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**WAYLAND BAPTIST UNIVERSITY**

**Virtual Campus**

**SCHOOL OF RELIGION AND PHILOSOPHY**

### Wayland Mission Statement: Wayland Baptist University exists to educate students in an academically challenging, learning-focused, and distinctively Christian environment for professional success, and service to God and humankind.

### RLED/RLGN – 5114 –VC01

### Practice of the Outward Disciplines

# Term: Fall 2018

## Professor: *Don Ashley, Ph.D.*

## Instructor Information

* **Phone:** 907-375-4508 (office); 907-529-5791 (cell)
* **Email:** ashleyd@wbu.edu
* **Office Hours:** Monday**/**Tuesday 1 – 5 pm; Thursday Noon – 6 pm
* **Office Location:** Parkside Center, Anchorage, Alaska

**Class Time and Location:** Virtual Campus, meeting online via Blackboard

**CATALOG DESCRIPTION**

 Introduction to one or more spiritual disciplines oriented toward the external practice of the Christian life, practiced within a weekly spiritual formation small group of MDiv. Students.

**PREREQUISITE**

* None

#### RESOURCES

**Required Text**

Hammond, Kim and Darren Cronshaw. 2014. *Sentness: Six Postures of Missional Christians*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

**Recommended Text** *(this book should have been introduced in prior spiritual formation classes, if you do not have a copy of this book, then please order one)*

Foster, Richard. 1998. *Celebration of Discipline: The Path to Spiritual Growth*. 3rd Edition. Harper Collins.

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (SLOs):**

The course is designed to be highly interactive, experiential, contemplative in the exploration of historical and contemporary principles of Spiritual Formation as a disciple of the Lord Jesus Christ. As a student involved in this discovery learning process you will be able to:

1. Student will demonstrate knowledge of the outward Christian spiritual disciplines of service.

2. Student will design, develop, and perform the practice of the outward spiritual disciplines of service.

3. Student will prepare an outward Christian spiritual disciplines plan for enhancing spiritual formation within the community of the local church.

 *Spiritual Exercises*: Practical assignments and directed experiences of spiritual disciplines have also been added

 to provide opportunities to move beyond theoretical understanding to personal spiritual formation.

**ATTENDANCE**

The course will engage in discussions and learning tasks via Blackboard over the assigned reading and projects for that week. Students are expected to have read the assigned materials **and participate** the class discussions and live sessions. Students will be expected to facilitate and engage in these discussions around writing assignments and projects that are assigned to them.

**PARTICIPATION IN ONLINE CLASSES**

Students are expected to participate in all required instructional activities in their courses. Online courses are no different in this regard; however, participation must be defined in a different manner. Student “attendance” in an online course is defined as active participation in the course as described in the course syllabus. Instructors in online courses are responsible for providing students with clear instructions for how they are required to participate in the course. Additionally, instructors are responsible for incorporating specific instructional activities within their course and will, at a minimum, have weekly mechanisms for documenting student participation. These mechanisms may include, but are not limited to, participating in a weekly discussion board, submitting/completing assignments in Blackboard, or communicating with the instructor. Students aware of necessary absences must inform the professor with as much advance notice as possible in order to make appropriate arrangements. Any student absent 25 percent or more of the online course, i.e., non-participatory during 3 or more weeks of an 11 week term, may receive an F for that course. Instructors may also file a Report of Unsatisfactory Progress for students with excessive non-participation. Any student who has not actively participated in an online class prior to the census date for any given term is considered a “no-show” and will be administratively withdrawn from the class without record. To be counted as actively participating, it is not sufficient to log in and view the course. The student must be submitting work as described in the course syllabus. Additional attendance and participation policies for each course, as defined by the instructor in the course syllabus, are considered a part of the university’s attendance policy.

DISABILITY STATEMENT

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), it is the policy of Wayland Baptist University that no otherwise qualified person with a disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any education program or activity in the university. The Coordinator of Counseling Services serves as the coordinator of students with a disability and should be contacted concerning accommodation requests at (806) 291-3765. Documentation of a disability must accompany any request for accommodations.

#### COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. ***Learning Activity -- Online Discussion – 110 pts (ongoing)*** *slo 1, 2, 3*

Our interaction will be split between Blackboard Collaborate live-chat sessions, and posting to Discussion Board forums. We’ll do one or the other in any given week, but not both (see course schedule below). Students unable to attend live chat sessions may make up the absence by submitting a double-spaced one-page summary of the recording of the session missed.

