

Course Prospectus

For THL 226 Christian Leadership

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OVERVIEW

Welcome to THL 226. This course will introduce you to the major issues surrounding the topic of Leadership in the Christian arena. You will explore the history of leadership, major elements of successful leadership, leadership pitfalls, and keys to leading different groups.

Course catalog description

This course deals with the principles of Christian leadership and service. Topics include foundations of leadership, leadership skills, challenges facing leaders and case studies of great leaders of the Bible and secular history. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate the qualities of a servant leader in a variety of settings.

Prerequisites and corequisites

Prerequisites: None.

Corequisites: None.

Course credit

Three (3) semester hours.

INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of course, a student should be able to:

1. Explain the importance of leadership and discuss historical examples of how leaders have been prepared and trained.
2. List important qualities of leaders.
3. Describe various concepts and styles of leadership.
4. Explain how to develop people and build teams.
5. List the qualities of courageous followers.
6. Discuss principles for dealing with volunteers.
7. Describe how to develop and exercise leadership in a family context.

YOUR INSTRUCTOR

The instructor for this course is Dr. Scott D. Winnail, MSPH, Ph.D.



Email: swinnail@livinguniv.com

Phone: 704-708-2292

You may email your instructor with any questions or thoughts. When doing so, be sure to include *THL 226* in the subject line of your email. This will allow your instructor to know that the email is a course matter and enable him to tend to your email accordingly. Your instructor may take two to three days to respond to emails due to responsibilities outside of Living University requiring him to travel frequently. At the very least, an email acknowledging received email will be sent, time permitting.

COURSE PROTOCOLS

Technology access

This course requires web access and the student has to have an established email account. The following free ware may be useful for this course:

- *Adobe Acrobat Reader* is necessary to view documents that are PDF files. It may be downloaded **for free** at <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>, which may then be installed and used to access PDF documents on the course website.

Students with disabilities

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities have a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. Students having a disability requiring an accommodation should inform the instructor by email (on the course "Info" page click on the instructor's name and then select "Send Email").

Attendance in this online course

One of the most vital aspects of the college and university experience is attendance and punctuality in the learning environment. Regularity of attendance is necessary for students to derive maximum benefit from a course and to maintain a satisfactory academic record, whether in an online course or in an on-campus course. We have noticed that students who fall behind in their coursework typically drop out. Therefore, we highly encourage you to complete your assignments on time, as we want you to succeed. Remember Ecclesiastes 9:10: "Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, where you go."

Please be aware that all students who fall behind in an online course and do not complete twenty-five percent (25%) or more of the total assignments and other required activities for a course, on or before "Last day to withdraw from a course" without a grade penalty as set forth in the University Academic Calendar, will receive a grade of "W" for it. After that date, the grade will be a "WF" and counted in a student's GPA. Moreover, an instructor may drop a student from a course whenever the instructor concludes that a student's class attendance or punctuality endangers the student's success or places other students at risk.

Withdrawing from or dropping this course

It is the responsibility of a student to drop a course if he or she cannot meet the requirements of the course. Any student who stops attending a course without officially withdrawing from it risks receiving a punitive grade for that course. A student who finds it necessary to drop a course after the Late Registration (Drop/Add) Period must notify the Registrar's Office in writing. Please note the following:

- If a student drops a course on or before the "Last day to withdraw from a course without a grade penalty" as published in the University Academic Calendar, even if his or her work is not of a passing grade, then a "W" is recorded.
- If a course is dropped after that date, but before the last 21 calendar days of the semester, then the instructor determines the grade. The faculty member will at this time record a grade of "W" if passing (not computed in GPA) or "WF" if failing (computed in GPA).

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- Students who drop a course, yet remain in one or more other courses during the last 18 calendar days of the semester, will receive a grade of “WF.”
- Students who completely withdraw from the University at any time during the semester may be given a grade of “W” on all courses.

If students do not initiate the withdrawal process, the instructor is required to initiate the administrative process and to record a grade of “W” or “WF” for the course depending on the date the faculty member drops the student from the course. Students who register for a course as an audit, but then withdraw will be assigned a grade of “W” for the course.

Study tips

Distance learning emphasizes self-motivation. Your instructor functions as a facilitator with you as the driving force in mastering course content. Do not put off completing your readings and assignments. While there are many different learning styles the following strategy should serve the needs of most students.

- Look over assigned readings.
- Read the assigned readings, making notes before viewing the assigned lecture.
- Define terms in the assignment. The exams will specifically test basic terminology. Develop your biblical and theology vocabulary as you proceed assignment by assignment.
- As you view lectures, complete your notes.
- Complete your answers for the writing assignment.
- Each week review your notes, geographical terms and locations, and the words you defined.

If you have a question, ask. Questions should arise in the teaching-learning process. By bringing questions to our attention you not only acquire assistance but you also maintain the interaction necessary in higher education.

Course Evaluation

We welcome your input for improving this course. Making suggestions to us by email is helpful. Our goal in this course is to facilitate the successful achievement of all instructional objectives by all students. At the end of the course, you will have the opportunity of assessing the course. We want to make distance-learning courses as effective as we can. We may also ask some other questions concerning your experience in distance learning to help us improve our program. We appreciate your letting us know how we can improve our products and services for you and other distance learners.

