Christian Education Administration Course Syllabus

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**Pastoral Leadership Institute**

**Curriculum Author:** Dr. Terry Linhart, revised by John Oelze

**Credits:** 3 Hrs

**Version:** 1.1

### **Course Description:**

This course covers the pedagogical and administrative issues related to effective Christian education, combining theoretical, theological, educational, and philosophical understandings of Christian education with practical experience in using creative methods. Particular emphasis is placed on developing the skills necessary for effective teaching and leadership in the local church setting.

### **Course Objectives:**

Because of this course, students will hopefully:

- 1) Understand the foundations for life-changing teaching.
- 2) Understand the nature and role of Scripture in life-changing teaching.
- 3) Discover the creative process and begin to identify ways to be more innovative in teaching style.
- 4) Discuss the need for dependence on Jesus and the need for excellence in ministry.
- 5) Be able to identify major developmental and psychological theories that influence Christian education.
- 6) Grow in personal expertise of ministry to three specific age groups.
- 7) Design and deliver a variety of creative teaching methods and evaluate the effectiveness of each.
- 8) Design a new ministry for a particular group in a local ministry setting.

### **Required Course Materials:**

Hendricks, Howard G. *Teaching to Change Lives*, Sisters, OR: Multnomah Publishers, 2003.

[http://www.christianbook.com/Christian/Books/easy\\_find/112230262?Ntk=product.long\\_title\\_desc&Ntt=Teaching+to+Change+Lives&action=Search&N=0&Ne=0&event=ESRCN&nav\\_search=1](http://www.christianbook.com/Christian/Books/easy_find/112230262?Ntk=product.long_title_desc&Ntt=Teaching+to+Change+Lives&action=Search&N=0&Ne=0&event=ESRCN&nav_search=1)

Groeschel, Craig, *It: How Churches and Leaders Can Get It and Keep It*, Zondervan 2008.

ISBN-10: 0310286824 [http://www.amazon.com/How-Churches-Leaders-Can-Keep/dp/0310286824/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1249681833&sr=1-1](http://www.amazon.com/How-Churches-Leaders-Can-Keep/dp/0310286824/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1249681833&sr=1-1)

Osborne, Larry, *Sticky Church (Leadership Network Innovation Series)*, Zondervan 2008. ISBN-

10: 0310285089 [http://www.amazon.com/Sticky-Church-Leadership-Network-Innovation/dp/0310285089/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1249682523&sr=1-1](http://www.amazon.com/Sticky-Church-Leadership-Network-Innovation/dp/0310285089/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1249682523&sr=1-1)

Hawkins, Greg and Cally Parkinson, *Reveal*, Willow Creek Association, first edition, 2007. ISBN-10: 074419234X [http://www.amazon.com/Reveal-Where-Hawkins-Cally-Parkinson/dp/074419234X/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1249682636&sr=1-1](http://www.amazon.com/Reveal-Where-Hawkins-Cally-Parkinson/dp/074419234X/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1249682636&sr=1-1)

Hawkins, Greg and Cally Parkinson, *Follow Me*, Willow Creek Resources 2008. ISBN-10: 074419508X [http://www.amazon.com/Follow-Me-REVEAL-Greg-Hawkins/dp/074419508X/ref=sr\\_1\\_2?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1249682636&sr=1-2](http://www.amazon.com/Follow-Me-REVEAL-Greg-Hawkins/dp/074419508X/ref=sr_1_2?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1249682636&sr=1-2)

**Note:** Students will also be required to download 8-10 sermons from leading pastors nationwide in order to listen and evaluate teaching styles. Nominal fees may be charged for these downloads.

## PL371: Missions and the Church Course Syllabus

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**Pastoral Leadership Institute**  
**Curriculum Author:** Dr. Wayne Allen

**Credits:** 3 Hrs  
**Version:** 1.3

### **Course Description:**

This course will demonstrate that God's ultimate purpose in the world is to demonstrate His glory via the establishment of His Kingdom by the healing of the nations (Rev. 22:2), and that the Church is the instrument of that healing.

### **Course Objectives:**

At the conclusion of the course the student will be able to:

- 1) Define and describe God's missionary purpose in the world.
- 2) Explain the relationship between God's missionary purpose and the church.
- 3) Demonstrate from Scripture that the missionary purpose is God's first priority, and must, therefore, be the first priority of His church.
- 4) Trace by memory the development of the missionary message from Genesis to Revelation.
- 5) Demonstrate how any portion of the Bible relates to and advances the revelation and achievement of God's purpose of healing the nations.
- 6) State how the student will participate in the missionary mandate of the people of God in the most appropriate manner, whether as a missionary, or as a mission promoter, organizer or supporter.
- 7) Assist local churches to formulate and conduct a missionary program.

