

Syllabus for
PRM 558—Spiritual Formation and Discipleship
3 Credit Hours
Spring 2022

Modular/Distance Education Program (Blended A Course)
On campus component March 7-9, 2022

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

An examination of spiritual formation—how the Christian faith is developed in the life of a person intellectually, emotionally, and behaviorally through discipleship in one-on-one or group settings.

Prerequisites: None.

This course examines the nature of personal spiritual formation as it applies to the ministry of spiritual direction. Attention is given to the theological foundations, spiritual disciplines, perspectives, emphases, and methods of spiritual formation and discipleship.

II. COURSE GOALS

The destiny of the believer, from God's perspective, is to be conformed to the image of Christ (Gen. 1:26-27 and Rom. 8:29). God has provided certain means of grace through which believers can experience transformation (Rom. 12:2). Leaders are to personally experience this transformation and be instrumental in guiding that transformation in others. The process of discipleship moves the believer forward in that process. The purpose of this course is to inform, challenge, and equip students toward their own spiritual formation as well as toward greater effectiveness in spiritual direction and discipleship.

III. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR THIS COURSE

As a result of successfully completing this course, the student will be able to do the following:

- A. Identify and describe how various types of prayer and spiritual disciplines contribute towards spiritual formation in the lives of disciples of Jesus.
- B. Create and implement a personal plan (that could also be used in discipling others) for pursuing wholeness, intimacy with God and a deeper sense of identity in Christ.
- C. Articulate what the end product of spiritual formation “looks like.”
- D. Describe, analyze and evaluate methods of spiritual formation that have been used throughout history and in different locations, noting how contexts such as time, ethnicity, church tradition, scripture and more shaped those methods.
- E. Create a contextually appropriate spiritual formation plan that could be used in a local church setting.

IV. ASSOCIATED PROGRAMS

See back page(s) for associate programs and outcomes.

V. UNIVERSITY OUTCOMES

- A. Spiritual Integrity
- B. Personal Resilience
- C. Intellectual Pursuit
- D. Global Engagement
- E. Bold Vision

VI. TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER LEARNING RESOURCES

A. Required Materials

1. Textbooks – Required for all students

Anderson, Neil T. *The Steps to Freedom in Christ: Booklet Revision*. 3rd Edition. Gospel Light: Springfield, 2017. ISBN 9780764219429

Boa, Kenneth. *Conformed to His Image*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2001. ISBN: 9780310238485

Foster, Richard J. *Prayer: Finding the Heart's True Home*. New York: Harper Collins, 2002. ISBN: 0-06053379 (Large Print Edition...easier to read and mark up!)

Hull, Bill. *The Complete Book of Discipleship: On Being and Making Followers of Christ*. Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 2006. ISBN 978-1-60006-957-4

B. Optional Materials

1. Textbooks

Anderson, Neil T. *Victory Over the Darkness: Realizing the Power of Your Identity in Christ*. Regal: Ventura, 2000. ISBN 0-8307-2564-4

Bonhoeffer, Dietrich. *Cost of Discipleship*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 1995 ISBN: 9780684815008

Foster, Richard J and James Bryan Smith, eds. *Devotional Classics*. San Francisco: Harper One, 2005. (Revised Edition) ISBN: 9780060777500

Foster, Richard J. *Streams of Living Water*. San Francisco: Harper One, 2001 ISBN: 9780060628222

Hagberg, Janet O. and Robert A. Guelich. *The Critical Journey: Stages in the Life of Faith*. Salem, WI: Sheffield Publishing Company, 2004 (Second Edition) ISBN: 9781879215498

Hull, Bill. *The Disciple-Making Pastor: Leading Others on the Journey of Faith*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 2007. ISBN 978-0-8010-6622-1

Mulholland, Robert M. Jr. *Invitation to a Journey*. Downers Grove, IL:
InterVarsity Press, 1993.
ISBN: 9780830813865

2. Other
None

V. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

A. University Policies and Procedures

1. Plagiarism statement: <https://syllabi.oru.edu>
2. Disability Services: <https://oru.edu/current-students/my-services/disability-services/index.php>

