

Syllabus

Strategic Church Develop through Christian Education

Doctor of Ministry Seminar – CEAM 8305

Spring Trimester, 2007-2008

April 17-18 & May 8-9, 2008

The seminar will be conducted CIV on the indicated Thursdays & Fridays,
8:00 am - 4:00 pm (CDT)

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Division of Christian Education Ministries

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Mission Statement

The mission of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is to equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

Course Description

This seminar is designed to assist professional doctoral students with enhancing foundational skills for the practice of Christian education in church development. Specific attention will be given to developing a theological rationale for the practice and evaluation of Christian education. Students will examine current and future trends and models in Christian education and compare with their personal situations. In addition, students will identify areas of interest for exploration as potential professional doctoral projects. Seminar content will be integrated into practice through the development of church strategic ministry plans.

Course Objectives

By the completion of the course, each student will have had an opportunity to ...

1. Develop a comprehensive theological rationale for the practice of Christian education in a local church or other ministry setting.
2. Analyze current trends in Christian education and compare them to the student's current ministry situation.
3. Identify strengths and weaknesses of current models for the practice of Christian education.
4. Brainstorm areas of interest in the practice of Christian education and church development for potential professional doctoral projects.
5. Prepare an abbreviated strategic plan for the implementation of Christian education and church development in the student's current ministry situation.

Texts

Each student is to read the following textbooks and to be prepared to integrate their content into seminar discussions and presentations:

Gallup, George, Jr. and D. Michael Lindsay. *The Gallup Guide: Reality Check for 21st Century Churches*. Loveland, CO: Group, 2002. (ISBN 0-7644-2397-5)

Malphurs, Aubrey. *Advanced Strategic Planning: A New Model for Church and Ministry Leaders*, 2nd ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 2005. (ISBN 0-8010-9181-0)

Pazmino, Robert W. *Foundational Issues in Christian Education*, 2nd ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 1997. (ISBN 0-8010-2106-5)

Rainer, Thom, and Eric Geiger. *Simple Church: Returning to God's Process for Making Disciples*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 2006. (ISBN 0-8054-4390-8)

[[[Students with last names beginning with A – L]]]

----- OR ----- OR ---- OR ----

Hawkins, Greg, and Cally Parkinson. *Reveal: Where Are You?* South Barrington: Willow Creek Association, 2007. (ISBN 074419234X)

[[[Students with last names beginning with M – Z]]]

In addition, each student is to download the following reports from the North American Mission Board website (www.namb.net/research). Print the reports as necessary, accessing them to complete seminar assignments as listed below. Please use the "search" feature on the website to locate the pdf files of these reports. These reports are also available on the ProDoc website with the syllabus. NAMB continues to revise their website. At the last check, students will need to click on the *Knowing Church Fact File* tab and then the *Church Research* section.

Jones, Phillip B. *Southern Baptist Congregations Today*. Atlanta: North American Mission Board, 2001.

_____. *Southern Baptist Congregations and Worshipers: Supplement to A Field Guide to U.S. Congregations*. Atlanta: North American Mission Board, 2002.

NAMB Research Team. *U.S. Congregational Life Survey: Worshipers in Southern Baptist Convention*. Atlanta: North American Mission Board, 2002.

_____. *U.S. Congregational Life Survey: Conversion and Witnessing Among Southern Baptists*. Atlanta: North American Mission Board, 2002.

Optional Textbook

The following textbook may be helpful for completion of specific assignments; however, it is not required.

Hobbs, Herschel H. *The Baptist Faith and Message*. Nashville: LifeWay, 1971. (Please use the most recent revision.)

Requirements

Before the Seminar

1. **Theological Rationale Paper:** Each student will prepare a six to ten page paper presenting a theology for Christian education. In preparation for writing the paper each student should read Pazmino, pp. 9-122 and Hobbs, pp. 1-116. The purpose of the paper is to demonstrate that there is a theological rationale and foundation for the practice of Christian education in a local church or ministry setting. The paper should begin with general concepts or principles and then address the following doctrinal concepts:

Christian education as it relates to ...

Scripture (or the Bible)
God
Man
Salvation
God's Purpose of Grace

The Church
Baptism and the Lord's Supper
The Lord's Day
Evangelism and Missions
Education

For each of the doctrinal topics provide at least two ways in which the concept interfaces with the practice of Christian education. Support the mandate with at least two Scriptures. Each of these topics should be developed in an at least one-half page section. **Date Date: These papers are due during the first session of the seminar, April 17, 2008.** Students should bring an extra copy of the paper with them to the seminar for reference during discussion.