### **Required Course Materials:**

*The Holy Bible*, The New International Version (Colorado Springs: International Bible Society, 1984) (because of its accuracy, general acceptance and readability); and the *New American Standard Bible* (La Habra: Lockman Foundation 1971) (because of its principles of translation of the Greek tenses and its consistent translation of the Hebrew words for God).

White, Joel, and Church Based Training Alliance. (2005). *The Mission*. Church Leadership Mission Series. Richardson, Texas: Center for Church-Based Training.

Filbeck, David. (1994). *Yes, God of the Gentiles, Too: The Missionary Message of the Old Testament*. Wheaton: Billy Graham Center, Wheaton College.

Köstenberger, Andrea J., and Peter T. O'Brien. (2001). *Salvation to the Ends of the Earth: A Biblical Theology of Mission*. Downers Grove: Intervarsity Press.

Richardson, Don. (2004). *Peace Child*. Ventura: Regal Books.

## **PL431: Strategic Leadership Principles and Practices** Course Syllabus

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**Pastoral Leadership Institute**

**Curriculum Author:** Steve Jones, revised by John Oelze

**Credits:** 3 Hrs

**Version:** 1.1

### **Course Description:**

Leading the church for 21<sup>st</sup> century community impact requires confident rock-solid leadership, a commitment to a tangible strategic planning and process, and a passion for people. Reading assignments for this course will target these three arenas and will be a major focus for chat discussions.

Written assignments for this course are structured differently than other PLI courses and will introduce students to pertinent leadership principles in the real world. Students shall explore the proper application of leadership principles to real-life ministry situations. Through a series of guided interviews, students shall be confronted with positive and negative examples of these leadership principles in actual ministry situations. By comparing leadership practices with biblical principles, students will hone the ability to successfully transfer these principles into real-life situations. Students shall be responsible to arrange and execute interviews in their local communities as directed by the eProf.

### **Course Objectives:**

The student who successfully completes this course will:

- Realize that ministries fail for a reason and begin to gain experience in ministry autopsies.
- Understand the correlation between community needs and program development.
- Begin to develop sensitivity to cultural issues surrounding ministry with particular attention given to avoiding cultural land-mines.
- Understand the both/and nature of cultural need-meeting and will be able to identify how to develop programs that meet internal cultural needs, external cultural needs, or both.
- Begin to understand the place of vision in ministry development and leadership and will develop a personal philosophy regarding the visionizing process.
- Gain a beginning knowledge on leading a congregation through transition and change.
- Grasp a solid understanding of the value of “narrowing your focus in ministry to broaden your impact.”

### **Required Course Materials:**

*Who Stole My Church?* Gordon MacDonald, Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 2007.

*Simple Church*, Thom. S. Rainer and Eric Geiger, Nashville: B&H Publishing Group, 2006.

*Courageous Leadership*, Bill Hybels, Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2002.

## PL451: Church Multiplication & Planting

### Course Syllabus

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**Pastoral Leadership Institute**  
**Curriculum Author:** Jared Looney

**Credits:** 3 Hrs  
**Version:** 2.0

#### **Course Description:**

In this course students will freshly re-examine Christianity in regard to evangelism in contemporary contexts and the proactive multiplication of disciples, leaders, and churches. The student will explore the biblical, philosophical, and missional concept of church multiplication.

In order to gain an understanding of church planting as a process of Gospel contextualization, course discussions will follow an outline involving four key emphases – theology, context, evangelistic engagement, equipping disciples. Building on these four themes, course discussions will begin with an orientation phase and conclude with integration of the principles studied.

#### **Course Objectives:**

Completing selected reading and specified assignments in this course will equip students to:

- Rethink personal roles and responsibilities as Christians in a contemporary context.
- Consider cultural settings and theological foundations in light of the work of starting new churches.
- Reorient thinking in regard to the role of the church to reach the lost in its community.
- Develop a biblical and missional philosophy of ministry for community evangelism.
- Develop an approach for church planting in a cultural context.
- Develop a stronger skill in critical reading and analysis that results in concise and reflective reporting.

