

PC489



## Shepherd Leadership

PC489

Semester 2, 2017

This unit outline contains important details for the unit PC489. For additional information about units not included in this outline, please see **Christ College Unit Guide** available on NOVA in the *Student Resources sidebar*.



## LECTURER

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John McClean (Unit Coordinator)

Email: [jmcclean@christcollege.edu.au](mailto:jmcclean@christcollege.edu.au)

See <http://christcollege.edu.au/john-mcclean/>

Tim Witmer (Lecturer)

## OTHER IMPORTANT CONTACTS AT CHRIST COLLEGE

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Daniel Wood (Registrar)

Email: [registrar@christcollege.edu.au](mailto:registrar@christcollege.edu.au)

Kate Selden (Librarian)

Email: [library@christcollege.edu.au](mailto:library@christcollege.edu.au)

## CONTACT HOURS AND UNIT DELIVERY

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25hrs Intensive, August 14-18 2017

Monday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup>
8:45am-1pm	8:45am-1pm	8:45am-12pm	8:45am-1pm	8:45am-1pm
		12-1pm Chapel and community lunch		
2-4pm	2-4pm		2-4pm	

## PURPOSE

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The challenge to nurture and care for the flock of Christ is perennial. This unit strives to help students see ministry leadership in the context of the biblical metaphor of shepherding. Biblical and theological foundations will be laid for pastoral leadership in general and shepherding leadership in particular. Obstacles and threats to shepherding care will be examined and practical applications considered. Self-examination and analysis of your current ministry contexts are key elements of this course. These principles are applicable to any ministry setting.

## TEACHING AIMS

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1. To prepare students to be shepherds of God's flock
2. To help students evaluate their own readiness for ministry
3. To help students navigate the challenges to ministry that arise including conflict and change.



## ALIGNMENT OF UNIT WITH GRADUATE ATTRIBUTES

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Christ College seeks to train pastoral leaders who will care for people like Christ and lead the Church under Christ. This unit establishes the biblical basis for this form of ministry, especially for ministers and elders; it equips students to be effective congregational leaders and helps to form them as caring leaders.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

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### A: Knowledge and Understanding

1. Students will understand the biblical and theological foundation of pastoral leadership.
2. Students will understand the biblical and theological foundations of the shepherding metaphor.
3. Students will understand the biblical purposes of the church and their usefulness for developing a ministry model.

### B: Skills

1. Students will be equipped to introduce or evaluate a shepherding plan in a church.
2. Students will be equipped to evaluate the overall ministry of a church.
3. Students will be equipped to identify and train additional leaders.

### C: Application

1. Students will be better equipped to lead a congregation or ministry.
2. Students will prioritize personal spiritual formation and family life.



**\*\* Please note that these assessments are To Be Confirmed pending final ACT approval \*\***

- **Ministry Paper**

Making use of required pre-reading and other relevant material, write a paper outlining the Biblical basis for understanding the pastor's role and responsibilities as a shepherd. What are some of the implications which flow from this understanding from contemporary pastoral practice? Reflect on your own ministry context in considering implications.

Due: Mid August

Word limit: 1,500 words

Proportion of total unit mark: 25%

*Marking Criteria*

A clear description of role and responsibilities of the pastor.

A careful explanation of the biblical basis of the description.

Discussion of implications of the position outlined, in light of student's own ministry context.

Thoughtful interaction with pre-reading.

Selection of and interaction with other relevant material.

Description and assessment of alternative views.



- **Reflection Exercise**

During the intensive week, students are to find one or two other students to form a reflection pair or group. These pairs/groups must meet at least twice during the week (there will probably be one opportunity to do this during the class time, and students would need to arrange their own time for the second meeting). The meetings are to establish a relationship and to be able to reflect on how the class material applies.

Within a week of the class, write 1,500 words of reflection on your personal response to the material in the course and how it applies to you. The reflection should engage with the breadth of the material, engaging at least 3 major themes of the class material.

Once you have done this, share the reflection with your partner or group. Once you receive the reflection(s) from your partner or group, write about 500 words of response for each reflection, encouraging your colleague(s) in their growth as a shepherd leader (encouragement may include sensitive challenge).

Each student submits a single file containing their reflection and the response(s) they have received. The name of the responding student should be marked clearly at the top of the response.

Due: September

Word limit: 2,000-2,500 words

Proportion of total unit mark: 35%

*Marking Criteria*

Thoughtful engagement with the unit material.

