

80-786 Capstone: The Leadership Challenge
2014
Doctor of Ministry Syllabus

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Course Purpose

Leadership has often been defined as the “capacity to influence people.” Contemporary Leadership understanding has also added a heavy emphasis on innovation. The readings and seminars led by the Kellogg faculty will delve into these two areas of leadership in-depth. We will also be working with a case study on the Barrington United Methodist Church in the Northern Illinois Conference. This will bring to focus our work throughout the Kellogg Seminar and apply in to the capacity to look toward the future with formative leadership understanding and innovation in the challenging contexts we face.

In other words:

The student will focus on putting together the practical and conceptual frameworks of leadership in the context of both a class room case and a case developed-for-learning that is challenging in the student’s present context. The analysis of the case will be assessed in terms of the capacity of the student to bring a high level of **Knowing** to the project before them.

The student will focus on their current appropriation of **Being** a leader as the class engages the elements of the seminar, especially the case study. During the case study the student will move from learner to colleague and consultant as the new pastor appointed to serve the Barrington UMC will be actively engaged in the futuring process. And, as leader, the student will develop the case from within their own context with the authority of their position within the organization the case contemplates.

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The student will be **Doing** the work of colleague and consultant in real time and space to advise the new pastor in Barrington in preparation for the transition to the new appointment. The student will also be writing a case study for self-learning/teaching in order to analyze and make plans for the future steps in a current project.

Learning goals

By the completion of this course, students will:

- Add a heightened understanding of leading through influence and explore their own capacity and formation to exercise this aspect of leadership
- Demonstrate areas of innovation when contemplating the future of a project that will be undertaken in the student's area of ministry.
- Demonstrate the learning and skills required through the course of their DMin work, especially the Kellogg/GETS *Plus seminars*.

Assignments

1. The class will meet with the *Plus* cohort on Tuesday and Wednesday. A packet of readings along with other material and instructions for this segment of the course will be supplied by the Kellogg School of Management. DMin students are expected to complete and fully participate in these sessions.
2. The DMin cohort will meet for an additional 3 hour seminar on Thursday. The reading and assignments listed below are specific to the seminar and the DMin aspect of the course.
3. Prior to the Thursday gathering the student will have completed all of the reading listed below as well as those provided for the *Plus seminar*.
4. Following the seminar interchange the student will write a collegial, advisory letter to the new pastor at the church in the Case Study that refines and extends the conversation in the seminar to include your own insights and suggestions. The letter should be written to include your own reflected experience and the refined learning of your DMin journey in terms of areas to be covered and possibilities to be explored. The letter needs to be completed by April 30. It is to be sent as an attachment to Dr. Fowler. **This will count as 20% of the grade.**
5. A final paper of 20-25 pages is due on May 18. The paper should take the form of a case study that narrates a particular project in which you are currently or are planning to become engaged and in which you have an investment of some proportion.
 - Describe the project as a leader. Note the Mission, vision, compelling narrative, shared values and practices.
 - Bring to bear the areas in which you have been focused in the DMin in order to expand, understand and inform the current status of the project and shaping it for the future.
 - Be sure to include issues of stewardship, teamwork, leading & following, branding, evangelism, strategic planning, etc, etc.
 - Indicate where you need more research and understanding to move forward on this project and the sources of that knowledge and expertise.
 - Be clear about the governance and administrative capacity involved in this as well as the management process and skills required.
 - Finally, develop at least three possible innovations that you will consider as you move ahead with this project.
 - Indicate the next steps you will need to take in order to “get the ball rolling.” By that, I mean administrative affirmation may be a necessary step, but it simply gives permission to get the ball rolling, what creates the

momentum toward completion in your case? **This will count as 80% of the grade.**

Required Reading

Assigned through the Kellogg seminar and:

Alan J. Roxburgh and M. Scott Boren. *Introducing the Missional Church*, Baker Books, 2009. ISBN 9780801072123. Price: \$13.26.

Penny Edgell Becker. *Congregations in Conflict*, Cambridge University Press, 1999. ISBN 9780521594622. Price: \$32.20.

Grading

Letter based on Case	20%
Final paper	80%

CLASS PARTICIPATION: you are expected to exercise participatory leadership in class. There are a variety of ways in which you can participate over the three day seminar.

PAPERS: you are preparing to be a “Doctor of the Church.” Your writing should evidence sound research and reflection and should be written in such a way that it demonstrates the capacity to edify “the church.”

All papers should be sent as WORD attachments to mark.fowler@garrett.edu.