Leadership
Course Guidelines, Syllabus, and Assignments
(04PT512) – Fall 2012
Presenter – Dr. James Saxon
Email – jsaxon@apostles.org – (easiest way to reach me)

Course Description:
The historical development and biblical principles of management theory and leadership style are examined. Attention is given to strategic planning, setting goals, budgeting, directing programs, and evaluating results.

Class Schedule:
Thursdays – 6:00-8:00pm
August – 23, 30; September 6, 13, 20, 27; October 4, 11, 18, 25; November 1, 8, 29

Objectives:
1. To offer a comprehensive overview of foundational terms that will orient each student to the world of strategic planning and move them toward authentic and meaningful reflection, conversation, and influence in the leadership arena.
2. To offer an historical sketch of the development of strategic planning that will orient each student to its development as it occurred in time.
3. To offer a working definition of the core elements of a basic philosophy of strategic leadership, flowing out of a theological foundation.
4. To have each student compose a strategic plan that integrates the core elements of strategic leadership for their current ministry context.
5. To integrate throughout the course practical references to the leadership of the family.

Texts - Book List of Required/Recommended Readings:
Will Mancini
Church Unique: How Missional Leaders Cast Vision, Capture Culture, and Create Movement
Peter Drucker  
*The Effective Executive: The Definitive Guide to Getting the Right Things Done*  

Marcus Buckingham  
*Stand Out, The Groundbreaking New Strengths Assessment from the Leader of the Strengths Revolution*  
Thomas Nelson 2011  
219 pages

Various Assigned Articles – to be handed out in class

**Required for Purchase and Class Reference (not to be read):**

Erica Olsen  
*Strategic Planning for Dummies*  
Wiley Publishing Inc., NJ - Copyright 2007

**Recommended (but not required for purchase):**

*RTS Leadership Course*


Writing Assignments: (All papers emailed into the professor must have your name and the specific paper assignment on the cover sheet)

1. Leadership Style Reflection Paper – A summary of your current perception of how God has shaped your personhood to lead others (1-2 pages, double-spaced). Due Thursday, September 20th, 6pm.

2. Strategic Vision Plan for Ministry Paper - Submit a minimum 5 page double-spaced paper summarizing a proposed Strategic Vision Plan for the church you now attend or for the ministry in which you are now involved. It can be for a specific department or aspect of the ministry that you now lead or serve in, not necessarily the whole church or ministry. The approach each student takes with this assignment must be approved by the professor on or before October 4th. The Paper is due Thursday, November 29th, 6pm.

Quizzes: Lists of Strategic Planning Terms will be given in the weekly classes from which a brief quiz will be periodically emailed to the students and should be turned in the next day.

Final Exam: A final exam consisting of terms from the quizzes and a few reflection questions on the course material will be emailed to everyone on Monday, December 10th and must be sent back on or before 5pm on Friday, December 14th.

Attendance, Grading, and Late Assignments

Class attendance and interaction – 10% of the final grade – this includes active participation in all the classes. Missed class sessions must be cleared by the professor.

Strategic Planning Terms Quizzes – 10% - given periodically

Reading of Assigned Texts - 15% of the final grade - Each assigned reading requires a one page single spaced report highlighting the main theses as well as key principles and insights gathered from the reading. All due by November 8th, 5pm.
Leadership Style Reflection Paper – 10% - **Due Thursday, September, 20th, 6pm.**

Strategic Vision Plan for Ministry Paper – 35% - **Due Thursday, November 29th, 6pm.**

*Final Exam – 20% - **Due by Friday, December 14th, 5pm.**

***Late Assignments must be cleared by the professor.***

1. **Course Grading Computation:** The standard RTS grading scale.
   
   A (97-100)
   A- (94-96)
   B+ (91-93)
   B (88-90)
   B- (86-87)
   C+ (83-85)
   C (80-82)
   C- (78-79)
   D+ (75-77)
   D (72-74)
   D- (70-71)
   F (below 70)

**Extension Policy**

All assignments and exams are to be completed by the deadlines announced in this syllabus or in class.

Extensions for assignments and exams due within the normal duration of the course must be approved beforehand by the Professor. Extensions of two weeks or less beyond the date of the last deadline for the course must be approved beforehand by the Professor. A grade penalty may be assessed.

Extensions of greater than two weeks but not more than six weeks beyond the last deadline for the course may be granted in extenuating circumstances (i.e. illness, family emergency). For an extension of more than two weeks the student must request an Extension Request Form from the Student Services Office. The request must be approved by the Professor and the Academic Dean. A grade penalty may be assessed. (RTS Catalog p. 42 and RTS Atlanta Student Handbook p. 14)

Any incompletes not cleared six weeks after the last published due date for course work will be converted to a failing grade. Professors may have the failing grade changed to a passing grade by request. (RTS Catalog p. 42)
### MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes

In order to measure the success of the MDiv curriculum, RTS has defined the following as the intended outcomes of the student learning process. Each course contributes to these overall outcomes. This rubric shows the contribution of this course to the MDiv outcomes.

