

**SYLLABUS FOR
NI- ME Ministerial Ethics**

**INSTRUCTOR:
Rev. Dr. Robert J. Duncan, Jr.**

Course Description –

Today's pastors face a number of ethical challenges in a context where people are always watching (with their phone/video camera). Scandals in the past three decades have put these moral and ethical issues before clergy and people inside and outside the church. This course will examine several core questions which will help students dig into the ethical and moral issues that pastors (and churches) face. Students will interact with the Covenant and Code of Ethics which was developed by the American Baptist Ministers Council. They will also continue to develop their personal code of ethics that will serve as a guide for navigating through ethical and moral dilemmas. The course will also address the connection between pastoral ethics and personal.

Required Texts–

1. Lovin, Robin. *An Introduction to Christian Ethics: Goals, Duties, and Virtues*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2011. ISBN: 0687467365
2. Trull, Joe E. and James E. Carter. *Ministerial Ethics: Moral Formation for Church Leaders*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2004. ISBN: 9780801027550.

Available on Amazon.com as text or Kindle

Instructor Contact Information – robert@northwindinstitute.org

Instructional Practices:

This is a class offered in an online format.

Online experiences may include:

1. Online forums of lectures and readings
2. Quizzes & Tests
3. Online submission of Papers in the *.doc or *.docx file format
4. Posting of YouTube projects

Statement on Learning and Physical Disabilities

Northwind Institute accepts students with learning and physical disabilities and provides reasonable accommodation to help them be successful.

Attendance Policy

This is a short-term intensive course.

You are required to participate in all class assignments and/or sessions.

Your attendance and punctuality will affect your grade in a positive or negative manner.

Grading Policy

Submission of materials does not guarantee a passing grade.

Papers are graded on the following:

- Use of Texts and Lecture
- Use of Course Materials
- Proper citation and footnotes using APA Style

Grade points are applied as follows:

PASS/FAIL

Academic Misconduct Policy

Northwind Institute does not condone academic dishonesty in any form. When an act of academic dishonesty has occurred:

1. The instructor has the right to not accept the assignment or test in question and record a "zero" for the assignment or test, and/or require the student to redo the assignment (or test), or require the student to complete a substitute assignment or test.
2. The student may be dropped from the class and assigned a failing grade (F). A written recommendation from the instructor is required.
3. In cases of extreme or repeated incidents (two or more) of academic dishonesty, the student may be suspended from the Institute.

The Academic Dean will notify the student as to the action taken. If the student believes there has been an erroneous accusation made, the student may appeal the action. The student must file a written appeal within 10 working days of notification. The President reviews all written appeals and his decision is final. The Student, Academic Dean and Instructor are informed via email of the action taken.

Tutorial

Schedule ZOOM Video Conference sessions in Topic 1 & 3

Course Outline:

Topic One: Read the Lovin Text

Topic Two : Assignments

1. Submit a 2-5 page paper on your understanding of the Lovin Text
2. Submit an action plan of personal ethics based on the Lovin text.

Topic Two: Read the Trull Text

Topic Four:

1. Submit a 2-5 page paper on your understanding of the Trull Text
2. Submit an action plan of Ministerial Ethics based on the Trull - Carter text

Final Paper: Code of Conduct:

Submit a 5-10 page personal code of ministerial ethics addressing the following:

- a. Your understanding of scripture as it relates to Ministerial Ethics
- b. Confidentiality for Clergy
- c. Clergy Infidelity
- d. Financial Matters
- e. Emotional Entanglement