COURSE DESCRIPTION:

3 hours. Addresses the theory and practice of effective leadership for ministry, including ministry in intercultural contexts. Considers biblical principles and cultural paradigms for organizational development, decision making, strategic planning and goal setting, budgeting, organizing, directing, evaluating, and other administrative and leadership concepts. Focuses especially upon pastoral leadership skills necessary for a local church and for multi-cultural ministry teams.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: Course participants will demonstrate the following competencies:

1. Outline biblical leadership principles and criteria for assessing the health of a local church and its leadership.

2. Discuss the ways in which globalization influences the leader’s local ministry.

3. Demonstrate ability to apply a biblical model of contextualization for ministry.

4. Understand how interpersonal and intercultural dynamics influence development and exercise of intercultural leadership.

5. Demonstrate ability to access materials published by both Christian and secular authors and to critically evaluate them with respect to biblical consistency and usefulness in Christian ministry.

6. Demonstrate skill in management tools and understanding of appropriate leadership styles which fit the participant’s ministry context.

REQUIRED READING:


**RECOMMENDED READING:**


Eims, Leroy. 1982. *Be the leader you were meant to be: Biblical principles of leadership*. Wheaton, Ill.: Victor Books. (132 pp.)


Richards, Lawrence O., and Hoeldtke, Clyde. 1980. *A theology of church leadership.* (425 pp.)


**COURSE ASSESSMENT:**

1. This course is designed as a directed study that requires participation in a one-day seminar. Class interaction, informed by assigned readings, is required. (30%)

2. Major paper. Participants will explore, contextualize, and apply some aspect of leadership theory in an intercultural ministry context. Topics must be pre-approved by the Professor, and participants should nominate their proposed topics not later than the beginning of the one-day seminar. Papers will be 18 - 22 pages in length, excluding any appendices and reference list (or bibliography). Papers will follow the RTS Ph.D. program *Research and Writing Guide* and will have been competently edited before submission. (70%)

**OFFICE HOURS:**

Dr. Larsen is available outside of class hours by appointment.
Seminar Schedule
Discussion Topics

1. Welcome, introductions, administrative matters, course expectations
   Overview of the course (syllabus); “Principles and Guidelines for Learning”
   “God’s Criteria for Healthy Churches and Healthy Church Leadership”

2. Management models:
   Historical survey: SM, MBO, TQM, LO, & hedgehog theories
   Elements in management: decision-making, strategic planning, goal-setting, budgeting,
   organizing, directing, evaluating
   Case study: MTW Brisbane planning documents

3. Discussion of assigned reading (including key theoretical concepts and intercultural
   applicability of each work):
   Class interaction with J. Robert Clinton’s The Making of a Leader
   Class interaction with Rick Warren’s The purpose driven church
   Class interaction with Peter G. Northouse’s Leadership theory and practice

4. Symposium topics:
   “Leadership and Vision: A Reformed Perspective”
   “Leadership and Delegation”

5. Submission of topics for major papers
   Discussion of major paper topics (emphasis on theory and research)
   – structure (components)
   – methodology
   – assessment criteria
   Questions – ???

6. Course evaluation