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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: Spring 2018

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

## Instructor Information

* **Phone:** 907-375-4508 (office); 907-529-5791 (cell)
* **Email:** ashleyd@wbu.edu
* **Office Hours:** Tuesday/Thursday Noon – 6pm; Wednesday 11am – 2pm
* **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:**

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.

**PARTICIPATION and 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 Collaborate sessions. Students will be expected to facilitate and engage in these discussions around writing assignments and projects that are assigned to them.

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.

**Statement on Civility**

In keeping with Wayland’s mission as a Christian higher education institution, Wayland Baptist

University strives to demonstrate civility and Christ-like character in a positive manner where

courtesy and respect are afforded to all persons at all times. Members of the University’s student

and non-student community can expect Christ’s example to be modeled consistently by trustees, administrators, faculty, staff, and students in order to foster an environment for education and

work, contribute to leadership development, and glorify God. While on any campus, attending

any event, participating in any course, or engaging in any communication, Wayland trustees,

administration, faculty, staff, students, and guests can all have the expectation of civility from

one another. (Genesis 1:27; Deuteronomy 5:1-21; Micah 6:8; Matthew 22:36-40; Mark 9:34-35;

Luke 10:29-37; John 13:34-35; Romans 12:9-21, 13: 7-10, 15:7; Galatians 3:26-28; Ephesians 2:8-9,

4:1-3, 22-29; Philippians 4:8; Colossians 3:12-17; 1 Timothy 4:12; James 2:1-4; 1 Peter 2:21).

#### COURSE REQUIREMENTS

**A. *Online Discussion – 110 pts (ongoing)***

All students are required to check the discussion group postings frequently and participate consistently in the

discussion. Students should expect to read the discussions several times each week and post substantive response

at least twice each week. Students who do not post substantive responses at least **twice each** week will not be

credited with the 110 points for this assignment.

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)**

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 discipline of service in various ways.

**C. *A Communal Plan for Service (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**

**February 26: Live Chat Session via Blackboard Collaborate from 9 to 10 pm Central**

Course Introduction

**March 5 - 10**

Read: *Celebration of Discipline* Chapter 9

Interact via Discussion Board forum. First posting due by March 8. Subsequent posts due by March 10 at 11:59 pm central time.

**Spring Break March 12 – 16**

**March 19: Live Chat Session via Blackboard Collaborate from 9 to 10 pm Central**

Read: Sentness Page7 – 43

Interact via Discussion Board forum. First posting due by March 22. Subsequent posts due by March 24 at 11:59 pm central time.

**March 26 – 31**

Read: Sentness 44 – 65

Interact via Discussion Board forum. First posting due by March 29. Subsequent posts due by March 3 at 11:59 pm central time.

**April 2: Live Chat Session via Blackboard Collaborate from 9 to 10 pm Central**

Read: Sentness 66 – 86

**April 9 - 14**

Sentness 87 – 109

Interact via Discussion Board forum. First posting due by April 12. Subsequent posts due by April 14 at 11:59 pm central time.

**April 16: Live Chat Session via Blackboard Collaborate from 9 to 10 pm Central**

Read: Sentness 110 – 131

**April 23 - 28**

Read: Sentness 132 – 153

Interact via Discussion Board forum. First posting due by April 26. Subsequent posts due by April 28 at 11:59 pm central time.

**May 1: Live Chat Session via Blackboard Collaborate from 9 to 10 pm Central**

Read: Sentness 154 – 176

**May 7 - 12**

Due: A Communal Plan for Service

Interact via Discussion Board forum. First posting due by May 10. Subsequent posts due by May 12 at 11:59 pm central time.

**May 15: Live Chat Session via Blackboard Collaborate from 9 to 10 pm Central**

Course Evaluation