



ASBURY UNIVERSITY
Academic Excellence & Spiritual Vitality

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Number/Course Title: BU 250 The Business of Care, Help, and Development

Semester/Year: Fall 2023 (*Begins Monday, 8/21/23 and Ends Sunday, 10/15/23 — 8 weeks*)

Department Name: Dayton School of Business

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Name: Albert Kalim, MBA, MSc

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Office Hours: Please contact me to schedule an appointment.

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

General Description:

People of faith, like everyone else, are active participants in a business-dominated world. Developing a clear understanding of how the business world runs, and more importantly, having our faith perspective define and dictate how we understand and behave within this world—is the primary intent of this class. Specifically, the course will focus on several key attributes:

- First, we will explore our Christian anthropology, and the relationship between this anthropological makeup and commercial activity (i.e., business).
- Second, we will describe poverty in its most pervasive forms: Economic, Social, and Spiritual.
- Next, we will explore the Biblical mandate to address these forms for poverty.
- Further, we will incorporate key insights from the field of business in order to think carefully about how we fulfill our Biblical mandate to serve others and address poverty (i.e., how do we care in an effective, helpful way?) Here we will borrow from a growing body of scholarship to help us think carefully in these areas.
- Finally, the course will involve practical application: What does it mean to apply our learning to specific ministry contexts?

To summarize, we want to look at the Biblical call to love and serve others through a business lens.

Student Learning Outcomes and Aligned Assessments: At the conclusion of this course, each student who successfully completes the studies designated should be able to:

Outcome	Assessment
Critically reflect on our Christian anthropology with subsequent implications for the field of Business.	Discussion Forums, Video Assessment Papers, Book Reading Assignments
Articulate all forms of poverty (economic, social, and spiritual) and display an understanding of the relationship between them.	Discussion Forums, Video Assessment Papers, Book Reading Assignments
Discover how we fulfill our Biblical mandate to serve others and address poverty.	Discussion Forums, Video Assessment Papers, Book Reading Assignments
Apply our knowledge to specific ministry contexts	Discussion Forums, Video Assessment Papers, Book Reading Assignments

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Textbooks:

Required: Toxic Charity: How the Church Hurts Those They Help and How to Reverse It, by Robert D. Lupton, 2012. ISBN: 9780062076212

Recommended: When Helping Hurts: How to Alleviate Poverty Without Hurting the Poor...and Yourself, by Steve Corbett and Brian Fikkert, 2014. ISBN 978-0802409980.

NOTE: Should we utilize additional reading material, it will be provided to you from the instructor. All materials (articles, videos, homework, etc.) can be accessed in Discovery.

COURSE STRUCTURE

This course is fully online. It consists of three primary activities:

- 1) Discussion
- 2) Book Reading and Reflection
- 3) Video watching, writing, and reflection

Course material will be facilitated through Discovery (<http://discovery.asbury.edu/>).

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

Weekly Assignments:

- 1) Book Reading with Weekly Reflection Questions (8 weeks x 20 points each):** Based upon your reading of each chapter, please answer one of the questions for that particular chapter. After answering, please provide a short synopsis as to how reading the chapter shaped (or challenged, etc.) your particular answer.

Specific Instructions:

- Please provide a five-to-ten sentence answer to each question.
- Answers should be clear and concise with appropriate grammar and sentence structure. Furthermore, your writing should be coherent and should sufficiently address the question.
- Answers should reflect a critical engagement with the material. In other words, it should be clear from your answer that you not only paid attention to the reading, but reflected upon, or *marinated* in, its content.

