



## FELLOWSHIP DENVER CHURCH

**Ministry Foundations**  
**On-Site Course**  
**Sept 2022-May 2023**  
**2 Credit Hours**

**Wednesdays, 8:00-10:00 am**  
**1990 S Broadway | Sherman Room**  
**Dave Morlan, PhD**  
[dave@fellowshipdenver.org](mailto:dave@fellowshipdenver.org)

*This syllabus, along with course assignments and due dates, is subject to modification until the first day of the semester. It is the student's responsibility to download the most current version of the syllabus. Updated syllabi will be identified by date. Once the semester has begun, any modifications will be communicated to the class.*

### **MISSION**

Fellowship Denver is a church that exists to help people discover the original Jesus. The Gospel of Jesus is the most beautiful and powerful message in history, and Denver is a great city that we love and serve. Our hope is to bring both of these together – to be constantly faithful to the original gospel Jesus and his disciples proclaimed and to teach and live this gospel in a way that's accessible to Denver folks and helpful to the whole city.

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Ministry Foundations seeks participants who have a personal relationship with God, a love for local church ministry, and a desire to gain practical ministry experience. Course content, reading, and assignments sit in the intersection between doctrinal belief and ministerial practice. This course is designed to train and equip individuals who are pursuing local church ministry by development of robust orthopraxy, thereby multiplying kingdom impact. The intent of the course is to carry on the same work exemplified in Paul's training of Timothy by helping students, "to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands, for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control" (2 Timothy 1:6-7).

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

- Develop a gospel-informed vision and mission statement for a group or organization the student currently leads or hopes to lead.

- Identify the cultural norms, or shared expectations and rules that guide behavior of people within social groups, of a selected region and/or people group.
- Describe gospel ministry in a post-Christian culture.
- Assess one's own edge of growth as a leader and develop a resultant rule of life.
- Evaluate and explain the implied liturgy of a Sunday service.
- Summarize a current social justice issue and develop a strategy to address said issue that distinguishes between missional approaches that fall into the categories of either justice or mercy mission.
- Create a strategic ministry model.

## **METHOD OF INSTRUCTION**

Instruction of this class will consist of lectures, group discussion, class presentations, and media. The class environment is that of a learning community, designed to encourage regular discussion and to provide ample opportunity to learn from each other, not wholly from the professor and guest instructors.

## **PROFESSOR ASSISTANCE**

David Morlan, PhD, Instructor  
Email: [dave@fellowshipdenver.org](mailto:dave@fellowshipdenver.org)  
Office Hours: By appointment

Autumn Gardner, Administrator  
Email: [autumn@fellowshipdenver.org](mailto:autumn@fellowshipdenver.org)  
Office Hours: Monday, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm,  
and by appointment

### Email (preferred mode of communication)

Send all questions related to Ministry Foundations schedule, coursework, assignments, or other class logistics to Autumn Gardner. We are committed to responding promptly to your emails, and during the week (Monday-Thursday) you can expect to hear from us within 24-36 hours. We do not routinely check email Friday through Sunday.

Urgent questions or communication may be directed to Autumn at 303-386-5131.

## **TEXTBOOKS**

### **Required Texts**

A standard modern translation of the Bible (NIV, ESV, NASB, CSB, CEB)

Cone, James H. *The Cross and the Lynching Tree*. Maryknoll: Orbis, 2013. ISBN: 978-1626980051

Herrington, Jim, R. Robert Creech, and Trisha Taylor. *The Leader's Journey: Accepting the Call to Personal and Congregational Transformation*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2003. ISBN: 978-1540960528

Hyatt, Michael and Daniel Harkavy. *Living Forward: A Proven Plan to Stop Drifting and Get the Life You Want*. Ada: Baker, 2016. ISBN: 978-0801018824

Keller, Timothy J. *Center Church*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2012. ISBN: 978-1543604023

Keller, Timothy J. *Generous Justice: How God's Grace Makes Us Just*. New York: Viking, 2010. ISBN: 978-0525951902

Marshall, Colin and Tony Payne. *The Trellis and the Vine: The Ministry Mind-Shift that Changes Everything*. Sydney: Matthias, 2013. ISBN: 978-1921441585

Newbigin, Lesslie. *The Gospel in a Pluralist Society*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1989. ISBN: 978-0802804266

Robinson, Marilynne. *Gilead*. London: Picador, 2020. ISBN: 978-1250784018.

