

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Evangel University

PTH 540 Military Chaplaincy (3 credits)

Wednesday, 2-4:45 PM, Room 116

Chaplain Scott McChrystal, D.Min.

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417.862.2781 x.3281

Spring 2018

Veterans Center

By Appointment

COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will explore the United States military chaplaincy: its organization, role, and mission in support of the men and women who comprise our Armed Forces. Special focus will be given to understanding the context of ministry as military chaplains and the multiplicity of factors that affect providing religious support. The course will examine key issues that military chaplains must understand to minister effectively in the complex environments in which the military functions. A partial list of these issues will include separation of Church and State, religious pluralism within the military and society, and the relationship of religion to culture. Students will learn through a combination of activities to include reading and writing assignments, class lectures and discussions, individual research, and student briefings. Students will have opportunity to learn and grow through interaction with a variety of special guest lecturers.

EVANGEL UNIVERSITY MISSION STATEMENT

Evangel University is a comprehensive Christian university committed to excellence in educating and equipping students to become Spirit-empowered servants of God who impact the church and society globally.

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Assemblies of God Theological Seminary is to equip servant leaders with knowledge, skill, and passion to revitalize the Church and evangelize the world in the power of the Holy Spirit.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

After this course students should be able to:

1. Articulate their calling to military chaplaincy (EU20-I4).
2. Identify the wide range of opportunities and challenges faced by current military chaplains (M.Div 5).
3. Integrate their personal philosophy of ministry within the pluralistic setting of the military (M.Div 5).

4. Understand the requirements to become a military chaplain and identify action steps (EU20-I3) to meet these (M.Div 9) requirements.
5. Assess the needs and plan a total religious program for a military organization.
6. Develop a plan for continued all-around fitness and growth throughout their military chaplaincy (M.Div 9) experience (EU20-I3).

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS*

Ketterling, Rob. *Front Row Leadership: Stop Criticizing and Start Leading*. Springfield, Missouri: Salubris Resources, 2016. 184 pages. ISBN: 978-1680671032.

Cloud, Henry, and John Sims Townsend. *Boundaries: When to Say Yes, How to Say No to Take Control of Your Life*. Revised and expanded edition. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan, 2017. 352 pages. ISBN: 978-0310351801.

For information of textbook pricing, go to <http://www.bkstr.com/evangelstore/home>.

COURSE SCHEDULE (See Notes at bottom of schedule.)

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>
January 10	Course Introduction & Requirements; Student Introductions Overview of Chaplaincy Ministry and Its Environment
January 17	Knowing Your Pastoral Identity (Part 1): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• God, Others, and You• Clergy Self Care (Part 1)• Maintaining Your Spiritual Fitness
January 24	Military Chaplaincy as Calling & Profession Lessons Learned: Years 1-5
January 31	Military Chaplain: Spiritual Leader and Staff Officer Free Exercise of Religion Clergy Self Care (Part 2): Maintaining Your Physical Fitness
February 7	Knowing Your Pastoral Identity (Part 2): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identifying Your Strengths and Weaknesses• Identifying/Developing Your Leadership Style• Requirements/Keys for Personal Development/Success in Ministry
February 14	The Chaplain and Ministry in Combat Overcoming the Trauma of War Experiences
February 21	The Chaplain Spouse; Military Families Chaplain as a communicator
February 28	Understanding Your Ministry Environment: Assessing Needs/Developing Ministry Accessing Resources for Ministry
March 7	Ministry in a Pluralistic Environment Diversity: It's Opportunities and Challenges Relationships with the AG: Chaplaincy Department and District
March 14	Spring Study Week—NO Classes
March 21	Developing Ministry: Needs Assessment; Relationships/Networking; Planning Clergy Self Care (Part 3): Managing Your Personal Affairs/Household

March 28	Legal Issues Affecting Military Chaplaincy The Chaplain as a Communicator
April 4	PAPERS DUE!! Commander/Chaplain Relationships NCO/Chaplain Relationships
April 11	Best Practices: Chaplain Professional Development Clergy Self Care (Part 4): Maintaining Healthy Emotions/Relationships
April 18	Setting Priorities/Managing Time
April 25	Review of Course Material
Final Class	

Notes:

Order of topics is subject to change based upon the availability of guest lecturers.
Student presentations will occur as part of most class dates. Topics and schedule TBA.
Our class will attend one or two chapel services during normal class hours. Dates and times TBA.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Attendance and Participation: 30%

Much of the value of this class will result from class discussions and oral presentations by fellow students and guest lecturers. Accordingly, regular attendance and participation will count significantly toward determining your final grade.