- 2) Weekly Videos with Paper Response Questions (6 weeks x 30 points each):** For weeks #2 through #7, you will watch one of the videos (found in Discovery) and answer associated questions. You are to review the questions found in each section, pick only one of the questions presented, and answer the question based upon the following instructions:

- State the question that you are attempting to answer and provide a 2-4 paragraph answer.
- Answers can be based upon the video, your own experience, other material from the course, Scripture, etc.
- Answers should be clear and concise with appropriate grammar and sentence structure. Furthermore, your writing should be coherent and should sufficiently address the question.
- Answers should reflect a critical engagement with the material. In other words, it should be clear from your answer that you not only paid attention to the film, but reflected upon, or *marinated* in, its content. Thus, surface level answers (e.g., "I liked what they said here, etc.") will not be acceptable. Show a clear engagement with the material: What is your reaction? Where do you see this in everyday life? What are the implications for your ministry? How does this connect with other learning points in the business discipline? What are some areas of scriptural relevance? etc.
- This assignment is worth 30 points

A rubric for grading this assignment can be found in Discovery.

There will be optional extra-credit assignments throughout the course by watching additional videos that will help you in your roles in the communities you live in. Although these are optional, I strongly recommend you download and watch the videos. They are life-changing!

- 3) Weekly Discussion Forums (8 weeks x 20 points each):** Students' comments should demonstrate preparation and thoughtful consideration of the topics. I consider 'participation' an extremely important aspect of this course and the overall learning process. Each week you will find a discussion forum available within Discovery. Students are expected to post **at least 1 original comment and 2 responsive comments** for each week's forum. Moreover, students are also strongly encouraged to respond to comments by other students.

The rubric for grading these comments each week is as follows:

- (1) The **initial post** should be approximately 300 words and should substantively respond to the prompt provided. You should also integrate (and cite) the course readings into your responses. Initial posts are worth 10 points and are due by Thursday of the week at 11:59pm.
- (2) The **two response posts** are exactly that—responses or reactions to at least two of your colleagues' initial posts. These responses should be approximately 150 words each and should substantively add to the discussion. Responses that simply echo or affirm the initial post (e.g., "I totally agree!" or "Excellent points!") will not be accepted. Your responses should integrate and draw upon the course readings, course content, and other relevant sources of information. Each response post is worth 5 points. Responses are due by Sunday of the week at 11:59pm.

GRADING: Your posts will be graded on substance, insight, relevance, timeliness, and writing quality.

GRADING CRITERIA

Accessing Grades: All grades will be posted in the Grade book in your course in Discovery.

Activity/Assignment	Points/Weighting
Book Reading with Weekly Reflection Questions (8 weeks x 20 points)	160 points
Weekly Videos with Paper Response Questions (6 weeks x 30 points)	180 points
Weekly Discussion Forums (8 weeks x 20)	160 points
Total	500 POINTS

Grading Scale: Your course grade will be calculated using the following scale.

Letter Grade	Percentage/Points
A	465 to 500 Points
A-	450 to 464 Points
B+	435 to 449 Points
B	415 to 434 Points
B-	400 to 414 Points
C+	385 to 399 Points

C	365 to 384 Points
C-	350 to 364 Points
D	300 to 349 Points
F	<300 Points

Rubrics: A specific grading rubric for each of the above assignments can be found in Discovery.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Date	Topic	Assignments Due
<u>Week #1:</u>	Welcome Read Chapters 1-2	Reading Assignment #1; Discussion Forums
<u>Week #2:</u>	Read Chapter 3 Watch Video	Reading Assignment #2; Paper Response #1; Discussion Forums
<u>Week #3:</u>	Read Chapter 4 Watch Video	Reading Assignment #3; Paper Response #2; Discussion Forums
<u>Week #4:</u>	Read Chapters 5-6 Watch Video	Reading Assignment #4; Paper Response #3; Discussion Forums
<u>Week #5:</u>	Read Chapter 7 Watch Video	Reading Assignment #5; Paper Response #4; Discussion Forums
<u>Week #6:</u>	Read Chapter 8 Watch Video	Reading Assignment #6; Paper Response #5; Discussion Forums
<u>Week #7:</u>	Read Chapter 9 Watch Video	Reading Assignment #7; Paper Response #6, Discussion Forums
<u>Week #8:</u>	Read Chapter 10 Conclusions	Reading Assignment #8; Discussion Forums