 A discussion guide will be posted online consisting of a series of questions formulated by the professor that will

 be addressed in the online discussion group. The professor will post the first question to begin the dialogue, and

 then moderate the discussion to move through the discussion guide questions. Additional questions for discussion

 will be added as the dialogue unfolds. All students are required to check the discussion group postings frequently

 and participate consistently in the discussion.

**B. Practicing the Disciplines and Reflection (50pts) (slo 1,2,3)**

During the term you will be given weekly opportunities to practice some of the spiritual disciplines that

 were practiced by Jesus and have been affirmed by religious traditions down through the ages.

 This experiential journey will enable you to participate in the following discipline of Service.

**C. *Practice of Outward Spiritual Disciplines within a Congregation: A Communal Plan for Service*  slo 3** *(100 pts)*

 **Create a** **Congregational Plan** - Drawing clearly and explicitly from these readings, develop a plan for

 corporate enacting the outward spiritual discipline of service within the context of the local church. (Consider

 development of a sermon series, a holistic discipleship process; or a ministry season for service individual and

 corporate).

**Course Evaluation (Method of Determining Grade)**

##### University Grading System

 A 90-100 I INCOMPLETE\*\*

 B 80-89 Cr FOR CREDIT

 C 70-79 NCr NO CREDIT

 D 60-69 WP WITHDRAWAL PASSING

 F BELOW 60 WF WITHDRAWAL FAILING

 W WITHDRAWAL

\*\*A grade of incomplete is changed if the deficiency is made up by midterm of the next regular semester; otherwise, it becomes "F". This grade is given only if circumstances beyond the student's control prevented completion of work during the semester enrolled and attendance requirements have been met. A grade of "CR" indicates that credit in semester hours was granted but no grade or grade points were recorded.

**Procedure for computations of final grade**

 1. Attendance and Participation online 110 pts.

 2. Practicing Disciplines 50 pts.

 3. Congregational Plan for Outward Disciplines 100 pts.

 **Total 260 pts** Potential points

 Actual points divided by total potential points = final grade

Students shall have protection through orderly procedures against prejudices or capricious academic evaluation. A student who believes that he or she has not been held to realistic academic standards, just evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course by using the student grade appeal process described in the Academic Catalog. Appeals may not be made for advanced placement examinations or course bypass examinations. Appeals are limited to the final course grade, which may be upheld, raised, or lowered at any stage of the appeal process. Any recommendation to lower a course grade must be submitted through the Executive Vice President/Provost to the Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee for review and approval. The Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee may instruct that the course grade be upheld, raised, or lowered to a more proper evaluation.

**Academic Honesty (Plagiarism): University students are expected to conduct themselves according to the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, forgery, or plagiarism. Plagiarism is the presentation pf the work of another as one’s own work. It is the student’s responsibility to be familiar with penalties associates with plagiarism stated in the catalog.**

**RLGN 5114 Practicing the Outward Spiritual Disciplines**

**Tentative Schedule**

**August 20 - 25**

Course Introduction

Interact via Discussion Board forum. First posting due by March 1. Subsequent posts due by November 21 at 11:59 pm central time.

**August 28**

Read: *Celebration of Discipline* Chapter 9

Live Chat Session via Blackboard Collaborate, August 28 from 10 to 11 pm Central.

**September 3 – 8**

Read: Sentness Page 7 – 43

Interact via Discussion Board forum. First posting due by September 6. Subsequent posts due by September 8 at 11:59 pm central time.

**September 11**

Read: Sentness 44 – 65

Live Chat Session via Blackboard Collaborate, September 11 from 10 to 11 pm Central.

**September 17 - 22**

Read: Sentness 66 – 86

Interact via Discussion Board forum. First posting due by April 5. Subsequent posts due by April 8 at 11:59 pm central time.

**September 25**

Sentness 87 – 109

Live Chat Session via Blackboard Collaborate, September 25 from 10 to 11 pm Central.

**October 1 - 6**

Read: Sentness 110 – 131

Interact via Discussion Board forum. First posting due by October 4. Subsequent posts due by October 6 at 11:59 pm central time.

**October 9**

Read: Sentness 132 - 153

Live Chat Session via Blackboard Collaborate, October 9 from 10 to 11 pm Central.

**October 15 – 20**

Read: Sentness 154 – 176

Interact via Discussion Board forum. First posting due by October 18. Subsequent posts due by October 20 at 11:59 pm central time.

**October 23**

**Due: A Communal Plan for Service by October 23 at 11 pm Central**

Live Chat Session via Blackboard Collaborate, October 23 from 10 to 11 pm Central.

**October 30**

Course Evaluation

Live Chat Session via Blackboard Collaborate, October 30 from 10 to 11 pm Central.