Min 4350cs  Fall 2015

Mere Ministry

C.S. Lewis and Christian Leadership
MIN 4350cs  
**Mere Ministry**  
**Fall 2015**  
**Thursdays**  
C. S. Lewis & Christian Leadership  
**1:00 to 3:40 PM**  
**Instructor: Larry Hall**  
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larryehall46@gmail.com

I. Course Description and Goals: Students explore the life and writings of C. S. Lewis to find inspiration and insight, encouragement and example, reinforcements and resources for those who seek to be more effective and Christlike leaders. From reading through, discussing and reflecting upon seven of Lewis’s most popular books (plus one more of their own choosing), students demonstrate an awareness of a leadership ethic based on their study of Lewis’s words and behaviors. They then articulate a specific leadership principle to incorporate (“field test”) and evaluate.

II. Course Objectives: The student will 1) **recall** the primary life events and book titles along with brief descriptions of the major writings of C. S. Lewis; 2) **interpret** certain of Lewis’s writings as they pertain to themes of Christian leadership; 3) **identify** a theory/philosophy of Christian leadership extrapolated from Lewis’s works; 4) **compare and contrast** various leadership models with what could be considered a Lewisian model; 5) **construct** a working model of at least one Lewisian leadership principle, putting it into action in a home, church or work setting; 6) **evaluate** the effectiveness of this model, determining how it could be better executed.

III. Means of Assessment

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<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage of Total Grade</th>
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<tr>
<td>Active, Beneficial Weekly Participation</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Book Review</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Field Test and Report Essay</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>25%</td>
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IV. Required Reading:

Lewis, C. S. *The Complete C. S. Lewis Signature Classics.*  
V. Class Schedule

8/27  Introduction, The Life of C.S. Lewis, 1898-1941
9/3   The Life of C.S. Lewis, 1941-1963
9/10  Mere Christianity, part one
9/17  Mere Christianity, part two
9/24  The Screwtape Letters
10/1  Miracles, part one
10/8  Miracles, part two
10/15 Review and Exam
10/22 The Great Divorce
10/29 The Problem of Pain, part one
11/5  The Problem of Pain, part two
11/12 A Grief Observed  The Abolition of Man
11/19  Book Reviews
11/26  Thanksgiving
12/3  Papers and Concluding Discussion
12/10 Final
VI. Selected Bibliography

Works by C.S. Lewis

Non-Fiction


Works by C. S. Lewis

Fiction


Works About C.S. Lewis


VII. Special Instructions for Essays, Book Reviews and other Written Documents

All written works must use correct grammar, spelling, punctuation, etc. They must be clearly identified by topic and student name, double-spaced twelve-point type with one-inch margins, clear and thorough enough to be useful to classmates. Students will provide the instructor with electronic and hard copies as well as hard copies to all classmates. Some papers will also be read and discussed in class.

Book Reviews will address these kinds of questions: What is the author’s thesis and main supporting points? How well and convincingly are the points made; how could they have been better presented? Where do you agree and where do you disagree with the author; why? What issues does the author fail to address? What is the best sentence or paragraph in the book; why? Most importantly, how does this book speak to the question of a Lewisian model of Christian leadership?

The Final Essay, Christian Leadership in Principle and in Practice: A Lewisian Model, will clearly and thoughtfully articulate your overall understanding of the unique nature of Christian leadership especially as portrayed in the life and writings of C. S. Lewis. In your opinion, what are the most important insights and examples he offers to those who seek to be Christlike leaders? Do you see areas in which his teaching and/or his behavior do not reflect the leadership of Christ? How has your own approach to leadership changed as a result of this study