B. Graduate School of Theology and Ministry Policies and Procedures—Modular and Distance Education Program

1. **Modular Intensive Week:** Each Modular Intensive Week, usually held in the CityPlex Towers on the 21st floor, has sessions Monday-Friday from 8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
 - a. This week will be comprised of two 2 ½ day blended courses designated as Blended “A” and Blended “B”.
 - b. Blended “A” courses include 7 weeks of online instruction *prior to* the 2 ½ day modular intensive component.
 - c. Blended “B” courses include 7 weeks of online instruction *following* the 2 ½ day modular intensive component.
 - d. Students are to make travel arrangements that do not interfere with their involvement in all of these sessions, and confirm course location prior to arrival.
2. Instructions for the online portion of this course and designated assignments are to be found in the course management shell in Desire 2 Learn (D2L) and elsewhere in this syllabus.
3. Each overdue assignment will be penalized 10% for EACH WEEK it is late. After the third week, no credit will be given for the assignment.
4. Attendance
 - a. Students are to attend all sessions associated with the specific blended course designation during the modular intensive week.
 - b. All absences, late arrivals, and early departures receive a grade reduction equal to 2.5% for each classroom hour missed and **must be approved by the Modular Director.**
5. **Incompletes**

On rare occasions, the grade of “I” may be given for work that is incomplete at the end of the course semester due to a catastrophic event.

 - a. The student must establish with the instructor and the director of the Modular/Distance Education Program that work is incomplete for good cause and submit a Petition for Incomplete Grade, with documentation.
 - b. **The Petition must be submitted at least two weeks prior to the end of the semester or summer course session, not exam week.**
 - c. **The submission of a petition does not automatically ensure the granting of an Incomplete.**
 - d. The petition must be approved by the academic committee of the Graduate

School of Theology and Ministry.

- e. It is the responsibility of the student to initiate the petition, make up any incomplete work, and submit a completed Request for Grade Change form (which has been signed by the course professor) to the academic office.
- f. If the work is not completed by the end of the subsequent semester, the incomplete will automatically convert to an “F,” unless an extension is formally granted.

C. Course Policies and Procedures

1. Evaluation Procedures

- a. Grading
 - Discussion Forums (on Boa and Hull) 45%
 - Foster Interaction 15%
 - Personal Wholeness Project 10%
 - Final Project: Discipleship Plan 20%
 - Class Participation Forums 10%
- b. Grading Scale:
 - A=90-100%
 - B=80-89%
 - C=70-79%
 - D=60-69%
 - F=59% and below

2. Whole Person Assessment Requirements

WPA requirements for this course:
None

3. Other Policies and/or Procedures

Each student is expected to complete the following assignments:

- a. **(45%) Weekly Online Discussions** These will be derived from the Boa and Hull textbooks. Instructions for each week’s forum will be posted on D2L.
- b. **(15%) Foster Interaction** Detailed instructions for this assignment will be found on D2L. The goal will be the student’s own spiritual formation as he/she reads through and applies some of the kinds of prayers written about by Foster.
- c. **(10%) Personal Wholeness Project** For this assignment, students will work through Anderson’s *Steps to Freedom in Christ* workbook for themselves.
- d. **(10%) Class Participation** This includes both forums and class time.
- e. **(20%) Final Project: A Discipleship Plan** Detailed instructions will be available on D2L. Students will develop a comprehensive discipleship plan for a local church setting including elements ranging from philosophy to content to budget. This Plan will be put together as though it were being prepared for a church board and/or the church’s senior leadership team.

Professor: Dr. Randy Loescher, rloesher@oru.edu

VI. COURSE CALENDAR – INTENSIVE WEEK AGENDA

Monday, March 7, 2022 BLENDED A

8:30 a.m.	9:00 a.m.	Devotional
9:00 a.m.	10:00 a.m.	What is Spiritual Formation?
10:00 a.m.	10:15 a.m.	Break
10:15 a.m.	12:00 noon	Spiritual Formation Values/What is a Disciple?
12:00 noon	1:00 p.m.	Lunch
1:00 p.m.	3:15 p.m.	Prayer and Spiritual Formation
3:15 p.m.	3:30 p.m.	Break
3:30 p.m.	5:30 p.m.	Presence-based Living