TEXTBOOKS

Required textbooks for this course are:

The Holy Bible

Bethel, S. M. (1990 or 1992). *Making a Difference: Twelve Qualities That Make You a Leader*.

Youssef, M. (1986). *The Leadership Style of Jesus*.

Lockyer, H. (1988). *All the Men of the Bible*.

Lockyer, H. (1988). *All the Women of the Bible*.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Due dates and extensions

Assignment due dates are included under the Assignments tab within the Learning Management System (Populi). In extenuating circumstances only, students may request an extension from the course instructor. Students must complete the course by the last official day of instruction as set forth in the academic calendar.

Icebreaker assignment

All students are required to post a brief Icebreaker biography to the forum by the end of the first week of class. In your forum post, briefly answer the following questions:

- What is your name and the Church area that you attend?
- How long you have been part of/attending the church?
- Why are you taking this particular course and what you hope to learn?
- Have you have taken any other Living University courses?

Please limit your comments to 200 words, and be sure to comment back to at least two of your classmates. The assignment is worth **15 points**.

Reading assignments

Refer to Course Outline section for the program schedule. Reading assignments are incorporated into the lesson webpages.

Viewing assignments

This course includes lectures placed on lesson webpages. The featured lecturer is Dr. Douglas S. Winnail.

Discussion forums

Each week there will be forum question posted by the instructor. Minimal participation requires one posting in response the weekly question, and reply postings to at least two of your classmates' comments. Class participation points will be assigned in accordance with your level participation, and will be a combination of student and instructor input. There are **50 points** possible. Please note that these discussion posts will add to the interactivity of the class, allow you to know what you fellow classmates are thinking, and also get to know your classmates better. The more you are engaged in these class discussions, the more you will learn from of the course and the more you will enjoy it.

Writing assignments

There are three essays due in this course. You are free to complete these writing assignments and turn them in at any time prior to and up to the date due. These essays are designed to get you to think further on particular topics and issues related to class. They will relate to the previous several lessons covered in class. Essays should be typed, double-spaced, and be 3-5 pages in length, following the MLA style as set forth in *Writing Research Papers: A Complete Guide* (14th edition) by Lester & Lester. Please cite your sources and use quotation marks where needed.

Essay topics include:

1. "Why Leadership: The importance of leadership to the church"
2. "What can leaders do to limit their mistakes?"
3. "What two strategies should leaders use to motivate and develop future leaders?"

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Each essay should include the following:

- an introduction stating the issue at hand
- a clear description of the topic and explanation of the questions asked
- adequate referencing or citing of sources that support your perspective on the topic. Citations should include and reference class lectures, class readings, the Bible and other church or secular sources that support your ideas
- a clear summary and conclusion that both summarizes what you learned and draws firm conclusions from your research
- a reference section or bibliography

To submit your work, select the appropriate assignment from the Assignments tab to go to the Assignment Submission webpage. Use the Attach a File feature below the textbox to upload your WORD document. Please do not use the textbox to “post” your assignment: the textbox is used for student/instructor communication only, pertaining to the assignment. Grading will consider clear articulation of the issues, completeness of arguments, degree of support from literature, as well as grammar and syntax. Each essay is worth **75 points**.

Quizzes and examinations

THREE quizzes will be given throughout the course. The quizzes will reflect the cumulative lecture material and readings **up to** the day of the quiz, and will address chapter readings, additional readings, and lectures. After the first quiz, subsequent quizzes will cover material given between the two quizzes. Quizzes will be multiple choice and open book and notebook – NO PROCTOR is required. Each quiz is worth **75 points**.

GRADING

The following grade schedule lists assignments and point totals. It also lists the point totals that are necessary to achieve respective letter grades.

SUMMARY OF COURSE REQUIREMENTS	POINT VALUE		Letter Grade	Total Points
Icebreaker	15		A	463 points or above (90%)
Three quizzes (75 points each)	225		B	412-462 points (80%)
Class participation	50		C	360-411 points (70%)
Three essays (75 points each)	225		D	309-359 points (60%)
Total	515		F	308 points or below

ACADEMIC IRREGULARITY

Students have the responsibility for conducting themselves in such a manner as to avoid any suspicion that they are improperly giving or receiving aid on any assignment or examination. An academic irregularity not only includes cheating but also includes plagiarism (taking another’s ideas and/or words and presenting them as if they were your own) and the submitting of the same paper in separate courses without prior consent from the faculty members concerned. In cases of suspected academic

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irregularity, faculty members are authorized to refuse to grade such papers, in whole or in part, or examinations, and to record each of them as a failure. If an academic irregularity is sufficiently serious, the University may take one or more of, but not limited to, the following actions:

1. Drop the student from the course with a grade of F;
2. Place the student on academic probation; and/or
3. Dismiss the student from the University.

COURSE OUTLINE

All reading and viewing assignments are set forth in the lessons on the course website.

Week	Topics
1	The Importance of Leaders
2	Preparing Leaders: An Historical Perspective
3	Qualities of Leaders
4	Concepts of Leadership
5	Secrets of Becoming a Leader
6	Styles of Leadership
7	Mistakes Leaders Make
8	Developing People
9	Building Teams
10	Courageous Followers
11	Working with Volunteers
12	Families: Preparing Men to Lead
13	Families: Preparing Women to Lead
14	Raising Leaders: Masculine Boys
15	Raising Leaders: Feminine Girls
16	Class Wrap-Up