

**Saint Louis Christian College**  
**PMN 211 MINISTER'S LIFE & WORK**  
**Dr. Eddy Sanders**  
**3 Credit Hours**

**Spring 2014**

**Course Prerequisites:** PMN 101

**Wednesday & Friday**

**1:30-2:45**

**MISSION STATEMENT**

*Saint Louis Christian College pursues excellence in the Word and develops servant leaders for urban, suburban, rural, and global ministry.*

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

The challenge and demands of the Christian ministry are presented in the light of the Scriptures and human need. The personal life of the minister is considered with attention given to the family, finances, spiritual life, fellowship, and interpersonal relationships.

The preacher's relationships and responsibilities within the church are also considered in detail.

**COURSE RATIONALE**

This course is vital to the beginning ministers because it introduces him or her to the basic responsibilities faced in the church. Not everything experienced in ministry is learned in the classroom. This course will do much to help him or her learn many elements of ministry in a way other than trial and error on the field.

The course is intentionally designed with weekly assignments to reflect the constant pressure of ministry.

**PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION DIVISION OBJECTIVES**

1. Given opportunities to participate in classroom projects and ministry experiences, the student will exhibit the ability to communicate the biblical message clearly and contextually.
2. Upon completion of studies in evangelism and teaching, the student will be able to utilize diverse methodologies in order to lead a person to a saving relationship with Christ.
3. Through opportunities to participate in classroom, ministry and leadership experiences, the student will develop the ability to integrate Christians into an active involvement in a local church fellowship.
4. Having been exposed to effective church models and administrative procedures via classroom and field experiences the student will possess essential knowledge to organize and administrate a ministry within the basis of a biblical, historical, and socio-cultural context.
5. By means of the integration of classroom instruction, observation, and participatory leadership ministry opportunities, the student will cultivate a growing appreciation for

and understanding of the biblical model of servant leadership.

## **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

Upon completion of this course the student should be able to:

1. Develop a greater appreciation of the ministry.
2. Understand the importance of the minister striving to live above reproach.
3. Recognize the value of continued spiritual growth on the personal level.
4. Develop a healthy attitude toward the local church.
5. Demonstrate insight into the performing of practical ministerial functions.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

1. **Reading:** Read *The Art of Pastoring* and *Following Jesus the Servant King* in their entirety. First, the student will choose two chapters from each of the aforementioned books. The student will present to the rest of the class a one-page document based on the following structure: A. Summary of the chapter and a few highlights. B. How a minister might apply the idea and concepts of the chapter to their personal life and ministry. C. Three discussion questions for the class. Copies of each presenter's one-page summary must be distributed to the entire class. If the student fails to distribute the summary, the student will receive a 50% reduction on their presentation grade. Chapters will be assigned the first day of class. Second, the student answer the questions from 5 of the chapters in *Following Jesus the Servant King*. Each chapter will have a total of 250 words.
  - i. *Required Textbooks:*
    1. Gibbs, Eddie. *Following Jesus the Servant King*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2010.
    2. David Hansen. *The Art of Pastoring*. Revised Edition. Downers Grove, IL: Zondervan, 2012.
    3. Veech, Guthrie. *The Minister's Manual*. Cincinnati, OH: Standard, 2012.
2. **MBTI:** Complete the MBTI and review each student's personality in class. Write a half-page response to each aspect of your personality. Each half-page should have two paragraphs. The first paragraph will explain how the student believes each area may be a strength in ministry. The second paragraph will explain how the student believes each area may be a liability in ministry.
3. **Examination:** The course will include one oral examination. All of the information from the semester may be included on the exam. The exam will take place during finals week on the class' scheduled time. The student should have a sentence summary for each subject covered in class. The sentence summaries may be used in the examination.
4. **Theology of Ministry:** Choose a book or several books from the Bible. The book or books should have a minimum of 16 chapters. Read the book slowly and intentionally to determine what you learn about ministry by answering this question: What does this book teach about ministry. Write a 1,200 word essay with those insights and how they might affect local church ministry. (I.e., The first insight gleaned from the book of Samuel is that troubled families may produce outstanding