Application of unit material and reading to personal life and pastoral leadership.

Evidence of integration of theological reflection on Scripture and personal life.

Evidence of ability to apply unit material to a particular ministry context.

Thoughtful encouragement to peer(s).



- **Final Paper**

Select one area dealt with in the unit (e.g. developing new elders, navigating conflict, church discipline, authority in leadership, positive change, developing a shepherding plan, church structures for shepherding). Outline the biblical and theological basis for your approach to this area and how it is related to an overall view of Shepherd Leadership. Explain how you would apply this in your current ministry setting. The paper should include a relatively detailed analysis of the current situation and a plan for implementation.

If you are unsure about your selection of topic, contact John McClean.

Due: September

Word limit: 2,500 words

Proportion of total unit mark: 40%

*Marking Criteria*

Thoughtful engagement with a key idea in unit material in relation to wider themes of unit.

A careful explanation of the biblical and theology basis of approach.

Engagement and assessment alternative views.

Relevant reading and thoughtful use of reading.

Application of discussion to student's own particular ministry context, including description and analysis of this context.

A feasible plan for implementation of proposal.



## SUBMISSION DETAILS

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Submission: All assessment items are to be submitted via the portal for this unit on NOVA in PDF format, as a single file.

1. You must include the “Assignment Cover Sheet” as the first page of the file (see the Sidebar “Student Resources – Assessments” on NOVA for the cover sheet).
2. You must include the date of submission and add your name to the statement about academic misconduct.
3. If you have received an extension, provide the extension number and the date to which the extension has been granted.
4. Place a title on the file with the following format: your ACT student number, unit code and assignment description: e.g. 20107863 OT420 Theology Essay. Please do not use a generic title such as “Essay final version” etc.
5. Once your assignment has been submitted, NOVA will indicate that submission has been successful.

## EXTENSION REQUESTS

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Extensions will only be granted for medical or compassionate reasons.

- Application for extensions must be made via the registrar Daniel Wood ([registrar@christcollege.edu.au](mailto:registrar@christcollege.edu.au)) prior to the due date.
- Unless an extension has been applied for and granted in accordance with the ACT Late Penalty Policy, where a student submits an assessment past its due date, the assessment marks will be reduced at the rate of 3% of the total possible marks for the assessment item per calendar day, up to 14 days late.
- If an assessment is submitted after 14 days late, a mark of zero will be awarded for the assessment upon submission of the completed assessment.
- Only in exceptional circumstances will work be accepted after the final day of classes for the semester. See the “ACT Late Penalty Policy” (see the Sidebar “ACT Policies” on NOVA).



## PRE-READING

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Baxter, Richard. *The Reformed Pastor*. Banner of Truth Trust, 1974.  
chapter 1 (“The Oversight of Ourselves”)  
Tripp, Paul. *Dangerous Calling*. Crossway, 2012.

## UNIT CONTENT

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1. The importance of personal spiritual maturity
2. The biblical qualifications for ministry
3. The importance of managing your household well
4. The biblical foundations for leadership
5. The purpose of leadership
6. How to introduce positive change in ministry
7. How to navigate conflict in ministry
8. Understanding the concept of authority in leadership
9. Biblical and theological foundations of the shepherding metaphor
10. Shepherding as a comprehensive matrix for ministry
11. Seven elements of an effective shepherding ministry
12. How to develop a shepherding plan for your ministry

## RECOMMENDED TEXTS

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Baxter, Richard. *The Reformed Pastor*. Banner of Truth Trust, 1974.  
Burns, Robert. *Resilient Ministry*, IVP, 2013.  
Eyres, Lawrence. *The Elders of the Church*. Presbyterian and Reformed, 1983.  
Gibbs, Eddie. *Leadership Next: Changing Leaders in a Changing Culture*. IVP, 2005.  
Hughes, R. Kent. *Liberating Ministry from the Success Syndrome*, Crossway, 2008.  
Laniak, Timothy. *Shepherds After My Own heart*. IVP, 2006.  
Poirier, Alfred *The Peacemaking Pastor: A Biblical Guide to Resolving Church Conflict*. Baker, 2006.  
Sanders, Oswald. *Spiritual Leadership*. Moody, 1994.  
Tripp, Paul. *Dangerous Calling*. Crossway, 2012.  
Witmer, Timothy. *The Shepherd Leader*. Presbyterian and Reformed, 2010.  
Witmer, Timothy. *The Shepherd Leader at Home*. Crossway Books, 2012.