2. Reading: 10%

Minimum of 2,300 pages from the required reading list and recommended resources listing below. Students may request to read material not contained on recommended list, but permission should be requested in advance from Chaplain McChrystal. Students should submit a list of completed readings NLT 4 April that contains the following information: name of each book/publication and the number of pages read.

3. Practice of Ministry: Oral Presentation: 10%

Each student will share his/her personal testimony in one oral presentation with the class during the semester. Presentations will cover the individual's journey and calling to chaplaincy ministry. Dates will be selected/assigned during the first class meeting on January 10.

Oral Presentation (10%):

- a. Demonstrated ability to make an oral presentation to fellow students that is clear and concise
- b. Skill and effectiveness of delivery style
- c. Ability to cover material within prescribed time limits

4. Practice of Ministry Paper: 50%

Students will receive classroom guidance outlining how to write a 'Practice of Ministry Paper' (12-15 pages) that integrates theological reflection with the practical application of ministry principles you plan to use as military chaplains. While not strictly designed to be a research paper, students are expected to draw upon ministry resources that will assist you in shaping your practice of ministry as military chaplains.

Ministry resources may include any material that the students believe has been/will be useful for shaping their philosophy of ministry as a military chaplain. Students should provide proper documentation for all sources used.

This formal paper will include title page, footnotes, bibliography, and be completed in accordance with AGTS standards. The paper in its final form will be due in two copies not later than 4 April to allow time for grading and grade submission. **Late papers will receive lowered grades.**

Discussion should include (but not limited to) the following:

- a) Your calling to military chaplaincy ministry (not an auto-biographical summary of your life)
- b) Ministry in a pluralistic environment
- c) Balancing the roles of minister and staff officer
- d) Free exercise of religion
- e) Ministry with chaplains of other faith groups
- f) Assessment of your strengths/weaknesses as they pertain to military ministry
- g) Plan to maintain your overall personal fitness (physical, spiritual, mental, and emotional) in the demanding environment of the military
- h) Your personal vision of ministry opportunities/challenges

Students will be evaluated in the following areas:

- a) Your personal, vocational, and denominational preparation for military ministry
- b) Thorough understanding of ministry in a pluralistic environment
- c) Ability to understand, integrate, and balance the multiplicity of issues unique to ministry as a military chaplain
- d) Ability to express ideas clearly in writing using effective organization, correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

It is assumed that students at AGTS will endeavor to be honest and of high integrity in all matters pertaining to Seminary life. A lack of respect and integrity is evidenced by cheating, fabricating, plagiarizing, misusing facilities, removing books and other property not one's own, and disrupting classes.

Cheating is defined as "intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information or study aids in any academic exercise." It is assumed that whatever is submitted by a student is the work of that student and is new work for that course. Fabrication is "intentional and unauthorized falsification or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise or form." Plagiarism is "intentionally or knowingly representing the words or ideas of another as one's own in any academic exercise." One who facilitates any of the above is equally responsible with the primary violator.

Penalties may include restitution, an "F" on an individual paper, exam, or course; loss of campus employment; disciplinary probation; removal from extracurricular activities; and suspension.—*AGTS Student Handbook*.

THE USE OF COMPUTERS IN THE CLASSROOM

The use of computers for word processing in the classroom represents a privilege given to students to enhance their learning. They may only be used for purposes related to the course. It is therefore a breach of classroom etiquette, an act of rudeness, and a distraction to other students, when computers are also used to surf the web, watch videos, play games, and send messages, etc., during class time. The professor assumes that seminarians will be persons of integrity when using computers in the classroom.