- ministers. This is observed with Hannah's life...This is a profound insight because most churches have troubled families and teenagers. But those teenagers might have tremendous ministry potential if groomed to know God...)
5. **Prayer Plan:** Develop and implement a prayer plan that will be used in September and October.
  6. **Intentional Fast:** Give up something for September and October: a certain food, gaming, texting, soda, meat, etc. (Homework, reading, and class attendance are not options!) You will turn in to the professor your initial plan early on. Use the time the object or event is absent from your life to pray for your current and future ministry. Ask God to speak to you during the time. Read Isaiah 58 multiple times. Write a one page summary paper about your experience. What did you do? Were you successful? What did God speak to you?
  7. **Visitation:** Visit someone in the hospital, hospice, nursing home, or retirement community that you do not know. Feel free to take a friend or relative. Spend at least ten minutes in the room with them. If you are with someone, you must lead the conversation, prayer time, and introductions. (One way to find someone is stop at a local nursing home. Ask a receptionist if you may visit with someone who rarely has visitors and needs a friend. Nursing homes and similar places are filled with such people.)
  8. **Family Interview:** Meet face-to-face with a minister or, **preferably**, a minister's spouse to discuss family and ministry. Come up with a list of questions relating to balancing family and ministry. Take the list to the meeting. Take notes. Write a one-page summary of what you learned.
  9. **Sermon File:** Develop a sermon file that contains a funeral sermon, wedding sermon, and communion meditation.
  10. **Article Research:** Read an article concerning ministry. Choose from the following journals: *Preaching, Leadership, Christianity Today, Christian Standard*. Write a half-page summary of that article. Please reference the article in proper format at the top of the page.
  11. **Class Engagement:** Sitting in class will not suffice. If students fail to participate in class discussion, he or she will fail to receive engagement points that are documented at the end of each class period by the professor.
  12. **Attendance:** Attendance in class for the scheduled time is required. Attendance is worth percentage points added to or taken from the student's final class average according to the following formula:

| Absences | Percentage |
|----------|------------|
| 0        | +2%        |
| 1        | +1%        |
| 2        | +0%        |
| 3        | -1%        |
| 4        | -2%        |
| 5        | -4%        |
| 6        | -6%        |
| 7        | -8%        |
| 8+       | Fail       |

A student with absences over 7 will be in violation of the College's 25% rule. According to the Saint Louis Christian College catalog, once a student has missed over 25% of a total course, the Academic Dean will immediately withdraw them.

If a student arrives 15 minutes late to class or leaves earlier than the last 15 minutes of class the student will be counted absent even if he or she is in attendance for the remainder of the class session; If arriving late to class (15 min +), the required assignment or test for that class period will not be accepted or given resulting in a zero for the assignment/test.

Participation—The “in-class” participation score is an evaluation by the professor of the student's in-class involvement in activities, discussions, alertness, helpfulness, positive learning contributions and compliance to classroom rules.

### COURSE ASSESSMENT (EVALUATION)

1. **Style:** Use MLA format for all appropriate assignments. **Font:** Use Times New Roman, 12 Font, Single-spaced page formatting unless otherwise noted. **Name:** Name, Box #, Class prefix and suffix, and date. All assignments must be typed, no exceptions. *Failure to follow this formatting will result in a 10% penalty.*
2. The course uses the grading scale in the school catalog.

| Assignment           | Total Points |
|----------------------|--------------|
| Reading              | 200          |
| MBTI Report          | 100          |
| Exam                 | 100          |
| Theology of Ministry | 100          |
| Prayer Plan          | 50           |
| Intentional Fast     | 100          |
| Visitation           | 100          |
| Family Interview     | 50           |
| Sermon File          | 50           |
| Article Research     | 50           |
| Class Engagement     | 100          |

