

Syllabus

Networking for Transformational Ministry Doctor of Ministry Seminar – CESE 8307

**Special Event Held in Conjunction with the SBC Annual Meeting
Spring Trimester, 2008**

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Division of Christian Education Ministries

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Seminary 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 will be held in conjunction with the Southern Baptist Convention's annual meeting in Indianapolis, Indiana, June 9-11, 2008. Seminar participants will have the opportunity to begin networking relationships with key denominational leaders about emerging strategies of Christian education that seek to produce transformation. In addition, seminar participants will utilize the convention sessions, ancillary meetings, and displays to discover useful resources for transformational ministry.

This seminar will focus on identifying and developing the various networks for implementing a comprehensive Christian education program in a local church ministry context. Specific attention will be given to initiating connections with denominational aspects of Christian education, peer learning networks and associations, professional organizations, and other networking systems. Priority will be given to strategies for transformational ministry in a Christian education context. The seminar is designed for both pastors and Christian education staff leaders.

It is anticipated that students will participate fully in the convention sessions and activities. In addition, two sessions will be scheduled with participants during the

convention for interaction with the professor and other presenters. A specific schedule for these seminar sessions will be distributed to enrolled students approximately two weeks before the convention. You can anticipate meeting on both Monday and Wednesday morning from approximately 10:00 am until 12 noon, but this is subject to change. The schedule will be developed after the final convention schedule is released in order to minimize conflicts. The schedule is developed to avoid or minimize conflicts with the other ProDoc course, *The SBC at Work*, that is conducted at the convention.

Course Objectives

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

- (1) Identify the strengths and opportunities of developing personal and professional networks to facilitate ministry.
- (2) Understand the biblical foundations and examples supporting the practice of partnering in the practice of ministry.
- (3) Identify strategies for transformational ministry in the context of Christian education.
- (4) Identify potential networks and resources to support leading transformational ministry in a local church or denomination.
- (5) Begin the process of integrating potential networks and associations into the practice of ministry.
- (6) Appreciate the values of working and learning in community rather than exclusively as individuals.

Texts

Bridges, William. *Managing Transitions: Making the Most of Change*. Reading, MA: Addison-Wesley Publishing Company, 1991. (ISBN 0-201-55073-3)

Giovagnoli, Melissa and Jocelyn Carter-Miller. *Networkling: Building Relationships and Opportunities for Success*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2000. (ISBN 0-7879-4819-5)

McNeal, Reggie. *Revolution in Leadership: Training Apostles for Tomorrow's Church*. Nashville: Abington, 1998. (ISBN 0-687-08707-4)

Senge, Peter M. *The Fifth Discipline: The Art and Practice of the Learning Organization*. New York: Currency Doubleday, 1990. (ISBN 0-385-26095-4)

Requirements

Pre-Seminar Assignments:

1. **Book Reviews:** Each student will prepare a critical book review of each of the four required texts. Each of these reviews should be approximately three pages in length. Following a brief summary of the contexts, each review should highlight the application of the text to developing networks to facilitate a minister's leading a Christian education ministry that focuses on transformation. **Due Date: The book reviews are due during the first session of the seminar—June 9, 2008.**
2. **Bible Studies or Sermon Series:** Each student will develop a three session Bible study or sermon series highlighting, from a biblical perspective, the opportunities, values and challenges of networking for Christian leaders. The studies or sermons are to be based on the book of Acts. Submit a complete teaching plan for each Bible study including content, illustrations, and procedures; or, submit an expanded sermon brief for each sermon including exposition, illustrations, and application points. It is anticipated that each Bible study or sermon brief will be at least five papers in length. **Due Date: The Bible studies or sermon series are due at the first session of the seminar—June 9, 2008.**
3. **Internet Search:** Each student will conduct an internet search for resources to assist a minister in developing and implementing a Christian education ministry that focuses on transformation. Each student should submit a report identifying at least twenty resources from no less than five sources or resource providers. For example, do not list more than five resources from any one publisher. List the resources in bibliographic form and include the internet addresses where the resources were located. **Due Date: The internet search is due at the first session of the seminar—June 9, 2008.**

During the Convention Assignments:

4. **Convention and Special Session Participation:** Each student is expected to participate fully in the sessions and activities of the convention. In addition, students will participate in two special seminar sessions, scheduled during the convention, for dialogue with the professor and other presenters. **Due Date: During the convention and seminar, June 9-11, 2008.**

Post Convention Assignment:

5. **Integration Paper:** Each student will select two of the potential networks identified during the seminar for further study and cultivation. Each student is to submit a paper identifying the value of the network to his personal and professional ministry. Provide an implementation strategy for including the network in professional

ministry. Include such aspects in the strategy as a timeline and specific goals. **Date Due: July 7, 2008.**

Evaluation

Book Reviews	20%
Bible Studies or Sermon Series	20%
Internet Search	15%
Convention and Seminar Participation	25%
Integration Paper	20%

Selected Bibliography

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Bauknight, Brian Kelly. *Body Building: Creating a Team Ministry Through Spiritual Gifts*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1996.

Beal, Will (comp.). *Sharing the Joy in Team Ministry*. Nashville TN: Convention Press, 1988.

Benson, Peter I and Eugene C. Roehikepartain. *Beyond Leaf Raking: Learning to Serve, Serving to Learn*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1993.

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Carter, William. *Team Spirituality: A Guide for Staff and Churches*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1997.

Cladis, George. *Leading the Team-Based Church*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 1999.

Conger, Jay. *Learning to Lead: The Art of Transforming Managers into Leaders*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 1992.

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