NON-DISCRIMINATORY LANGUAGE

Students should use non-discriminatory language in all written and spoken communication in this class. For specific guidelines, see the Student Handbook at <https://www.evangel.edu/wp-content/uploads/2012/01/Student-Handbook-2017-18.pdf>

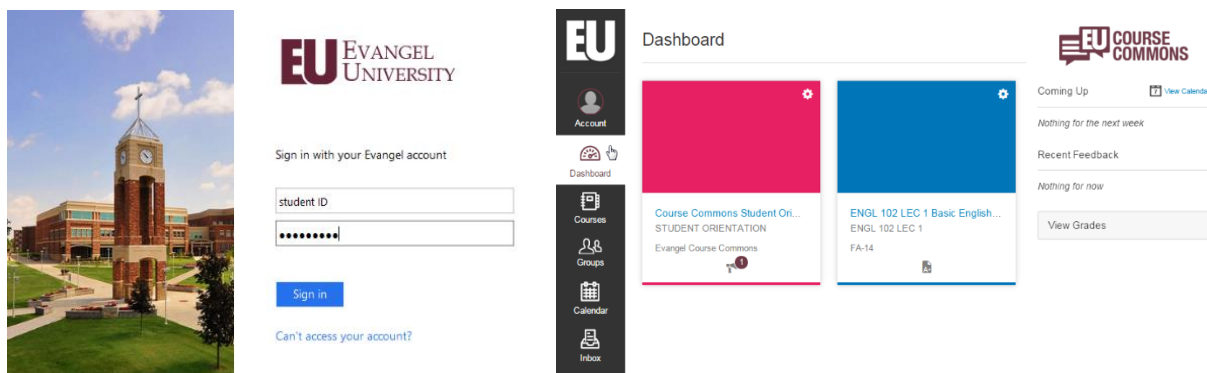
DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION

Assemblies of God Theological Seminary, Evangel University, is committed to equal educational opportunities for students with disabilities in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the American with Disabilities Act as amended (ADA). Academic Support, a division of the Center for Student Success, is the office designated to review disability documentation, determine reasonable accommodations, and develop plans for the provision of such accommodations.

If you have already established accommodations through Academic Support and receive accommodation memos, please meet with the professor to discuss the provisions of those accommodations as soon as possible (accommodations are not retroactive). If you have not yet established accommodations, but have a disability or health condition (permanent or temporary) that may have some impact on your work in this class and for which you may require accommodations, you are welcome to contact the Academic Support staff in the Center for Student Success (ZM-208; 417-865-2815 x.8215) so that accommodations can be arranged. See the Disability and Academic Accommodations Handbook for further information on the accommodations process.

COURSE COMMONS

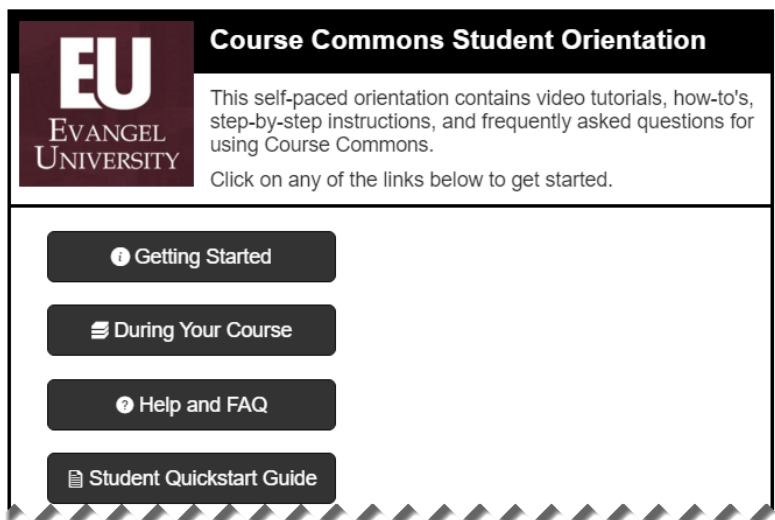
This course will use Course Commons, Evangel's learning management system. There are links to Course Commons in the Student Portal and the Evangel website. The login page for Course Commons is <https://courses.evangel.com/>.



Use your Evangel Username and password to login.

Course Commons Student Orientation

All Evangel students have access to the [Course Commons Student Orientation](#). If you are new to Course Commons, you are encouraged to take advantage of this excellent resource. As part of your course preparation, this will help you make the most of the features that are available to you as a student.



Accessing the Course in Course Commons

Access your courses list by clicking on the Courses icon on the Global Navigation menu on the left of the screen. You can also click on the course card on the Dashboard.