#### **Required Course Texts:**

Allen, Roland, *Spontaneous Expansion of the Church*, Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock Publishers, 1997. ISBN-10: 1579101984

Halter, Hugh and Matt Smay, *The Tangible Kingdom: Creating Incarnational Community*, San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2008. ISBN-10: 0470188979

Murray, Stuart, *Church Planting: Laying Foundations*, Scottsdale, PA: Herald Press, 2001. ISBN-10: 083619148X

## PL471: Church Health & Redevelopment Course Syllabus

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**Pastoral Leadership Institute**

**Course Author:** Dr. Dan Riemenschneider (revised by Dr. Jeff Kephart)

**Credits:** 3 Hrs

**Version:** 2.0

### **Course Description:**

This course will look at the principles for developing healthy churches and healthy disciples. Healthy congregations grow out of following key biblical strategies. Healthy disciples develop as the church environment is structured for life transformation. By following a healthy process of change, both can happen effectively.

### **Course Objectives:**

Upon successfully completing this course, the student should be able to:

- articulate the major components of a healthy church.
- understand the life transformation model of Jesus.
- understand how to structure the learning environment so life transformation can occur.
- discuss and demonstrate strategies for implementing the various components of a healthy church.
- understand and apply the “change process” in moving a church forward.
- develop critical thinking skills in evaluating the claims and counterclaims of those who seek to influence the American understanding of what constitutes a “healthy church.”

### **Required Course Materials:**

Schwarz, Christian A. *Natural Church Development*. Carol Stream: ChurchSmart Resources, 1996. ISBN: 1889638005 <http://www.churchsmart.com/store/viewItem.asp?idProduct=1045>

Macchia, Stephen A. *Becoming A Healthy Disciple*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2004. ISBN: 0801091411. [http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/0801091411/qid=1117797485/sr=1-1/ref=sr\\_1\\_1/002-4011462-9864053?s=b](http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/0801091411/qid=1117797485/sr=1-1/ref=sr_1_1/002-4011462-9864053?s=b)

Viola, Frank, and Barna, George. *Pagan Christianity?* Barna Books/Tyndale House Publishers, 2008. ISBN: 141431485X [http://www.amazon.com/Pagan-Christianity-Exploring-Church-Practices/dp/141431485X/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8](http://www.amazon.com/Pagan-Christianity-Exploring-Church-Practices/dp/141431485X/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8) (This book has created quite a storm of controversy. Since we are discussing “functional ministry programs/structures” as part of church health, our thinking might be informed and challenged by this book. We will “balance” it with critiques by noted Biblical scholars, with the goal being for each student to develop his own informed response to the book’s claims and wrestle with application to local ministry context.)

## **PL510: Writing Skills Development** Course Syllabus

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**Pastoral Leadership Institute**

**Curriculum Author:** Kip Prenkert, revised by Mike Ehret

**Credits:** 3 Hrs

**Version:** 1.1

### **Course Description:**

This course seeks to improve the writing skills of prospective pastors. The student will learn how to use the steps in the writing process to produce effective letters, articles, reports and other types of writing that pastors need to do. The student will also gain a better understanding of the sentence structure, word choice, and punctuation required in Standard English.

### **Course Objectives:**

Through selected reading and by completing specific assignments, this course will equip students to do the following:

- 1) Write correctly punctuated, complete sentences
- 2) Employ word choices that reflect the rules of Standard English usage and are appropriate for the particular situation
- 3) Use the writing process to generate various styles of writing typical of those required of pastors
- 4) Organize written material effectively using unified, coherent paragraphs
- 5) Know when to document material and where to find examples that show the proper formatting for that documentation
- 6) Utilize MLA standards for citing reference quotations and other formatting issues

### **Required Course Materials:**

Hacker, Diana. *A Writer's Reference*. Fifth Edition. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's, 1999.

White, Nancy. *Writing Power*. Third edition. New York: Kaplan—Simon and Schuster, 2002.

## PL531: Biblical Theology Course Syllabus

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**Pastoral Leadership Institute**  
**Curriculum Author:** Dr. David M. Waid

**Credit:** 3 Hrs  
**Version:** 3.1

### **Course Description:**

This course will briefly introduce students to the discipline and practical application of biblical theology and will serve as a foundation for the development of a biblical worldview, practical ministry, and systematic theology. Central theological themes of the Bible will be examined from the book of Genesis to the book of Revelation, with an emphasis on how the two testaments are connected to produce through its diverse historical contexts one unified Word for God's people; a Word that leads to a better understanding of God and His ways. The ultimate goal is to lay a foundation through which a significant relationship with God can be established.