Tuesday, March 8, 2022 BLENDED A

8:30 a.m.	9:00 a.m.	Devotional
9:00 a.m.	10:00 a.m.	Spiritual Formation's Fruit: Personhood
10:00 a.m.	10:15 a.m.	Break
10:15 a.m.	12:00 noon	Spiritual Formation's Fruit: Passion
12:00 noon	1:00 p.m.	Lunch
1:00 p.m.	3:15 p.m.	Spiritual Formation's Fruit: Paradigm
3:15 p.m.	3:30 p.m.	Break
3:30 p.m.	5:30 p.m.	How Spiritual Formation Happens

Wednesday, March 9, 2022

BLENDED A

8:30 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	Spiritual Formation Planning Strategies
10:30 a.m.	10:45 p.m.	Break
10:45 a.m.	12:00 noon	Spiritual Formation Values Reprise

**Inventory for Student Learning Outcomes
Graduate School of Theology and Ministry**

**Master of Divinity
PRM 558 Spiritual Formation and Discipleship**

Dr. Randy Loesch, Instructor

Summer 2022

This course contributes to student learning outcomes for the Master of Divinity degree as indicated below:

Significant Contribution—Addresses the outcome directly and includes targeted assessment.

Moderate Contribution—Addresses the outcome directly or indirectly and includes some assessment.

Minimal Contribution—Addresses the outcome indirectly and includes little or no assessment.

No Contribution—Does not address the outcome.

Degree Program Outcomes		Significant Contribution	Moderate Contribution	Minimal Contribution	No Contribution
1	Old Testament Scripture in Cultural/Historical Context				
	Articulate a foundational knowledge of the historical/theological content of Scripture with application to selected contemporary situations.		X		
2	Exegetical Tools to Translate/Analyze Biblical Text				
	Interpret the biblical writings in the Greek and/or Hebrew languages using critical exegetical tools, and write a hermeneutical and exegetical paper.				X
3	Biblical/Theological Basis for Ministry Strategies				
	Present practical ministry strategies utilizing biblical and theological principles.	X			
4	Christian Ethics for Social Issues				
	Analyze and discuss contemporary social issues affecting the Church and society based upon biblical, theological, and ethical principles.			X	
5	Theology and Theory of Ministry				
	Develop and articulate a theology and theory of ministry that is relevant to the student's background and calling.	X			
6	Skills for Contemporary Ministry				
	Demonstrate skills for contemporary ministry within a variety of traditions, churches, and cross-cultural contexts.	X			
7	Knowledge of History of Christianity				
	Present a basic knowledge of the history of Christianity.		X		
8	Knowledge of Christian Theology/Doctrines				
	Exhibit a basic knowledge of theology and Christian doctrines.			X	

Master of Divinity
PRM 558 Spiritual Formation and Discipleship
Spring 2022

This course contributes to the University and program outcomes as indicated below:

Significant Contribution – Addresses the outcome directly and includes targeted assessment.

Moderate Contribution – Addresses the outcome directly or indirectly and includes some assessment.

Minimal Contribution – Addresses the outcome indirectly and includes little or no assessment.

OUTCOMES	Significant	Moderate	Minimal
Spiritual Integrity			
A Identify and describe how various types of prayer and spiritual disciplines contribute towards spiritual formation in the lives of disciples of Jesus.	x		
B Create and implement a personal plan (that could also be used in discipling others) for pursuing wholeness, intimacy with God and a deeper sense of identity in Christ.	x		
C Articulate what the end product of spiritual formation “looks like.”	x		
E Create a contextually appropriate spiritual formation plan that could be used in a local church setting.	x		

Personal Resilience			
MDV Outcome 7: Articulate a biblical/theological understanding of the person, work, and ministry of the Holy Spirit.		x	

Intellectual Pursuit			
D Describe, analyze and evaluate methods of spiritual formation that have been used throughout history and in different locations, noting how contexts such as time, ethnicity, church tradition, scripture and more shaped those methods			

Global Engagement			
D Describe, analyze and evaluate methods of spiritual formation that have been used throughout history and in different locations, noting how contexts such as time, ethnicity, church tradition, scripture and more shaped those methods.		x	

Bold Vision			
MDV Outcome 8: Articulate clearly their ministry/professional calling		x	