

WAYLAND BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

VIRTUAL CAMPUS

SCHOOL OF RELIGION & PHILOSOPHY

Mission: 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.

COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE

RLGN 5103 VC01 Capstone Course for the Master of Christian Ministry Degree

TERM AND DATES

Spring 2014 Feb 24—May 17, 2014

INSTRUCTOR'S NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Dr. J. M. Givens Jr.

Professor of Religion and Philosophy

Director of the Online Religion Programs

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Instant Messaging available through Blackboard IM (download through Tools section)

OFFICE LOCATION AND HOURS

Flores Bible Building office suite

Mon 9-12; Tues 1-3; Wed 9-11; Thurs 1-4 CDT/CST (phone and instant messaging)

Other times available by email and/or appointment

CLASS MEETING TIME AND LOCATION

Asynchronous interaction; Virtual Campus Blackboard website

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

This seminar will guide the student to integrate the knowledge and skills learned in his/her course of study through reflection on the ways in which these courses can strengthen the practice of specific ministries.

PREREQUISITE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND COURSE NUMBERS

None.

The purpose of the Capstone Course is to integrate the studies completed in the Master of Christian Ministry degree with the student's intended field of ministry. Therefore, the course should only be taken after the successful conclusion of all courses in the core of the MCM degree, preferably during the last term of attendance.

REQUIRED RESOURCE MATERIALS

1. ***Bible, any modern translation recognized by mainstream Christianity***
2. ***Notes, textbooks, papers, and other materials from courses taken in the MCM***
3. ***Internet Equipped Computer***
 - a. Must conform to minimum recommended settings identified on the Blackboard login page
 - b. Must utilize WBU student email account for official university communications
4. ***WBU Blackboard Course Management Software***
 - a. Blackboard website URL: <https://wbu.blackboard.com>
 - b. Login username: WBU student id (9 digit number, usually 3-5 zeros at beginning)
 - c. Login password: first three letters of first name + first three letters of last name (unless you have used Blackboard previously and have changed your password)
 - d. Technical support: 24/7 via phone and chat; see login page of Blackboard

COURSE OUTCOME COMPETENCIES

The student will:

- demonstrate an understanding of the application of course material from all courses taken at Wayland Baptist University in the Master of Christian Ministry Program.
- demonstrate a grasp of the Biblical, theological, and social context as well as the goals, strategies, and personal attributes necessary for effective servant leadership in his/her chosen field of ministry.

ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

1. Student "attendance" in an online course is defined as active participation in the course as described in the course syllabus.
2. Students aware of necessary absences must inform the professor with as much advance notice as possible in order to make appropriate arrangements.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. When a student reaches a number of absences considered by the instructor to be excessive, the instructor will submit a Report of Unsatisfactory Progress to the student's WBU student email account and to appropriate university personnel.

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 educational 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 AND GRADING CRITERIA

1. *Discussion Boards.* Student will participate in discussion with classmates and professors. Discussions will include topic-specific dialogues on calling and fields of ministry as well as conversations regarding case studies that make application of program study to specific ministry situations.
2. *Field of Ministry Position Paper.* Student will write a 1000-1250 word explanation of her or his chosen field of ministry. Student will post this paper during the second week of class. The paper will include the following:
 - Biblical, theological, and social contexts for such a ministry
 - Needs, goals, and strategies for effective ministry in such a field
3. *Courses of Study Reaction/Reflection Papers.* Student will write a 800-1000 word reaction/reflection paper each of five weeks over one or more of the courses taken in the core of the Master of Christian Ministry degree.
 - Each paper should include 4-5 ideas, concepts, tools, books, principles, etc. gleaned from the course under discussion
 - Each paper will describe how the ideas, concepts, tools, books, and principles will be informative and useful in his or her chosen field of ministry
4. *Reflective Analysis of Ministry Preparation.* Student will write a 800-1000 word reaction/reflection paper on overall preparation for ministry, taking into consideration personal evaluation of qualifications, attributes, attitudes, and personality for such a ministry, with attention to the effectiveness of Wayland studies in preparing the student for ministry.
5. *Annotated Bibliography Wiki.* Student will contribute to the creation of an annotated bibliography of texts for further reading, to prepare for a habit of lifelong learning. (Annotation means to give an explanation after the bibliographic reference as to why the text was selected.)
6. *Plans for Ministry and Development.* Student will write a two page paper outlining plans for ministry in the coming year and specific plans for ministry development. Books generated from the annotated bibliography may be identified as reading resources as a part of development plan.

GRADING CRITERIA

The grade for the capstone course is Credit/Non-credit. The grade for each individual assignment, however, will be based on the university grading scale. **Students must complete the course with a minimum average of 70 for the assignments.**

Procedure Used for Computation of Final Grade

- a. Discussion Boards: 20%
- b. Ministry Position Paper: 20%
- c. Courses Reaction/Reflection Papers: 25%
- d. Ministry Preparation Analysis: 15%
- e. Annotated Bibliography: 10%
- f. Plan for ministry and development 10%

ACADEMIC HONESTY

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 of the work of another as one's own work.)

Violations of the university academic honesty policy will be assessed a zero on the assignment for the first occurrence, and the issue will be discussed with the student. If a second infraction occurs, the student will receive a non-credit for the course.

COURSE SCHEDULE

General flow of discussion; specific assignments will be posted weekly in Blackboard.

Week	Topic	Assignment	Medium
1	Chosen field of ministry	Discuss ministry fields, call into ministry	Discussion Forums
2	Chosen field of ministry	Post paper on chosen field	File Exchange & Discussion Forum
3	Old Testament	Post and discuss assessments of specific courses. Develop annotated bibliography for further reading.	File Exchange, Discussion Forums, & Wikis
4	New Testament		
5	Theology		
6	Praxis courses		
7	Religious education		
8	Other studies		
9	Preparation for ministry	Post assessment of MCM courses and program	File Exchange & Discussion Forum
10	Plans for current ministry	Specify plans for immediate future	File Exchange & Discussion Forum
11	Future preparation for ministry	Specify plans for further study; bibliography for further reading	Discussion Forum & Wiki