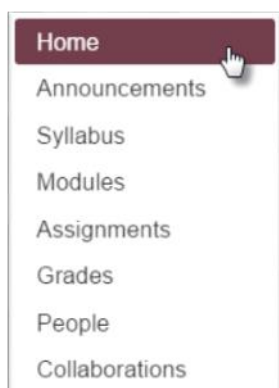
To customize your Courses list, see the following Help Guide: [How do I customize my Courses list?](#)

Students will have access to this course in Course Commons seven (7) days before the official beginning of the semester. Students have until seven (7) days after the semester begins to complete financial registration. If financial registration is not completed by the seventh day, course access will be revoked.

After the end of the semester, students will have read-only access to the course through Course Commons. Only access to already submitted work, course resources and grades will be available.

Accessing Course Content in Course Commons

The professor controls the availability of course content and features. Some items may be unavailable until a date set by the professor.



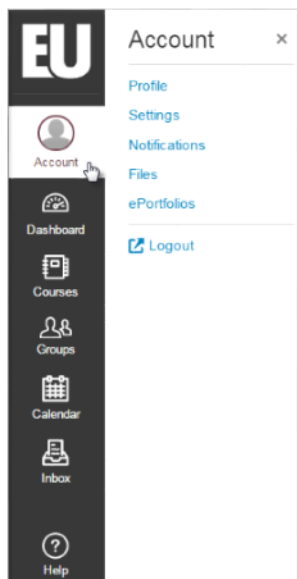
You can navigate the course content and features using the Course Navigation menu on the left. This menu can be customized by the professor, so it may differ from course to course, depending on what features the professor has chosen to make available.

You can collapse the Course Navigation menu to focus on the page content. Click on the menu icon in the upper left (which looks like 3 lines). You can expand the menu by clicking on the menu icon again.

All course content (syllabus, modules, course materials, assignments, online quizzes, online discussions, grades, etc.) can be accessed using the links in the

Course Navigation menu.

Personal Settings in Course Commons



Students can adjust their personal settings in Course Commons. Click on the Account icon to access the Account menu.

On the **Profile** page, you can add a profile picture to your account. You can also edit your display name, which will show to your instructor and peers throughout Course Commons.

The **Settings** link allows you to add additional contact methods (personal email or cell phone number for text message alerts) to your account. You can also add external services, like Twitter, Skype or Google Drive.

The **Notifications** link allows you to customize *what* notifications you receive from Course Commons and *how* and *when* you receive them. This is a student-centered feature that allows you to optimize your notifications to help you stay connected to what is happening in all your courses.

For more information, see the following pages in the Course Commons Student Orientation: [How to Update your Profile and Settings](#) and [How to](#)

[Update Your Notifications Preferences](#).

Accessing Grades in Course Commons

All course grades will be recorded and shown through Course Commons. Simply click the “Grades” button on the lower right of the Dashboard to access your grades for all courses. You can also use the Grades link in the Course Navigation to access your grades for this course.

For more information on how to check your grades and what you can do from the Grades page, see the following page from the Course Commons Student Orientation: [How to Check My Grades](#).

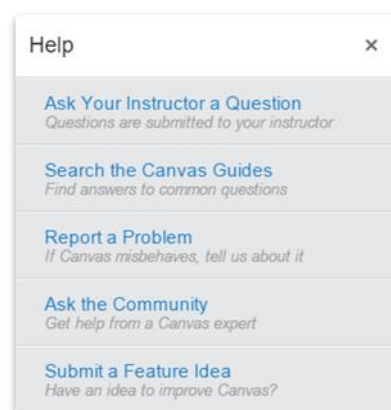
How to Get Help with Course Commons

Help is never more than a few clicks away! You can access the Help menu from any page in Course Commons.

Click on the Help icon in the lower left corner of the screen. Because the Course Commons is powered by the Canvas Learning Management System, all help guides and helpdesk tickets will reference Canvas.

From the Help menu, you can send a message to your instructor, search the Canvas Help Guides, or report a problem.

You can browse and search the Help Guides using the following link: <https://community.canvaslms.com/community/answers/guides/>.



Course Commons Troubleshooting

Do you have a question about a quiz, an assignment, or another item in the course? Contact your professor.

Are you having technical problems with Course Commons? Click the Help icon, click “Report a Problem” and complete the form to file a ticket for a personal response from the support team. Please be sure to include a thorough description of the problem.

Are you having trouble with your Evangel account (username and password)? Contact the IT Helpdesk at 417-865-2815 ext. 8368 (phone), helpdesk@evangel.edu (email), or help.evangel.edu.

