

COURSE SYLLABUS

Church Leadership and Administration

Course Lecturer: Kenneth O. Gangel, PhD
Former Professor of Christian Education at Dallas Theological Seminary

Course Description

What is leadership? How do you make effective decisions? How do you motivate those around you? This course answers such theoretical and practical questions by examining the administrative process, including goal setting, organization, delegation, human relations, group dynamics, supervision, and leadership training. Though administration principles are universal, the course focuses on Christian organizations, particularly the local church. The course is designed to help students become more effective church leaders in both theory and practice.

Course Objectives

Upon completion of the course, you should be able to do the following:

- Understand the theory and philosophy of leadership in the broad sense.
- Apply principles of group dynamics and leadership techniques in order that you may become a reproductive Christian leader.
- Develop proper understanding of leadership responsibilities, such as ethics, motivation, planning and administration.
- Understand the principles of educational administration with special focus on the training of leadership in the local church.
- Comprehend and implement the spiritual dimension of leadership and administration with respect to spiritual gifts.

Course Lecturer



Kenneth O. Gangel, PhD (1935-2009)

Education:

- Mercy College, LittD
- University of Missouri, PhD
- Concordia Seminary, STM

- Fuller Theological Seminary, MA
- Grace Theological Seminary, MDiv
- Taylor University, BA

Teaching Career:

- Scholar in Residence, Toccoa Falls College (2000-2009)
- Director of Graduate Studies, Toccoa Falls College (1997-2000)
- Vice President for Academic Affairs and Academic Dean, Dallas Theological Seminary (1992-1997)
- Chairman and Professor of Christian Education, Dallas Theological Seminary (1982-1992)
- President and Professor, Miami Christian College (1974-1982)
- Professor and Founding Director of the School of Christian Education, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School (1970-1974)
- Bible Department Chairman, Registrar, Academic Dean, and Academic Vice President, Calvary Bible College (1960-1969)
- Nearly 50 years of service in higher education

Other Career Highlights:

- Lecturer in more than 1,500 churches worldwide
- Lecturer at more than 40 educational institutions
- Member of various regional boards and national councils
- Editor for the leadership publication *The SEAL* (Seeking Excellence in Administrative Leadership)
- Worker for the Kansas City Regional Council for Higher Education in the late 1960s
- Minister, holding various pastorates in the 1950s, 1960s and 1980s
- Voice of “Morning Light,” a daily devotional that aired on more than 100 radio stations across the United States (for over 20 years)

Publications:

- Contributor to or editor of 57 books, including *Fathering Like a Father, Feeding and Leading*, (a book he co-authored with his son), *Christian Education: Its History and Philosophy*, and *Team Leadership in Christian Ministry: Using Multiple Gifts to Build a Unified Vision* (perhaps his best-known work)
- Publisher of hundreds of articles for various education and theological journals, including numerous submissions to *Bibliotheca Sacra*, while submitting hundreds of reviews on various books

Recommended Reading

Though not required, you may choose to read the textbooks shown below to supplement your learning.

Ford, Leighton. *Transforming Leadership: Jesus’ Way of Creating Vision, Shaping Values & Empowering Change*. Downer’s Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1993.

Gangel, Kenneth O. *Feeding and Leading*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 2000.

Textbooks can be ordered through your local bookstore, various online bookstores, or through your preferred eReader when available.

Course Methods

The lecture content for each lesson is provided in two easy-to-use formats: audio and PDF text (if available). Students can choose the medium (or combination of media) that most closely aligns with their individual learning styles.

Course Assessment and Requirements

Course requirements include:

- Listening to all 24 audio lectures.
- Completing a final self-assessment form in which you will reflect on the content in the course and evaluate your life in light of what you have learned. The specifics of this assessment are provided in the course materials.

Course requirements noted in this syllabus will be validated before a Certificate of Completion is awarded to any student. No numeric or letter grade will be awarded for this course.