[Prerequisite Courses: Study Prep and Writing Skills Development]

### **Course Objectives:**

To produce a competent theologian in a short time span, PLI has undertaken some unusual steps in the teaching methodology of our theology courses so that PLI students will shine when they interview with denominational credentialing (licensing) committees.

For that reason, the level of intensity and range of expectations and experiences in PLI theology courses will differ from other PLI courses, and significantly more interaction with the coach\* and the eProf is required to succeed in these courses. **DO NOT ASSUME ANY SIMILARITIES TO OTHER PLI COURSES.** Read this syllabus carefully, count the cost in time and effort, and make plans to meet its expectation if you wish to fare well in a licensing interview.

This course is designed to introduce the learner to the basic concepts, problems and challenges of Biblical Theology. Attention will be given to *major biblical themes*, utilizing the tools and methods of biblical research.

By successfully completing this course, the learner will:

1. demonstrate a fundamental knowledge of the discipline of biblical theology;
2. identify and understand some of the major theological themes of the Bible;
3. distinguish the differences between biblical and systematic theology;
4. synthesize a major biblical theme as presented through progressive revelation; and
5. apply data from biblical theology to practical ministry.

**\*NOTE:** *Students exempt from the PLI internship (e.g., those who are already pastoring a church) are NOT exempt from working with an academic coach when taking PLI theology courses. You must find an academic coach (e.g., retired pastor, former pastor, pastor friend) for this class. If you need help in enlisting a coach, please contact PLI's Administrator immediately.*

**Required Course Materials:**

Hafemann, Scott J. and Paul R. House, eds. *Central Themes in Biblical Theology: Mapping Unity in Diversity*. Grand Rapids, MI.: Baker Academics, 2007.

Grenz, Stanley J., et. al. *Pocket Dictionary of Theological Terms*. Downers Grove: IVP, 1999.  
(a “handy-dandy” listing of many basic theological terms and concepts)

Patzia, Arthur G. and Anthony J. Petrotta. *Pocket Dictionary of Biblical Studies*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2002.

Logos Bible Software Series X: Logos Digital Library System

Article “Biblical Theology as the Heartbeat of Effective Ministry” by Graeme L. Goldsworthy, pp. 280-286 of *Biblical Theology: Retrospect & Prospect* by Scott J. Hofermann, ed. (Downers Grove, IL: Intervarsity Press, 2002).(Download from the course site.)

# PL611: Organic Discipleship Movements 1

## Course Syllabus

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**Pastoral Leadership Institute**

**Curriculum Author:** Richard Greene

*(with Don Snell, Greg Getz, and Diana Boyer)*

**Credits:** 3 Hours

**Version:** 1.0

### **Course Description:**

This course will equip students to launch disciple-making movements in obedience to the Great Commission based on following the Spirit's leading to make disciples who make disciples—principles that can be reproduced in any setting, any culture on earth.

### **Course Objectives:**

The goals of this course are to:

- encourage students to envision their own church, community, and life within the context of the Great Commission and be able to clearly communicate the vision to others;
- equip students to make disciples who make disciples;
- challenge students to intentionally choose to walk in the power of the Holy Spirit rather than relying on human ingenuity;
- guide students in developing a specific strategy/plan (including follow-up and ongoing accountability) to make disciples and be able to reproduce this strategy/plan in others;
- teach students to apply principles of reproduction and multiplication at every level, in every area of ministry.

### **Required Course Materials:**

*Keystone Project*, Keystone training DVDs and manual (included in DVD set). The cost of the 19-DVD set is normally \$150, but available to PLI students for just \$75, plus \$7 for shipping. Full payment must be received by World Partners before DVDs will be shipped. Mail personal check (\$82 total) made payable to: Missionary Church, PO Box 9127, Fort Wayne, IN 46899-9127 (attention Lynn Leslie), and note for Keystone DVDs. Or use PLI's PayPal link to pay online by credit card (\$85 total to cover PayPal's service charge).

Hopler, Thom & Marcia. *Reaching the World Next Door*, InterVarsity Press, Downers Grove, Illinois, 1994.

Wilkins, Michael J. *Following the Master: a Biblical Theology of Discipleship*, Zondervan Publishing House, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 1992.

## PL621: Organic Discipleship Movements 2

### Course Syllabus

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**Pastoral Leadership Institute**

**Curriculum Author:** Richard Greene

*(with Don Snell, Greg Getz, and Diana Boyer)*

**Credits:** 3 Hours

**Version:** 1.0

### **Course Description:**

This course will train students to launch disciple-making movements in obedience to the Great Commission based on following the Spirit's leading to make disciples who make disciples—principles that can be reproduced in any setting, any culture on earth. The pre-requisite course, Organic Discipleship Movements 1, focused on personal application, while this course pursues corporate application within the local church.

