



Grace Communion Seminary

CM515 Advanced Leadership (in-person)

Short Syllabus

Instructor: Greg Williams, DMin

Course Description

This course is designed to help GCI denominational and administrative leaders to learn deeper levels of leadership, especially centered around the finer aspects of what we see revealed in the Gospels about Jesus Christ. The student will be challenged to take an inventory of their personality, grow in self-awareness, and use this understanding to improve their leadership. The course will review the leadership structure of the denomination and examine the job descriptions of various church offices. The primary objective is to help the student to become a leader worth following because they are walking in the footsteps of Jesus.

Prerequisites

- Reference from GCI Superintendent
- Completed at least 21 hours of GCS course work (or equivalent)
- Be an ordained elder (preferred)

Special note: Students are required to participate in the in-person portion of this course, which will be held on **June 26-28 in Charlotte, NC at the home office of GCI**. GCS does not cover expenses related to travel, lodging or most meals. (Lunch will be provided on June 27 and June 28 and dinner will be provided on June 26 and 27.) Students need to arrange their own travel, lodging and remaining meal arrangements, and cover those expenses. In addition to the regular tuition, there is also **a surcharge of \$165** for this course to cover the extra costs involved

in this format of the course. **The fee will be nonrefundable unless the class is cancelled by GCS due to lack of enrollment.**

Registration will open from April 24 through May 4, and class will begin May 8, which is a week earlier than the classes that are not in-person. All assignments will be due prior to the in-person component. Additional details regarding the due dates will be supplied in the full syllabus.

As is usual with GCS courses, if not enough students enroll, the class will be cancelled. Please confirm that the class will be held before purchasing a plane ticket. If you have any questions, please contact our Registrar at 980-495-3950 or registrar@gcs.edu.

Required Textbooks

Addison, Steve. *The Rise and Fall of Movements; A Roadmap for Leaders.*

100Movement Publishing, 2019. ISBN: 978-0998639369 (about \$13).

Cladis, George. *Leading the Team-Based Church.* San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass Publishers, 1999. ISBN: 0-7879-4119-0 (about \$9)

Crabtree, J. Russell. *The Fly in the Ointment.* New York, NY: Church Publishing Incorporated, 2008. ISBN: 978-0-89869-606-6 (about \$18).

Dawn, Marva and Peterson, Eugene. *The Unnecessary Pastor.* Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2000. ISBN:10-0802846785 (sells for about \$27).

Williams, Greg, and Mark Mounts. *What if Jesus Meets Us in the Good, the Bad and the Messy?* Amazon Publishing, 2023.

Required Assignments

1. **Attend the lectures.**
2. **Participate in the discussions.** This counts for 15 percent of the final grade.
3. **Read the textbooks.** They total about 750 pages, or about 75 pages each week.
4. **Read, view or listen to, as appropriate, the additional learning materials posted on the assignment list.**
5. **Write a two-page reaction paper to George Cladis’s book *Leading the Team-Based Church*.** This paper counts for 10 percent of the final grade.
6. **Write a 1,000-word position paper:** Describe your “pastoral identity” based on your personal relationship to the Triune God, and how your ministry is shaped by the truth of the gospel over and above societal trends and issues.
7. **Write a two-page reaction paper to Steve Addison’s *The Rise and Fall of Movements*.** This paper counts for 10 percent of the final grade.
8. **Write a two-page reaction paper to J. Russell Crabtree’s *The Fly in the Ointment*.** This paper counts for 10 percent of the final grade.
9. **Write a 500-word reaction paper** on key points of leadership from the interview of a GCI Superintendent. This counts for 15 percent of the final grade.
10. **Write a ten-page paper:** Do a personal survey of the Gospels for the occasions in the life of Jesus that match with the lectures from classes 3 – 7. Each paper counts for 20 percent of the final grade.
11. **Write a ten-page Final Project.** Based on the studies of this class, and specific to the LivStyle analysis of biblical characters that you share in personality qualities. This paper counts for 20 percent of the final grade.