2. **Future Trends Report:** Each student will review the reports from the North American Mission Board. Students are to select at least ten facts/research findings from these reports and replicate the research with content from their own church or ministry context. Consult Gallop for assistance with survey technique and research design. Students should submit a report of the research in both graphical and narrative form. The narrative portion of the report should discuss possible reasons for deviation from the national report as well as detail the data. **Due Date: The future trends report is due during the first session of the seminar, April 17, 2008.** Students are encouraged to bring an additional copy of the report for reference during discussions in the seminar.
3. **Book Reviews:** Each student is to submit a book review of Rainer and Geiger's *Simple Church* or Hawkins and Parkinson's *Reveal*. Students whose last name begins with A-L are to read *Simple Church*, while students who last name begins with M-Z are to read *Reveal*. The five-page review should briefly summarize the authors' presentation, identify strengths and weaknesses, and list points of agreement or disagreement. In addition, students should discuss the appropriateness of the authors' approach for their own church or ministry situation. **Due Date: The book review is due during the first session of the seminar, April 17, 2008.**
4. **Seminar Presentation:** Each student will be assigned a portion of the textbooks for a presentation during the seminar. These presentations should be from the perspective of a practitioner in a ministry setting: local church, denomination, campus ministry, etc. The student should anticipate involving seminar participants in a discussion of the assigned material. **Due Date: The presentations will be scheduled for delivery during the Thursday and Friday sessions of the seminar. The schedule of presentations and assignments will be emailed to participants by March 28th. If students do not receive the email by April 1st, they should contact Dr. Sherrer for instructions.**

During the seminar

5. **Seminar Presentation:** Each student will present material as indicated in Assignment 4 above.
6. **Seminar Participation:** Students are expected to be active participants in all sessions of the seminar. Note: The seminar actually begins with the receipt of the

syllabus and continues through the material completed after the two weeks in May. The seminar does not consist only of the two weeks of class time component.

Following the seminar

7. **Abbreviated Strategic Ministry Plan:** Each student will prepare an abbreviated strategic ministry plan for his church or ministry situation. Instructions will be provided during the on-campus portion of the seminar with regard to the scope and length of the report. In addition, information will be provided for accommodating the somewhat simulated nature of the assignment. It is anticipated that the paper will follow the format identified by Malphurs and will be at least ten pages in length. **Date Due: June 13, 2008.**

Strategic Plans should be mailed to Dr. Sherrer. Email submissions will not be accepted.

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Evaluation

Theological Rationale Paper	20%
Future Trends Report	20%
Seminar Presentations	15%
Book Review	15%
Seminar Participation	10%
Strategic Ministry Plan	20%

Directed Study Component (No classroom involvement)

In addition to the requirements above, students who desire to participate in this seminar on a “directed study” basis will complete the following additional requirements:

- (1) Prepare a videotaped version of your seminar presentations as listed in Assignments 4 and 5. Each presentation should be approximately 10 minutes in length. The tape should be received by the professor no later than April 15, 2008. (Mail to: Dr. Joe Sherrer, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, 3939 Gentilly Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70126)

- (2) In addition to the book review identified in Assignment 3, submit five-page book reviews for Pazmino, Gallop, and Malphurs. The book reviews should be received by May 9, 2008.

Other assignments should be submitted as scheduled above.

Selected Bibliography

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- Anderson, Philip and Phoebe. *The House Church.* Nashville: Abingdon, 1975.
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- Arnold, Jeffrey. *Starting Small Groups: Building Community That Matters.* Nashville: Abingdon, 1997.
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- Barker, Joel Arthur. *Future Edge: Discovering the New Paradigms of Success.* New York: William Morrow, 1992.
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- Beal, George M. *Leadership and Dynamic Group Action.* Ames, IA: Iowa State University, 1962.
- Beckham, William A. *The Second Reformation: Reshaping the Church for the 21st Century.* Houston: Touch, 1995.
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Blackaby, Henry T. and Claude V. King. *Experiencing God: Knowing and Doing His Will*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 1998.

Blackaby, Tom and Henry T. Blackaby. *The Man God Uses*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 1999.

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Campolo, Anthony. *Following Jesus Without Embarrassing God*. Waco, TX: Word, 1997.

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Cole, W. Douglas. *Working with Senior Adults in Sunday School*. Nashville: Convention, 1977.

Coleman, Lyman. *Small Group Training Manual*. Littleton, CO: Serendipity, 1991.

Coleman, Robert Emerson. *The Great Commission Lifestyle: Conforming Your Life To Kingdom Priorities*. Grand Rapids: F.H. Revell, 1992.

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- Davis, Deena. *Discipleship Journal's 101 Best Small-Group Ideas*. Colorado Springs: NavPress, 1996.
- DeLoach, Sylvia. *Girls in Action Guide*. Birmingham: Woman's Missionary Union, SBC, 1995.
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