[Prerequisite Course: Organic Discipleship Movements 1]

### **Course Objectives:**

The goals of this course are to:

- encourage students to envision their own church, community, and life within the context of the Great Commission and be able to clearly communicate the vision to others;
- challenge students to redirect the focus of their local churches to make disciples to multiply churches that will make disciples to multiply churches;
- equip students to lead their local churches to health and growth by establishing Great Commission core values with a vision, mission, and evangelistic strategy that reflect those values;
- teach students to apply principles of reproduction and multiplication at every level, in every area of ministry;
- broaden students' worldview to envision how God wants to use the Church (big "C") to bless communities and fulfill the Great Commission.

### **Required Course Materials:**

*Keystone Project* DVD set (the same set purchased for Organic Discipleship Movements 1).

Bernard, Daniel. *City Impact: How to Unify, Empower and Mobilize God's People to Transform Their Communities*, Chosen Books, a division of Baker Publishing Group, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 2004.

Hirsch, Alan. *The Forgotten Ways: Reactivating the Missional Church*, Brazos Press, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Brafman, Ori, and Rod A. Beckstrom. *The Starfish and the Spider: the Unstoppable Power of Leaderless Organizations*, Portfolio, a member of Penguin Group (USA), Inc, New York, New York, 2006.

**PL631: Spiritual Warfare Ministry**  
Course Syllabus

**Pastoral Leadership Institute**

**Curriculum Author:** Marcus Warner, D. Min

**Credits:** 3 hours

**Version:** 1.0

**Course Description:**

This introduction to spiritual warfare ministry includes both biblical and practical foundations for the application of spiritual warfare principles in ministry settings.

**Course Objectives:**

At the conclusion of the course the student will be able to:

1. Employ the spiritual warfare principles of legal ground and authority in a discipleship and counseling context.
2. Employ spiritual warfare principles of legal ground and authority in an evangelistic and missionary context.
3. Use tools learned in the course to teach the essential elements of a biblical worldview.
4. Use the tools learned in this course to teach spiritual warfare principles to others.
5. Explain the theology of a spiritual warfare worldview.

**Course Required Texts:**

Anderson, Neil T. and Timothy M. Warner. *The Beginner's Guide to Spiritual Warfare*, Regal Books (October 2008), ISBN-10: 0830746013

Anderson, Neil T. "The Steps to Freedom in Christ," Regal, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition (May 2004), ISBN-10: 0830735860

Payne, Karl. *Spiritual Warfare*, Cross Training Press (August 2008), ISBN-10: 0981752802

Warner, Dr. Marcus. *What Every Believer Should Know About Spiritual Warfare*.

**PL651: Cultural Anthropology**  
Course Syllabus

**Pastoral Leadership Institute**  
**Curriculum Author:** Dr. Wayne Allen

**Credits:** 3 hours  
**Version:** 1.0

**Course Description:**

This introduction to the principles of cultural anthropology includes the analysis of major anthropological theories and concepts and training in participant observation.

**Course Objectives:**

At the conclusion of the course the student will be able to:

6. State and explain from memory the purposes and parts of the field of anthropology in general, cultural anthropology in particular, and the importance of each in expanding the Kingdom of God.
7. State and explain from memory the theories of the major theoreticians and methodologies of cultural anthropology.
8. State and explain from memory the major current definitions of culture.
9. State and explain from memory the primary divisions and subdivisions of culture.
10. Define from memory the key concepts of anthropology such as worldview, values, institutions, etc.
11. Explain the relationship between Scripture and culture.
12. Describe and analyze a culture, or sub-culture, by means of anthropological field work methodology, to explain how it works and demonstrate mastery of the methodology.
13. Define and demonstrate receptor-oriented communication as it relates to evangelism and world missions.

**Course Required Texts:**

Hiebert, Paul G. *Cultural Anthropology*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1997.

Spradley, James P. *Participant Observation*. New York: Harcourt Brace Javanovich College Publishers, 1980.

**xPL911: CREATING PARABLES TO COMMUNICATE TRUTH**  
Course Syllabus

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**Pastoral Leadership Institute**  
Course Author: Dominic Francese

**Credits:** 1 hour  
**Version:** 1.0

**Course Description:**

Jesus taught using parables, perhaps not just to give us the parables themselves, but also to show us the best way to communicate God's truth. Even in our day people learn best—and remember the lesson taught—when truth is encapsulated in a story. A parable is a simple earthly story with heavenly meaning. This course will not only take a closer look at the parables told by Jesus, but will also teach students to communicate spiritual truth through original parables of their own.