Smith, James K. A. *You are What You Love: The Spiritual Power of Habit*. Grand Rapids: Brazos, 2016. ISBN: 978-1587433801

### **Required Articles**

Morlan, David S. "A Review of James K. A. Smith's Cultural Liturgies Series," *Bulletin of Ecclesial Theology*. Volume 3.1, June 2016: pp. 1-15. URL: <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5a02216564b05fc4bbf1a61d/t/5a25b1c3ec212d55ef17f4b3/1512419800786/BET+3.1>

### **Additional Resources**

Carson, D. A. *Gospel Ministry in a Post-Christian Culture*, Session 1 & 2.

### **GRADING**

#### **Assignments 70%**

Papers 50%

Projects 20%

#### **Elective Unit Completion 15%**

#### **Participation 15%**

### **ASSIGNMENTS**

All Assignments are due by end-of-day on the date listed. Written assignments are to be submitted via Google Drive, in the folder assigned to each student, viewable by that student and the course Administrator and Instructors.

## Papers

### 1. Gospel Explanation, Due September 14, 2022

Explain the gospel in one page, one paragraph, and one sentence. Prepare a two-page, double-spaced essay using standard fonts and margins. Do not consult external sources for this paper.

### 2. Religious Survey, Due October 12, 2022

Reflect on the cultural norms and biases of Denver or a place of your choosing. Explore the shared values, primary religious affections, ethnic influences, socioeconomic influences, etc, of said place. How do/would these factors affect the way you communicate truth and how can awareness of cultural bias change the way you communicate biblical themes? Prepare a 2-3 page double-spaced paper using standard fonts and margins. Write in well-organized paragraphs and normal prose. No citations are *required* for this paper; however, you must include a bibliography of sources consulted

### 3. Vision, Mission, and Values Statements, Due October 19, 2022

Write out a vision statement, mission statement, values, and foundational beliefs for a church or ministry you currently lead or desire to lead. Prepare a 2-4 page paper using standard fonts and margins. You may consult vision, mission, values, and doctrinal statements from other churches or para-church organizations for this paper. Include a bibliography of influential source material.

### 4. Sunday Service Liturgy, Due December 7, 2022

Evaluate a Sunday Service at your home church or a different local church of your choosing, identify the liturgy, or structure, of the service, and comment on the implied theology. Prepare a 2-3 page double-spaced paper using standard fonts and margins. No citations or sources are required for this paper.

### 5. Journal Reflections, Due January 18, 2023

During Winter Break, read *Gilead* by Marilynne Robinson. As you read, reflect on the insights into the human condition, relationships, the effect of place, and the role of faith to the characters and the story. Does any aspect of the story catalyze insight into your own life, faith, or relationships? Journal as you read. No specific format is required.

### 6. Current Justice Issue, Due March 8, 2023

Utilizing the methodology presented by Dave in class on 2/24, summarize a current, locally relevant social justice issue and develop a strategy to address said issue, distinguishing between missional approaches that fall into the categories of either justice or mercy mission. Prepare a 2-3 page double-spaced paper using standard fonts and margins. No citations are *required* for this paper; however, you must include a bibliography of sources consulted.

## Projects

### 1. Holy Spirit Walk, Due September 21, 2022

Using the method taught in class on September 22, complete a Holy Spirit Walk. Document in two double-spaced paragraphs, the first detailing the logistics of your walk (location, length, date), and the second sharing one personal insight from your walk.

