

**COURSE SYLLABUS**  
**COS 124 Transformative Leadership**  
**Fall 2023**

**I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course forms the student's identity as pastoral leader and change agent in congregations, The United Methodist Church, and the world.

**Dates:** The course will at the University of Indianapolis, in-person on:  
Friday September 8th, 2023 from 7:00 – 9:00 pm, with an opening session at 6:30 pm,  
Saturdays September 9th, 2023, October 14th, 2023, and November 11th, 2023 from 8:30 am – 4:00 pm.

**Instructor:** Dr. Aleze M. Fulbright (email: [draleze@gmail.com](mailto:draleze@gmail.com) or mobile phone: 765.372.8541)

**II. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

After taking this course students will be able to:

1. Identify and understand the attributes of good leaders, biblically and theologically.
2. Evaluate and strengthen their own identities and skills as pastoral leaders.
3. Explain and reflect on the nature of change in the local congregation and wider society.
4. Implement visioning, strategizing, and planning processes in their local congregations.

**III. TEXTBOOKS:**

1. Bolsinger, Tod, *Canoeing the Mountains: Christian Leadership in Uncharted Territory* (ISBN- 978-0830841264)
2. Brandon O'Brien and Jim Belcher, *The Strategically Small Church: Intimate, Nimble, Authentic, and Effective Leadership* (ISBN-13: 978-0764207839)
3. Brown, Olu, *Leadership Directions from Moses: On the Way to a Promised Land* (ISBN-13: 978-1501832536)
4. Chand, Samuel, *Leadership Pain: The Classroom for Growth* (ISBN-13: 978-0718031596)

**EXPANDED OUTLINE TEMPLATE LINK:** [Expanded Outline Template](#)

**IV. COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Class participation & attendance (25% of total course grade)
2. Completion of all reading and written assignments (75% of total course grade)
  - a. **Session One: September 8 & 9, 2023**  
Read the entirety of *Strategically Small Church*
    1. Prepare an expanded outline of this book. The expanded outline should be at least three (3) pages, and no more than five (5) pages. *Student will upload assignment to Moodle BEFORE September 8, 2023.*
    2. Prepare a two (2) page reflection summary of what you learned from the reading materials. *Student will upload assignment to Moodle BEFORE September 8, 2023.*

**b. Session Two: October 14, 2023**

Read the entirety of *Canoeing the Mountains*

1. Prepare an expanded outline of this book. The expanded outline should be at least three (3) pages, and no more than five (5) pages. *Student will upload assignment to Moodle BEFORE October 14, 2023.*
2. Prepare a two (2) page reflection summary of what you learned from the reading materials. *Student will upload assignment to Moodle BEFORE October 14, 2023.*

**c. Session Three: November 11, 2023**

Read the entirety of *Leadership Lessons from Moses*

1. Prepare an expanded outline of this book. The expanded outline should be at least three (3) pages, and no more than five (5) pages. *Student will upload assignment to Moodle BEFORE November 12, 2023.*
2. Prepare a two (2) page reflection summary of what you learned from the reading materials. *Student will upload assignment to Moodle BEFORE November 11, 2023.*

**d. Final Assignment: DUE November 30, 2023**

Read the entirety of *Leadership Pain: A Classroom for Growth*

Prepare a five (5) page paper reflection summary of what you learned from the reading materials.

*Student will upload assignment to Moodle by November 30, 2023.*

**V. COURSE PREPARATION:**

1. Be sure to read the materials in its entirety.
2. Write clearly and will proper grammar and punctuation. Be sure to properly cite any and all sources or materials.
3. Papers will be turned in via Moodle at the above-mentioned due dates.
4. Come to class prepared to lead in the discussion of each book and related topics.