

CESE8305 Youth Ministry Institute I
January 5-9, 2009 in New Orleans, Louisiana

Dmin/DEdMin Special Event Seminar
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Christian Education Division
Dr. Allen Jackson, Ph.D.
Professor of Youth Education

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Course Description

The objective of the Youth Ministry Institute is to offer youth ministry training, using a concentrated delivery system. The Institute is an educational delivery system to provide a different type of youth ministry dialogue. For students who are enrolled in the MDiv/CE or MACE degree track, a concentration is possible by attending the Institute in two consecutive January workshop blocks. The delivery system is especially beneficial for extension students. In addition, alumni and veteran youth ministers who wish to return for continuing education may register for an auditing fee. Professional doctoral students will benefit from exposure to the changing discipline of youth ministry.

The Youth Ministry Institute is not replication of classes which are offered during the regular academic semester, but a different type of exposure to youth ministry altogether. Each day, guest speakers who are experts in the field of youth ministry will address a topic within the discipline of youth ministry. Following their presentation, questions, debriefing, discussion, and suggestions for implementation in the local church will comprise the class time for the remainder of that morning and afternoon session.

Note:

For Professional Doctoral students, YMI serves to further inform the discipline of youth ministry from a particular vocational point of view. Many DMin and DedMin students are looking at Youth Ministry from a lifelong perspective. Our intent is to assist in this introspection.

Course Objectives

At the conclusion of the course, students should be able to:

1. Reflect on some of the foremost "voices" in youth ministry and be able to envision implementation of their material at the local church. Particular attention will be given to models of youth ministry.
2. Develop creative approaches in communication, Bible study, and ministry in the local church.
3. Describe the role of the minister of youth as it relates to relationship with God, relationship with ministry, and relationship with family.
4. Formulate an overall ministry strategy for youth ministry in the local church.
5. Demonstrate an understanding of the adolescent culture with implications for the future of youth ministry.
6. Identify resources for youth ministry and youth ministers.
7. Demonstrate improved competency in at least one area of youth ministry leadership.

Course Requirements

The workshop is made up of three components: pre-assignments which are due upon your arrival at the workshop, class assignments which are completed during the workshop, and post-assignments that are due three weeks after the workshop ends.

I. Pre-Assignments

Due upon arrival, *BEFORE* class begins.

1. Read the following:
 - a. Clark, Chap and Kara E. Powell. *Deep Ministry in a Shallow World* (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing), 2006.
 - b. Kinnaman, Dave and Gabe Lyons. *unchristian* (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books), 2008.
 - c. Lawrence, Rick. *Jesus Centered Youth Ministry* (Loveland, CO: Group Publishing), 2007.
 - d. Moore, Walker. *Rite of Passage Parenting* (Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson Publishing), 2007.
2. For *unchristian*, *Deep Ministry*, and *Jesus Centered Youth Ministry*, write an essay with four parts. Each part should be 2-3 pages.
 - a. Part one speaks to understanding a culture of youth and young adults who might be reached by a local church youth ministry. Use *unchristian* as your resource.
 - b. Part two deals with transformation and discipleship. Once we get kids to come, how can we engage them in meaningful ways. Use *Deep Ministry* as your resource.
 - c. Part three discusses how Jesus is placed and kept at the center of each aspect of youth ministry and how that keeps it real. Use *Jesus Centered* as your resource.
 - d. Part four is your own synthesis of how reading these three books has changed or affected the way you strategize youth ministry. Use your brain as your resource.
3. For Moore's *Rite of Passage Parenting*, write a critical book review. See "Writing a Critical Response" on page four of the syllabus.

****As always, pay attention to grammar, spelling, length, and sound content. Also, avoid using first person at all times in your writing.****

II. Assignments (during the week of seminar):

1. Attend all sessions of Youth Ministry Institute and participate in the discussion with other students. Occasionally, Professional Doctoral students will "break out" and go to another room to debrief with Dr. Jackson (or one of the guests).
2. Participate/facilitate guided small group discussions. Questions will be provided to guide the discussion. Group members will evaluate each person's participation.
3. Interview three of the youth ministers who are in attendance at YMI. Develop a set of questions to identify the challenges, joys, and trends that youth ministers face in churches today. Specifically ask about the youth minister's opinion as to the skills, attitudes, and

knowledge which they possess that help them to do successful youth ministry. In addition, ask them if they plan to be doing youth ministry when they are 35 years old and if not, why not? Summarize the interview in a two page report, to be typed and turned in by Friday at noon. Handwritten interview summaries are not acceptable.

4. Complete the YMI evaluation.

No absences are allowed in any part of an academic workshop.

See page 142 of the *New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary's Graduate Catalog (2008-2009)*.

III. Post Assignments

1. Write a paper entitled, "Integrating Critical Thought in Youth Ministry." Based on (but not limited to) your reading, interviews, and class notes, touch on the need to help our teenagers think critically concerning the influences that are confronting them in culture. Present research for your thesis statement and develop your paper accordingly. The final two pages should be your own narrative conclusion. First person is acceptable for the last two pages only—otherwise, follow either Turabian or APA guidelines. Paper should be 10 pages in length (typed and double-spaced) with appropriate documentation, either footnotes or endnotes.

- Post-assignments must be received in our office by **Monday, February 2, 2009**.
- Please "snail mail" your assignments to:
Youth Ministry Institute, C/O NOBTS
3939 Gentilly Blvd.
New Orleans, LA 70126
- You will automatically be sent a confirmation email when your post-assignments are received in our office.
- Email submission or attachments are NOT acceptable.

Course Evaluation

Pre-Assignments	40%
Class Participation/Reading	20%
Post-Assignments	40%

100%

Late work will be accepted within reason but points will be deducted.

