Course Syllabus
Wycliffe College
Toronto School of Theology

This description is intended to assist in the course approval process and to assist students in determining whether this course will help them achieve their educational objectives and the learning goals of their program. It is not a learning contract. The details of the description are subject to change before the course begins. The course syllabus will be available to the class at the beginning of the course.

Course Identification

Course Number: WYF3020HS
Course Name: Parish Leadership and Ministry
Campus: St. George

Instructor Information

Instructor: Peter Robinson   Teaching Assistant:
E-mail: peter.robinson@wycliffe.utoronto.ca   E-mail:
Office Hours: on request

Course Prerequisites or Requisites

This is a third year course. Prerequisites are WYP1601H "The Church, The Faith and Our World" (formerly Leading Missional Congregations) and WYF3010H "Theological Integration Seminar."

Course Description

Parish Leadership and Ministry must be grounded in an understanding of the Church, what it is and what it is for. Only in the context of ecclesiology may we begin to understand what it means to be a leader in the Church. In this course we will be exploring the implications of what it means to say that the Church is the body of Christ in the world. Through that lens we will explore practical areas of parish leadership and ministry: developing lay leadership, visioning and planning, teaching, dealing with conflict, managing change.

Course Methodology

Weekly readings, class participation, pastoral response papers, preaching

Course Outcomes

COURSE OUTCOMES	COURSE ELEMENT	PROGRAM OUTCOMES
By the end of this course, students	This outcome will be achieved through these course elements:	This course outcome corresponds to these aspects of Wycliffe's statements of outcomes (MTS, MDiv)

• will describe and defend a model of local parish leadership and ministry working from a biblical and theological understanding of 'every member ministry';	Readings, blackboard discussion, final paper	**MDiv:** 2.3, 2.4
• will articulate the impact of a local current cultural context on effective ministry;	Class participation, final paper	**MDiv:** 2.3, 2.4
• will analyze and appraise the significance and role of change in parish ministry and develop a plan for effective change;	Blackboard discussion, pastoral response papers, final paper	**MDiv:** 2.3, 2.4
• will identify and interpret different types and levels of parish conflict and the relevant resolutions with reference to pertinent theological issues;	pastoral response papers, class participation	**MDiv:** 2.3, 2.4
• will organize and collaborate with ministry mentors and peers in assessing and responding to ministry situations and problems;	Class participation, pastoral response papers	**MDiv:** 2.3, 2.4
• will describe and defend guidelines for initiating and shaping a small group ministry;	Readings, final paper, class participation	**MDiv:** 2.3, 2.4
• will engage and appraise, with fellow students, relevant pastoral learning from internship, placements and other ministry experiences throughout the course.	Class participation, blackboard discussion	**MDiv:** 2.3, 2.4

Course Resources

Required Course Texts

- Collin Marshall, Tony Payne, *The Trellis and the Vine: The Ministry Mind-Shift that Changes Everything* (Kingswood NSW, Australia: Matthias Media, 2009).
- Martin B. Copenhaver, Anthony B. Robinson, William H. Willimon, *Good News in Exile: Three Pastors Offer a Hopeful Vision for the Church* (Grand Rapids, MI : W.B. Eerdmans Pub., 1999).
- John Kotter, *Our Iceberg is Melting; Changing and Succeeding under Adverse Conditions*, 2005 (This book is readily available in public libraries and is only used in Week 10).
- Valerie Michaelson and Tiffany Robinson, *Reimagining Children in the Church: a Fresh Approach to Raising our Children in Christ.* Wycliffe Booklets, Wycliffe College, 2013.

Course Website(s)

- Blackboard https://weblogin.utoronto.ca/

This course uses Blackboard for its course website. To access it, go to the UofT portal login page at http://portal.utoronto.ca and login using your UTORid and password. Once you have logged in to the portal using your UTORid and password, look for the **My Courses** module, where you'll find the link to the website for all your Blackboard-based courses. (Your course registration with ROSI gives you access to the course website at Blackboard.) Note also the information at http://www.portalinfo.utoronto.ca/content/information-students. Students who have trouble accessing Blackboard should ask Thomas Power for further help.]

Class Schedule

Please complete the readings for Week 1. before the first class (including the book of Ephesians).

A. *We begin with the Church*

Week 1 (January11) Introduction to the course: What is the Church and what is it for?

Readings: Ephesians; *Trellis and the Vine*, chapters 1–4.

Week 2 (January 18) The Priest/Minister in the church.

Readings: *Trellis and the Vine,* chapters 5–8.

Week 3 (January 25) The Priest/ Minister and the formation of Leaders.

Readings: *Trellis and the Vine,* chapters 9–12., Newbigin, *The Good Shepherd*, 9–10 (pp 50–57): Available on blackboard.

B. *The Church exists in the world and for the world but is not of the world.*

Week 4 (February 1) Revisiting the Missional church, Evangelism and Social Action. **First Case Study due**.

Readings: *Good News in Exile*, 'Christian formation and the teaching ministry', pp. 75–89; "Mission and Social Action: Beyond Common Sense", pp. 91–106; Newbigin, *The Good Shepherd*, sections 1–4 (pp.13–31), 11–12 (pp 58–67): Available on blackboard.

Week 5 (February 8) Children and the Church (guest lecturer).

Readings: Reimagining Children in the Church: a Fresh Approach to Raising our Children in Christ; *Good news in Exile,* "Preaching and Speech: Words Make Worlds", pp. 45–57.