## **2. Create a Personal Rule of Life, Due October 26, 2022**

Using guidelines presented in class on December 1, construct a personal rule of life. Prepare a 1-2 page paper using standard fonts and margins. No sources or citations are required for this exercise, though you may consult other versions of a Rule of Life if desired.

## **3. StrengthsFinder, Due November 9, 2022**

Using the login information & class code provided by your class administrator, login to [gallup.com](https://gallup.com) and complete the StrengthsFinder 2.0 text. Print out your results and bring them to class on January 12, 2022.

## **4. Self-reflection Exercise, Due November 16, 2022**

Class administrator will provide you with an exercise from *Gospel Eldership*. Bring the completed exercise with you to class and come prepared to discuss on January 19.

## **5. Exegetical Process and Big Ideas of Chosen Text, Due January 25, 2023**

Using the exegetical process Hunter taught in class, Walk through the exegetical process and determine big ideas for your chosen biblical passage.

## **6. Outline on Passage with Cultural Condition, Due February 1, 2023**

Select a cultural condition towards which you will teach within your selected passage and create an outline for your teaching.

## **7. D.A. Carson Teaching Videos, Due April 5, 2023**

Watch the video via the link provided by the class administrator of D. A. Carson teaching on *Gospel Ministry in a Post-Christian Culture*, Sessions 1 and 2. Document take-aways in a one-page document and come prepared to discuss in class on April 13.

## **Group Project**

### **1. Volunteer Plan, Due May 10, 2023**

Create a Volunteer Plan that includes a brief description of the ministry of organization and organizational structure, documentation of volunteer roles needed, a recruitment plan, training strategy, and volunteer care plan. Project must be 6-10 pages in length and should include text, tables, graphs, or images where appropriate and helpful for communication. Each group should include 3 to 4 members.

## **ATTENDANCE**

Ministry Foundations requires engaged attendance and regular presence in the classroom, along with attention to all assignment deadlines. Participation comprises 15% of the total grade for this class. One primary component of the participation grade is regular attendance in class as well as engagement in class discussion.

## **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

Both as a community of Christians and as an academic community, we—both faculty and students—are committed to being truthful and honest in our work, and to avoid all forms of dishonesty, including plagiarism. If you ever have any questions about these values in relation to a particular assignment, do not hesitate to consult with the class administrator or your instructor.

## COURSE SCHEDULE

Date	Topic	Teacher	Reading	Assignment
09/7/22	Intro	Autumn Gardner		
<b>UNIT 1: GOSPEL VISION FOR THE LOCAL CHURCH</b>				
09/14/22	Gospel-Centrality in the Church	Dave Morlan, PhD	<i>Center Church: Gospel</i> (pp. 27-85)	Paper #1: Gospel Explanation
09/21/22	The Mission of the Local Church	Dave Morlan, PhD	<i>Center Church: City</i> (pp. 89-132)	Project #1: Holy Spirit Walk
09/28/22	Contextualizing the Gospel	Clark Nunnally	<i>Center Church: City</i> (pp. 135-179)	
10/05/22	A29 CONFERENCE			
10/12/22	Values and Habits	Autumn Gardner	<i>Center Church: City</i> (pp. 181-247)	Paper #2: Religious Survey
10/19/22	Movement Dynamics	Dave Morlan, PhD	<i>Center Church: City</i> (pp.337-377)	Paper #3: Vision, mission, values statements
<b>UNIT 2: LEADERSHIP AND CHARACTER</b>				
10/26/22	Biblical Leadership	Dave Morlan, PhD	<i>The Leader's Journey</i> (intro-p. 25)	Project #2: Create a Rule of Life
11/02/22	Leading Through Conflict and Chaos	Hunter Beaumont	<i>The Leader's Journey</i> (pp. 29-84)	
11/09/22	Spiritual Disciplines	Autumn Gardner	<i>The Leader's Journey</i> (pp. 87-155)	Project #3: StrengthsFinder
<b>UNIT 3: ECCLESIOLOGY</b>				
11/16/22	Vocational Calling and Spiritual Community	Dave Morlan, PhD	<i>You Are What You Love</i> (pp.1-55)	Project #4: Self-Reflection Exercise from <i>Gospel Eldership</i>