As computers and printers are only machines, they may not be blamed for late work.

Other Information

- Any correspondence with Dr. Jackson concerning pre-assignments is best done through email (ajackson@nobts.edu). Please copy the email to his assistant, Kristin Wilkerson (jacksonsec@nobts.edu). Since she grades the papers as well, she may be also be able to answer your question.
- Unlike the YMI weekend wokrshops, you are responsible for obtaining your textbooks. Your materials fee for Januaryis half of the weekend fee, and goes to provide some meals and other resources that will be given to you throughout the week.
- An updated Youth Ministry Bibliography is available on the website at www.youthministryinstitute.org

Class Schedule and Location

- *Note possible differences from typical Dmin/DEdMin schedule.*
- YMI in New Orleans will be held in the Hardin Student Center, Room 219.
- The class schedule for the weeks is as follows...Just a reminder that New Orleans is Central Standard Time.

Monday	12:00 - 1:00 PM	Registration
	1:00 - 9:00 PM	Class
<i>**Dinnertime is incorporated with class time and YMI will purchase your dinner - details TBA.**</i>		
Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday		
	8:00 - 11:00 AM	Class
	11:00 - 1:00 PM	Lunch
	1:00 - 4:00 PM	Class
Friday	8:00 - 12:00 PM	Class

Writing a Critical Response

A book critique is a critical commentary, which involves more than simply summarizing the contents (i.e., don't scan the book and the back cover and look for good quotes to make us think you've read the book - read, underline, outline, take notes, and interact as you read). The bulk of your response should be an evaluation of the way the author handled the subject, and a commentary on the book's contribution to your understanding of the issues addressed in your reading. It should go without saying, but the following guidelines should be followed:

1. Papers should be typewritten (Times New Roman, 12 pt. font) and double-spaced; no more than five pages in length.
2. Rules of spelling, grammar, and composition will be closely observed.
3. Papers should be proofread (not just spell checked and grammar checked) before they are submitted to the professor.
4. Unless otherwise stated, it is assumed that the opinion that you are expressing is your own. Therefore there is no need to write, "In my opinion", or "I believe". (Interact with the author: "George failed to support..." This should allow you to eliminate the use of first person.)
5. Try to use action verbs whenever possible: avoid passive voice. (i.e., not "The author was trying to convey." Use: "The attempt to convey." - Passive voice is usually indicated by the use of "being verbs"...I was being, I will be - don't use them.)
6. Don't use slang or colloquialisms unless you have a specific reason for doing so. (i.e., His metaphor seemed to have him barking up the wrong tree.)
7. *Content*: The narrative should address the following issues:
 - a. Clear statement of the author's thesis or central argument. Why was the book written? For whom was the book written?
 - b. Citing of material (evidence) that supports the thesis. (You do not have to use direct quotes - but for whatever information you use cite parenthetically. That is the number(s) from which the information is taken (77-78)).
 - c. Assessment of whether the author succeeded in achieving the purpose of the book.
 - d. Identify the major strengths and weaknesses of the book.
 - e. Indication of your reaction to the book; how the book has/has not contributed to your insights concerning your role in the faith development process of collegians (Were you prompted, influenced, impacted, outraged, ambivalent, and/or disinterested by the author's presentation - did you experience change?).

Selected Course Bibliography

- Black, Wesley. *An Introduction to Youth Ministry* (Nashville, TN: Broadman and Holman Publishers), 1991.
- Brinkley, Matt. *Stay the Course of Youth Ministry* (Alpharetta, GA: Matt Brinkley, P.A.C.T. Ministry), 2003.
- Calhoun, Mike and Mel Walker. *Pushing the Limits: Unleashing the Potential of Student Ministry* (Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson Publishing), 2006.
- Campolo, Tony. *Following Jesus Without Embarrassing God*. Dallas: Word Publishing, 1997.
- Clark, Chap and Kara E. Powell. *Deep Ministry in a Shallow World* (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing), 2006.
- Crabtree, Jack. *Better Safe Than Sued: Keeping Out of Trouble in Youth Ministry* (Quarry Publishing).
- Fields, Doug. *Help! I'm a Volunteer Youth Worker!: 50 Easy Tips to Help You Succeed With Kids* (Grand Rapids, MI: YS/Zondervan), 1992.
- Folmsbee, Chris, *A New Kind of Youth Ministry* (Grand Rapids, MI.: YS/Zondervan), 2007.
- Kinnaman, David and Gabe Lyons. *unchristian* (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books), 2007.
- Lawrence, Rick. *Jesus Centered Youth Ministry* (Loveland, CO: Group Publishing), 2007.
- Losey, John. *Experiential Youth Ministry Handbook* (Grand Rapids, MI.: Youth Specialties/Zondervan), 2004.
- Jackson, Allen. *Teach: The Ordinary Person's Guide to Teaching Students the Bible* (Birmingham, AL: Student Life Publishing), 2008.
- Kinnaman, Dave and Gabe Lyons. *unchristian* (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books), 2008.
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- Mueller, Walt. *Opie Doesn't Live Here Anymore* (Standard Publishing Company), 2007.
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- Nathan, Rich. *Who Is My Enemy?* (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing), 2002.
- Opitz, Donald and Derek Melleby. *The Outrageous Idea of Academic Faithfulness*. Grand Rapids: Brazos Press, 2007.
- Van Pelt, Rich and Jim Hancock. *The Youth Worker's Guide to Helping Teenagers in Crisis* (Grand Rapids, MI: Youth Specialites/Zondervan), 2005.
- Woodruff, Mike. *Managing Youth Ministry Chaos* (Loveland, CO: Group Publishing), 2000.
- Wright, Steve with Chris Graves. *rethink* (Wake Forest, NC.: Inquest Publishing), 2007.