Week 6 (February 15) Communicating the Good News in a Foreign Land.

Readings: Good News in Exile, 'Ritual and Sacrament; beyond Words', pp. 59–75; *BAS,* pp. 146–65.

The Eschatological Church: The Church is always on the Way.

Week 7 (February 22) Reading Week.

Week 8 (March 1) Living in a Time of Change. **Second Case Study due.**

Readings: Good News in Exile, the three introductory chapters, pp. 5–32; Watch Ron Heifetz http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QfLLDvn0pI8.

Week 9 (March 8) Money, Stewardship (guest lecturers).

Read - *Workshop proposes new approach to church budgets* [Narrative spending at the Giving Project event]

Burkhardt, Ferne. Canadian Mennonite; Waterloo 3.21 (Oct 25, 1999): 24. Available online – UofT Library.

Week 10 (March 15) Leading in a Time of Change.

Readings: Our Iceberg is Melting, John Kotter.

Week 11 (March 22) Leading in a time of Change continued. ***Third Case study due.***

Readings: Good News in Exile, "Conversion"; "New Creation", pp. 107–16.

C. The Church is a hospital.

Week 12 (March 29) Conflict in the church

Readings: Rowan Williams, *One Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church*, Oct 2005:
http://www.archbishopofcanterbury.org/articles.php/1675/one-holy-catholic-and-apostolic-church.

Week 13 (April 5) Concluding issues.

Evaluation

Requirements
1. Regular attendance and participation in class. (10%)

2. Weekly questions and insights. (15%) Each week you are to submit 1-2 questions or insights based on the assigned readings. They are to be submitted 24 hours before class.

3. Three short pastoral response papers - 1200-1500 words each (30%)

You will write a paper detailing your pastoral response to three case studies. (The case studies will be given to you during the term.) Each response will detail your strategy for thinking through and working through a pastoral response in a parish taking into account the dynamics and people involved, the issues/questions that need to be clarified and the theological principles that should guide your thinking.   You are encouraged to talk through the case studies with your classmates before writing your paper.   Due dates – see class schedule.

4. Preaching (20%). Topics to be provided.

5. Final Written Assignment (25%).

Grading System

Letter Grade	Numerical Equivalents	Grade Point	Grasp of Subject Matter
A+	90–100%	4.0	Profound & Creative
A	85–89%	4.0	Outstanding
A-	80–84%	3.7	Excellent
B+	77–79%	3.3	Very Good
B	73–76%	3.0	Good

| B- | 70–72% | 2.7 | Satisfactory |
| FZ | 0–69% | 0 | Failure |

Grades without numerical equivalent:

CR   Designates credit; has no numerical equivalent or grade point value

NCR   Designates failure; has no numerical equivalent, but has a grade point value of 0 and is included in the GPA calculation

SDF   Standing deferred (a temporary extension)

INC   Permanent incomplete; has no numerical equivalent or grade point value

WDR   Withdrawal without academic penalty

AEG   May be given to a final year student who, because of illness, has completed at least 60% of the course, but not the whole course, and who would not otherwise be able to convocate; has no numerical equivalent and no grade point value

Policy on Assignment Extensions

Basic Degree students are expected to complete all course work by the end of the term in which they are registered. Under **exceptional circumstances**, with the written permission of the instructor, students may request an extension (SDF = "standing deferred") beyond the term. An extension, when offered, will have a mutually agreed upon deadline that does not extend beyond the conclusion of the following term. An SDF must be requested no later than the last day of classes of the term in which the course is taken. The request form is available on the college website or from the Registrar's office.

One percentage point per day will be deducted on the course grade if an extension has not been requested by the stated deadline.

Course grades. Consistently with the policy of the University of Toronto, course grades submitted by an instructor are reviewed by a committee of the instructor's college before being posted. Course grades may be adjusted where they do not comply with University grading policy (http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/Assets/Governing+Council+Digital+Assets/Policies/PDF/grading.pdf) or college grading policy.

Policies

Accessibility. Students with a disability or health consideration are entitled to accommodation. Students must register at the University of Toronto's Accessibility Services offices; information is available at http://www.accessibility.utoronto.ca/. The sooner a student seeks accommodation, the quicker we can assist.

Plagiarism. Students submitting written material in courses are expected to provide full documentation for sources of both words and ideas in footnotes or endnotes. Direct quotations should be placed within quotation marks. (If small changes are made in the quotation, they should be indicated by appropriate punctuation such as brackets and ellipses, but the quotation still counts as a direct quotation.) Failure to document borrowed material constitutes plagiarism, which is a serious breach of academic, professional, and Christian ethics. An instructor who discovers evidence of student plagiarism is not permitted to deal with the situation individually but is required to report it to his or her head of college or delegate according to the TST *Basic Degree Handbook* (linked from http://www.tst.edu/academic/resources-forms/handbooks and the

University of Toronto *Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters*
http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm), a student who plagiarizes in this course. Students will be assumed to have read the document "Avoidance of plagiarism in theological writing" published by the Graham Library of Trinity and Wycliffe Colleges (http://www.trinity.utoronto.ca/Library_Archives/Theological_Resources/Tools/Guides/plag.htm).

Other academic offences. TST students come under the jurisdiction of the University of Toronto Code of *Behaviour on Academic Matters* (http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm).

Writing Style. The writing standard for the Toronto School of Theology is Kate L. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses and Dissertations*, 7th edition (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2007), which is available at Crux Books.

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