## **COURSE SCHEDULE**

| <b>Date</b> | <b>Day</b> | <b>Assignment Due</b>        | <b>Reading Due</b> | <b>Class Topic</b>           |
|-------------|------------|------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|
| 20 Aug      | Wed        | None                         | None               | Syllabus & Overview          |
| 22 Aug      | Fri        |                              | Hansen 1           | Joy & Difficulty of Ministry |
| 27 Aug      | Wed        |                              | Hansen 2           | Taxes & Budgeting            |
| 29 Aug      | Fri        | Prayer Plan/Intentional Fast | Hansen 3           | Relationships & Politics     |
| 3 Sep       | Wed        |                              | Hansen 4           | MBTI #1                      |
| 5 Sep       | Fri        |                              | Hansen 5           | Pastoral Care                |
| 10 Sep      | Wed        | ***No Class***               | N/A                | ***Infinite Influence***     |
| 12 Sep      | Fri        |                              | Hansen 6           | Marriage                     |
| 17 Sep      | Wed        |                              | Hansen 7           | Personal Spiritual Growth    |
| 19 Sep      | Fri        | MBTI                         | Hansen 8           | MBTI #2                      |
| 24 Sep      | Wed        |                              | Hansen 9           | Prayer                       |
| 26 Sep      | Fri        |                              | Hansen 10          | Organization                 |
| 1 Oct       | Wed        |                              | Hansen 11          | OT Ministry Perspectives     |
| 3 Oct       | Fri        | ***No Class***               | N/A                | ***Fall Break***             |
| 8 Oct       | Wed        |                              | Hansen 12          | NT Ministry Perspectives     |
| 10 Oct      | Fri        |                              | Lunde 1-2          | Volunteers                   |
| 15 Oct      | Wed        | Visitation                   | Lunde 3            | Worship                      |
| 17 Oct      | Fri        |                              | Lunde 4            | Evangelism                   |
| 22 Oct      | Wed        | Theology of Ministry         | Lunde 5            | Case Study #1                |
| 24 Oct      | Fri        |                              | Lunde 6            | Assimilation                 |
| 29 Oct      | Wed        | Prayer Plan/Intentional Fast | Lunde 7-8          | Case Study #2                |
| 31 Oct      | Fri        |                              | Lunde 9            | Interviewing                 |
| 5 Nov       | Wed        |                              | Lunde 10           | Dress                        |
| 7 Nov       | Fri        | Article Research             | Lunde 11           | Case Study #3                |
| 12 Nov      | Wed        | Hansen Review                | Lunde 12           | Hansen                       |
| 14 Nov      | Fri        | ***Flex Day/ICOM***          | N/A                | ***Topic TBD***              |
| 19 Nov      | Wed        |                              | Lunde 13-15        | Leadership #1                |
| 21 Nov      | Fri        | ***No Class***               | N/A                | ***Thanksgiving Break***     |
| 26 Nov      | Wed        | ***No Class***               | N/A                | ***Thanksgiving Break***     |
| 28 Nov      | Fri        | Family Interview             | None               | Leadership #2                |
| 3 Dec       | Wed        | Sermon File                  | None               | Leadership Exercises         |
| 5 Dec       | Fri        | Summary & Reflection         |                    | Summary                      |
| 9-11 Dec    | Tues-Thur  | Final Exams                  | Final Exams        | Final Exams                  |

## **COURSE STUDENT LEARNING RESOURCES**

### **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

## **COURSE POLICIES**

1. **The Hundred:** High quality writing in all assignments is expected. You are strongly encouraged to seek help from The Hundred for editing, research, preparation for exams, etc.

2. **Learning Disabilities:** If you have a diagnosed learning disability, please see the professor privately to discuss assessment measures that would enhance your ability to learn.
3. **Late Policy:** Due to the nature of life, late work is not permitted. You can't turn projects in late. Well, you can and get fired. If you are gone, your work is expected at the beginning of class. Part of life is planning ahead. You will have technology problems, family issues, and emergencies every semester. You need to stay ahead to get things in on time.
4. **Electronic Submissions:** Electronic submissions are accepted for this class for certain assignments. The professor will mention those in class.
5. **Course Modification:** Please understand that the Professor reserves the right to modify this course plan by changing topics, due dates, or even an assignment as long as it does not *add* to the students' work load.
6. **Plagiarism:** Any plagiarism or cheating will result in a "Zero" for the assignment and possible withdrawal from the course.
7. **Electronic Devices:** Electronic devices are not allowed in class. Each class you will need your textbooks, Bible, pen, and paper. This class is designed to develop a skill in your life. The professor is not willing to risk your distraction on Facebook.
8. **Cell Phones:** Cell phones are not allowed in class. Not even to read the Bible. If you are expecting an emergency call, you can be reached via the Academic Secretary at 314-837-6777x1520.
9. **Bible:** Bring your Bible to class. Failure to do so will result in a zero participation score for the day.

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

1. Office Hours: See Dr. Sanders' Office Door
2. Contact: Office: 314-837-6777x1522; Cell: 770-402-5842; [esanders@slconline.edu](mailto:esanders@slconline.edu)
3. Office: Upstairs Keystone.