GRADING PROCEDURE

Grades are recorded and averaged on the basis of the following grade scale:

A+ = Publishable (4.0)	B- = 83-80% (2.7)	D = 66-64% (1.0)
A = 100-94% (4.0)	C+ = 79-77% (2.3)	D- = 63-60% (0.7)
A- = 93-90% (3.7)	C = 76-74% (2.0)	F = 0-59% (0.0)
B+ = 89-87% (3.3)	C- = 73-70% (1.7)	
B = 86-84% (3.0)	D+ = 69-67% (1.3)	

All assigned work for the course must be submitted for the student to receive a passing grade for the course. The grade of I (Incomplete) may be granted only for extenuating circumstances upon the written request of the student; those with severe extenuating circumstances will have their course grade reduced by one letter.

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

(This list represents only a sampling of reading that can prove helpful in preparation for ministry as a military chaplain. Should you want to use material not contained in this list, contact Chaplain McChrystal for prior approval.)

Abercrombie, Clarence L. *The Military Chaplain*. Beverly Hills, CA: Sage Publication, 1977.

Bergen, Doris L. *Sword of the Lord: Military Chaplaincies from the First to the Twenty-First Century (Critical Problems in History)*. Notre Dame, IN: University of Notre Dame Press, 2004.

Boyle, Beth Ellen, ed. *Words of Conscience: Religious Statements on Conscientious Objection*. Washington, DC: National Inter-Religious Service Board for Conscientious Objectors, 1983.

Brinsfield, John W., Jr. *Encouraging Faith, Serving Soldiers: A History of the U. S. Army Chaplaincy, 1975-1995*. Washington, DC: Office of the Chief of Chaplains, Department of the Army, 1997.

Brinsfield, John W. Jr. *Faith in the Fight: Civil War Chaplains*. Mechanicsburg, PA: Stackpole Books, 2003.

Brinsfield, John W. Jr. *Developing a Ministry of Teaching at the US Military Academy*. West Point, NY: Drew University, 1983.

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Carnesale, Albert, et al. *Living With Nuclear Weapons*. New York; Bantam Books, Inc., 1983.

Davidson, Donald L. *Nuclear Weapons and the American Churches: Ethical Positions on Modern Warfare*. Boulder, Colorado: Westview Press, 1983.

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Gray, A. M., ed. *Warfighting*. NY, NY: Currency Doubleday Publishing Group, Inc., 1995.

Groh, John E. *Air Force Chaplains, 1971-1980*. Washington, DC: Office of the Chief of Chaplains, Department of the Air Force, 1986.

Gushwa, Robert L. *The Best and Worst of Times: The United States Army Chaplaincy, 1920-1945*, vol. 4. Honolulu, HI: University Press of the Pacific, 2004.

**History of the Chaplain Corps US Navy, 1939-49*, vol. 2. Washington, DC: U.S. Government Print Office, 1949.

**History of the Chaplain Corps, US Navy, 1950-54*, vol. 3. Washington, DC: U.S. Government Print Office, 1954.

* *History of the Chaplain Corps, US Navy, 1953-57*, vol. 5. Washington, DC: U.S. Government Print Office, 1957.

* *History of the Chaplain Corps, US Navy, 1957-72*, vol. 6. Washington, DC: U.S. Government Print Office, 1972.

Hoge, Charles W. *Once A Warrior Always A Warrior*. Guilford, CT: GPP Life, 2010.

Honeywell, Roy. *Chaplains of the US Army*. Washington, DC: Office of the Chief of Chaplains, Department of the Army, 1958.

Hourihan, William J. *A Brief History of the US Army Chaplain Corps*. Fort Jackson, SC: United States Army Chaplain Center and School, 2004. Article on-line.

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McIntosh, Gary L. and Rima, Samuel, Sr. *Overcoming the Dark Side of Leadership*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 1997

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Zahn, Gordon C. *The Military Chaplaincy: A Study of Role Tension in the Royal Air Force*. Toronto, Canada: University of Toronto Press, 1969.

**Histories of Air Force and Navy Chaplaincies are available by interlibrary loan from the US Army Chaplain School Library, 10100 Lee Rd., Ft. Jackson, SC 29207.*

SPECIFIC DATA

Prepared by Scott McChrystal, August 24, 2017.