



COURSE INFORMATION

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

Semester/Year: Fall 2022 (*Begins Monday, 8/22/22 and Ends Sunday, 10/16/22 — 8 weeks*)

Department Name: Howard and Beverly 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

Textbook: The following textbook is required for this course.

- Corbett, Steve & Fikkert, Brian. "When Helping Hurts: How to Alleviate Poverty Without Hurting the Poor...and Yourself," 2014.

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, fully online, totals 8 weeks in its duration. Those 8 weeks will be comprised 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):** Each chapter in the book "When Helping Hurts" begins with some "initial thoughts" and ends with end of

chapter "Reflection Questions and Exercises." Based upon your reading (Chapters 1-3), please choose **one** of the chapters and answer the "initial thoughts" 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:

- In your answer, write which chapter you have chosen and spell out the specific initial question(s) you are answering. So, for example, in Chapter 1--this would mean you are answering three separate questions. In Chapter 2, you would only be answering one questions, etc. An example will be provided below...
- Please provide a 2-4 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 change lives for sure! I will share with you some of the testimonies.

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> 8/22 – 8/28 | Welcome; Read Chapters 1-3 of Corbett & Fickert | Reading Assignment #1; Discussion Forums |
| <u>Week #2:</u> 8/29 – 9/4 | What Causes Poverty? Read Chapter 4 of Corbett & Fickert; Watch Video | Reading Assignment #2; Paper Response #1; Discussion Forums |
| <u>Week #3:</u> 9/5 to 9/11 | The Image of God. Read Chapter 5 of Corbett & Fickert; Watch Video | Reading Assignment #3; Paper Response #2; Discussion Forums |
| <u>Week #4:</u> 9/12 to 9/18 | Property Rights and Rule of Law. Read Chapter 6 of Corbett & Fickert; Watch Video | Reading Assignment #4; Paper Response #3; Discussion Forums |
| <u>Week #5:</u> 9/19 to 9/25 | Solidarity with the Poor. Read Chapter 7 of Corbett & Fickert; Watch Video | Reading Assignment #5; Paper Response #4; Discussion Forums |
| <u>Week #6:</u> 9/26 to 10/2 | The Gospel and Human Flourishing. Read Chapter 8 of Corbett & Fickert; Watch Video | Reading Assignment #6; Paper Response #5; Discussion Forums |
| <u>Week #7:</u> 10/3 to 10/9 | Resources for Communities to Thrive. Read Chapter 9 of Corbett & Fickert; Watch Video | Reading Assignment #7; Paper Response #6, Discussion Forums |
| <u>Week #8:</u> 10/10 to 10/16 | Conclusions. Read Chapters 10, 11, and the Epilogue (“A Final Word”) of Corbett & Fickert | Reading Assignment #8; Discussion Forums |