**Course Objectives:**

The student who successfully completes this course will:

1. better understand the parables of Jesus.
2. be able to identify within the parables of Jesus the beginning steps to formulating one's own parables.
3. learn to distill any truth into components, identify symbols to represent each component, and arrange these symbols in a story to communicate what you want to say.
4. be able to communicate scriptural truth more clearly, to any age and any culture, through the telling of original parables.
5. take away a plethora of original parables written by the eProf and peers.

**Required Course Texts:**

Francese, Dominic. *Storytelling Evangelism: Parable-Making Like Jesus Made Easy For Today*, self-published, 2008. (available to download free of charge from the course site)

Kendall, R.T. *The Parables of Jesus*. Baker Publishing Group. ISBN: 9780800794583

Barna, George. *Revolution*. Tyndale House Publishers, Inc. ISBN-13: 9781414307589

## **xPL921: THE WOUNDED HEART** **Course Syllabus**

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**Pastoral Leadership Institute**

**Credit Hours: 3.0**

**Curriculum Author:** Linda J. Oelze, and John K. Oelze MDiv, MABC

**Version: 1.0**

### **Course Description:**

This heart-probing, "hands on" course provides a biblical framework for healing for those who have experienced childhood sexual abuse. Students will be expected to focus and share on these issues from their own hearts to assist in providing healing from the past and hope for today.

### **Objectives:**

Because of this course, students will hopefully:

- Experience life-change in their own hearts
- Understand how damage done in the past affects the way they relate to others today and what can be done to change
- Grasp a picture of the role of the church as a healing community
- Picture how impacting the heart changes everything in ministry

### **Required Course Texts:**

Allender, Dan, *Wounded Heart, Hope for Adult Victims of Childhood Sexual Abuse*, Colorado Springs: NavPress, revised 1995; ISBN: 0891092897

Allender, Dan, *Wounded Heart, Hope for Adult Victims of Childhood Sexual Abuse - Workbook*, Colorado Springs: NavPress, revised 1995; 0891096655.

### **Class Format:**

Participation in ten weekly two-hour chat sessions will help assimilate what students have learned from reading and other assignments. Evaluation of chat room participation will be based on quality responses, completion of the *Wounded Heart* study guide, and an obvious understanding of how to relate the material to one's own personal life.

Chats for this unique class will not be filled with lecture, but instead with significant student-eProf interaction. There may also be times of one-on-one eProf/student sharing/mentoring. Observing this in the chat room can help other students understand more of the issues they too are facing. During this time, observing students should be quietly reflecting, praying, and processing their own hearts.

## **xPL922: WALKING WITH THE WOUNDED HEART**

### **Course Syllabus**

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**Pastoral Leadership Institute**

**Curriculum Author:** John K. Oelze MDiv, MABC

**Credit Hours:** 3.0

**Version:** 1.0

### **Course Description:**

This heart-probing, "hands on" course provides a biblical framework for "walking with" your wife through the healing of childhood sexual abuse. Students will be expected to focus and share on these issues from their own hearts and to hold within confidence what is shared with members of the class.

### **Objectives:**

Because of this course, each student will hopefully:

- Experience life-change in his own heart
- Gain a deeper understanding of his wife and what it means to love/walk alongside her throughout their marriage.
- Grasp a picture of the role of the church as a healing community
- Picture how impacting the heart changes everything in ministry

### **Required Course Texts:**

Allender, Dan, *Wounded Heart, Hope for Adult Victims of Childhood Sexual Abuse*, Colorado Springs: NavPress, revised 1995; ISBN: 0891092897

Eggerichs, Emerson, *Love and Respect*, Brentwood TN: Integrity Publishers, 2004; ISBN: 1591451876

### **Class Format:**

Participation in ten weekly two-hour chat sessions will help assimilate what students have learned from reading and other assignments. Evaluation of chat room participation will be based on quality responses, completion of the assigned readings, and an obvious understanding of how to relate the material to one's own personal life.

Chats for this unique class will not be filled with lecture, but instead with significant student-eProf interaction. There may also be times of one-on-one eProf/student sharing/mentoring. Observing this in the chat room can help other students understand more of the issues they too are facing. During this time, observing students should be quietly reflecting, praying, and processing their own hearts.