THANKSGIVING BREAK - 11/20/22-11/26/22				
11/30/22	Church Structure and Membership	Dave Morlan, PhD	<i>You Are What You Love</i> (pp.57-110)	
12/07/22	Sunday Liturgical Vision	Adam Anglin	BET Article, review of Smith by Dr. Morlan	Paper #4: Evaluate the Liturgy of a Sunday Service
12/14/22	The Family of God	Michael Goldstein		
WINTER BREAK - 12/18/22-01/17/23			<i>Gilead</i>	Paper #5: Reading Reflections
<b>UNIT 4: TEACHING AND PREACHING</b>				
01/18/23	Exegesis	Hunter Beaumont	<i>Biblical Preaching</i> (pp. 1-46)	
01/25/23	Interpretation and Contextualization	Dave Morlan, PhD	<i>Biblical Preaching</i> (pp. 47-76)	Project #5: Exegetical Process and Big Ideas
02/01/23	Application in Teaching	Michael Goldstein	<i>Biblical Preaching</i> (pp. 77-134)	Project #6: Determine cultural condition to teach toward and write outline
02/08/23	Delivery & Feedback	Teaching Team	<i>Biblical Preaching</i> (pp. 135-165)	
<b>UNIT 5: JUSTICE AND MERCY</b>				
02/15/23	Theology of Justice	Dave Morlan, PhD	<i>Generous Justice</i> (Intro-p. 40)	
02/22/23	Justice and Mercy	Dave Morlan, PhD	<i>Generous Justice</i> (pp. 41-77) <i>The Cross and the Lynching Tree</i> (pp. 1-64)	
03/01/23	Racial Reconciliation	Larry Phillips-Thomas	<i>Generous Justice</i> (pp. 78-147) <i>The Cross and the Lynching Tree</i> (pp. 65-166)	

03/08/23	Generosity and Justice	Hunter Beaumont	<i>Generous Justice</i> (pp. 148-189)	Paper #6: Current Justice Issue
<b>UNIT 6: MISSION</b>				
03/15/23	Public Witness	Dave Morlan, PhD	<i>The Gospel in a Pluralist Society</i> (pp. 1-65)	
03/22/23	Missiological Movements: Revival and It's Outworkings	Dave Morlan, PhD	<i>The Gospel in a Pluralist Society</i> (pp.66-127)	
SPRING BREAK - 3/26/23-4/1/23				
<b>UNIT 7: DISCIPLESHIP IN THE CHURCH</b>				
04/05/23	Gospel Ministry in A Post-Christian Context	Caleb Davis	<i>The Gospel in a Pluralist Society</i> (pp.128-197)	Project #7: D.A. Carson Videos
04/12/23	Discipleship in an Individualistic Culture	Dave Morlan, PhD	<i>The Gospel in a Pluralist Society</i> (pp.198-244)	
04/19/23	Theology of Work	Joanna Meyer		
<b>UNIT 8: STRATEGIC MINISTRY</b>				
05/03/23	Building Ministry from Vision	Dave Morlan, PhD	<i>The Trellis and the Vine</i> (pp. 7-59)	
04/26/23	Building Systems That Nourish People	Autumn Gardner	<i>The Trellis and the Vine</i> (pp. 61-91)	
05/10/23	Building and Leading Teams	Adam Anglin	<i>Living Forward</i> (pp.1-67)	Group Project #1: Volunteer Plan
05/17/23	How to Grow a Ministry	Hunter Beaumont	<i>Living Forward</i> (pp. 69-167)	
05/24/23	"Thick Skin Day"	Dave Morlan PhD, Autumn Gardner		