*As the MDiv is the core degree at RTS, the MDiv rubric will be used in this syllabus.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rubric</th>
<th>Mini-Justification</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>1. Periodic quiz testing knowledge of foundational terms 2. Final exam tests overall comprehension</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Minimal</td>
<td>1. Classical leadership Models will be examined in the course but not in an in depth exegetical manner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
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#### Articulation (oral & written)

Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks.

**Rubric**: Strong

**Mini-Justification**: 1. Periodic quiz testing knowledge of foundational terms 2. Final exam tests overall comprehension

#### Scripture

Significant knowledge of the original meaning of Scripture. Also, the concepts for and skill to research further into the original meaning of Scripture and to apply Scripture to a variety of modern circumstances. (Includes appropriate use of original languages and hermeneutics; and integrates theological, historical, and cultural/global perspectives.)

**Rubric**: Minimal

**Mini-Justification**: 1. Classical leadership Models will be examined in the course but not in an in depth exegetical manner

#### Reformed Theology

Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.

**Rubric**: Minimal

**Mini-Justification**: 1. The role of God’s leadership will be considered as foundational to pastoral leadership

#### Sanctification

Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student’s sanctification.

**Rubric**: Moderate

**Mini-Justification**: 1. Class discussion centering upon the leadership style of Jesus will be very edifying

#### Desire for Worldview

Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.

**Rubric**: Strong

**Mini-Justification**: 1. Emphasis on strategic leadership integrating reason and revelation

#### Winsomely Reformed

Embraces a winsomely Reformed ethos. (Includes an appropriate ecumenical spirit with other Christians, especially Evangelicals; a concern to present the Gospel in a God-honoring manner to non-Christians; and a truth-in-love attitude in disagreements.)

**Rubric**: Moderate

**Mini-Justification**: 1. Class discussion on proactive servant leadership will emphasize the humble character of leaders

#### Preach

Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.

**Rubric**: Strong

**Mini-Justification**: 1. Core strategic leadership involves preaching with clarity and enthusiasm

#### Worship

Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service.

**Rubric**: Minimal

**Mini-Justification**: 1. Worship is not an essential element of this course on organizational leadership

#### Shepherd

Ability to shepherd the local congregation: aiding in spiritual maturity; promoting use of gifts and callings; and encouraging a concern for non-Christians, both in America and worldwide.

**Rubric**: Strong

**Mini-Justification**: 1. This course will be built around all of the elements of shepherding, equipping,
Teacher/Professor – This course will be led by Dr. James Saxon, an ordained PCA minister since 1979, while a student at the University of Alabama. His conversion was so dramatic that he decided against going into the business world with his Marketing Degree and instead began pursuit of his call to pastoral ministry by enrolling in RTS Jackson in the summer of 1975. After serving as a youth director for two summers, and taking a year internship at the well-known Spanish River Presbyterian Church in Boca Raton, Florida, he discerned God’s calling to go into church planting. He founded and pastored the Tampa Bay Presbyterian Church, in Tampa, Florida for 20 years and had oversight of the founding of one daughter church, Redeemer Presbyterian Church in Brandon, Florida. He joined the staff of the fast-growing, outreach-minded Church of The Apostles in Atlanta in the fall of 2000. Since coming to Apostles, he has served in a variety of staff roles and has recently assumed the role of Director of ApostlesLife.

In addition to being a successful church-planter, James spearheaded the founding of the Southwest Florida Presbytery in the early 1990’s, and then led the effort to host the 2000 General Assembly in Tampa by that presbytery. He graduated from the RTS Doctorate of Ministry program in the spring of 2005, completing his dissertation entitled, “Empowering the Local Church through Mentoring” which featured a practicum that field-tested mentoring seminary students as a part of their theological education.

He is currently the director of the ministry initiative entitled ApostlesLife, a twenty year outreach ministry strategy. This core ministry of The Church of The Apostles is a cutting-edge evangelism strategy that inculcates many current ideas and approaches that are successfully being utilized in soul-winning around the country.

He also supervises four departments – Children’s, Student, College, and Young Adult Ministries. Since 2005, he has served as a guest lecturer at RTS Atlanta and has taught three courses, Evangelism, Pastoral Ministry, and this Introduction to Theological and Pastoral Ministry course. Though he is currently involved in outreach ministry, he is a pastor at heart and his life ministry verse is Colossians 1:28, “And we proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, that we may present every man complete in Christ.”