



Adult Ministry in Theory and
Practice CEAD 6250
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Christian Education Division

Disclaimer: This syllabus is intended to give the student a general idea of the content, format, and textbooks used for this class. The professor will submit a full syllabus at the beginning of the class which will contain a course schedule and the instructor's information.

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.

Purpose of the Course and Core Value Focus

The purpose of this course is to provide quality theological education for students in the area of adult ministry in the context of the local church. The course will emphasize the seminary's current core value focus assigned annually by the Administrative Council.

Characteristic Excellence -- What we do, we do to the utmost of our abilities and resources as a testimony to the glory of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Curriculum Competencies Addressed

This course will address the following curriculum competencies:

1. *Interpersonal Skills:* Understand how to build relationships with other ministry leaders within the local church.
2. *Servant Leadership:* Determine how the Senior Pastor, staff members, and lay leaders can serve one another while still providing the appropriate leadership required.
3. *Spiritual and Character Formation:* As a leadership team intentionally "grow up in all things into Him who is the head – Christ" (Eph. 4:15b, NKJV).

Course Description

This course focuses on the exploration of foundational theories related to the development, social, cognitive processing, and spiritual needs of adults. A strong emphasis will be placed on how local churches should provide and can implement a complete ministry program for all adults. Special attention will be given to Bible study and discipleship strategies, men's and women's ministries, and the needs of singles and senior adults. Two hours.

Learning Objectives

This course is designed to introduce students to the basic principles, procedures, guidelines, and available resources for serving the adults within the local church through applicable adult ministries. The student involved in this process should be able to accomplish the following:

1. Appreciate the vital role adults play in the ministry of a local church.
2. Understand and be able to discuss foundational concepts related to the developmental, social, cognitive processing, and spiritual needs of adults in the context of local church ministry to adults.
3. Develop a local church ministry with, to, and through adults.
4. Identify the unique needs of specific groups of adults – men, women, singles, and seniors – and discuss how a local church can best meet these needs.
5. Utilize core adult teaching methodologies to foster effective adult teaching and learning experiences.

Course Teaching Methodology

This course will utilize group discussion and discovery-learning format.

Required Readings

The following text and resources are required reading for class discussions and are to be read in their entirety unless otherwise specified.

Required Texts

Melick, Rick & Shera Melick. *Teaching That Transforms*. Nashville: B & H Academic, 2010.

Ritzer, George. *The McDonaldization of Society* 6. Los Angeles: SAGE Publications, 2011.

Assignments and Evaluation Criteria

The following learning activities and assessments are to be completed as described below by the scheduled dates. All assignments are to be submitted to this course's Digital Dropbox by 12:30 p.m. on the assigned due date.

Assignment Formatting

- Unless otherwise noted, type all assignments according to Turabian format
- All papers must be written in third person and double-spaced
- Use 12 point Times New Roman font
- Use the same number of references as assigned pages
- Use correct spelling and grammar
- Use proper pagination
- Include your name on the *cover page*
- Staple assignments together as necessary or as required (*no report covers please*)
- Write the *full* assignment

Required Assignments Summary – 100 points

- Annotated Reference List – 10 *total* points
- Current Cultural Paper – 20 points
- Critical Reflection Paper – 30 points
- Ministry Model – 30 points
- Participation – 10 points

Annotated Reference List – 10 points (2 texts x 5 points each)

Create a two or three sentence single-spaced annotation for each of the course texts. Each Annotated Reference List should contain the correct format as cited in Turabian 9.36 with the addition of the number of pages of the referenced work at the end of the citation. Each annotation that follows should contain your appraisal and considerations on the text, not just a synopsis of the text. Following the annotation, indicate whether or not you read the text in its entirety. **Pay close attention to the Assignment Formatting section of this syllabus!**

Current Cultural Paper – 20 points

Write a 5-page paper on a current cultural or developmental issue for today's adults. Be specific in what you study and choose a specific age group of adults (young, middle, or late adulthood). This paper should include information on the current issue and also implications for ministering to the specific age group. Use at least 5 sources, preferably current scholarly journal articles (within the last ten years).

Critical Reflection Paper – 30 points

Create a critical reflection paper identifying 8-10 adult education principles that you deem important to adult ministry in the local church. Support your choice of principles with

information from the course readings and additional research, as well as ministry and life experiences. (You must be able to validate your experience.) These principles should guide your understanding, evaluation, and research of education and discipleship systems utilized in local churches. Present your findings in a 10 page paper. **Pay close attention to the Assignment Formatting section of this syllabus!**

Ministry Model – 30 points

Based on the theoretical foundations laid throughout this course, the principles identified in your critical reflection paper, and on personal research, develop a model or matrix of ministry to adults. This model should highlight the principles that you consider important in adult ministry and how these principles can be implemented within the local church. Write a 5-page paper, which provides an explanation and rationale for your model. Attach a picture or diagram of your model to the back of your paper.

Final Examination

The professor reserves the right to administer a final exam if the class fails to participate in a manner that is engaging and acceptable.

Participation – 10 points

Online participation is determined by postings and responses in the Threaded Discussions held each week. These discussions will be related to the material covered in each week's content. **All students are required to post a minimum of three responses in the main discussion each week: one in answer to the presenting questions, and two in response to classmates' postings.** in order for the threaded discussion to be of maximum benefit to everyone involved it is recommended that you stay as close to the course schedule as possible—so that everyone will participate in the discussion in the same week. **Late postings will be penalized one point for each day late.** Please limit discussions in this venue to the assigned topic. Students may e-mail or use the miscellaneous forum to discuss other topics with your classmates.

Course Policies

The following policies will to be observed in the duration of this course.

Late Assignments

Personal time management is as much a requisite skill for ministry as is mastery of the course content. Accordingly, assignments are due *in the course's Digital Dropbox by 12:30 p.m. on the due date as indicated in the Course Schedule*. Assignments not submitted *at this time* are considered late and will be automatically penalized 10% for each date late including weekends. Late assignments will not be accepted one week beyond the original due date, *no exceptions*. **No grades of Incomplete will be issued for this course. If a late assignment is not received, a grade of "F" is automatically earned for the course.**

Grading Scale

Your final grade will be based on your total accumulation of points as indicated under the *Learning Activities and Assessments* section of this syllabus according to the grading scale in the NOBTS 2009-2010 catalog.

A: 93-100 B: 85-92 C: 77-84 D: 70-76 F: 69 and below

A grade of “F” may require the student to retake the course to complete the degree.

No grades of *INCOMPLETE* will be issued in this course.

Netiquette: Appropriate Online Behavior

Each student is expected to demonstrate appropriate Christian behavior when working online on the Discussion Board. The student is expected to interact with other students in a fashion that will promote learning and respect for the opinions of others in the course. A spirit of Christian charity is expected at all times in the online environment.

Professor's Covenant

The intent of this syllabus is to provide accurately the course description, learning objectives, readings, assignments and evaluation standards, course policies, reference list, and other information necessary for students to appraise the course. During the course of the term the professor will relate to each student as an individual. Moreover, he reserves the right to amend any part of this syllabus as he may deem necessary due to events and circumstances that transpire during the semester, with the exception of increasing the assignments or expectations of the course.

Student's Covenant

I have received a copy of the syllabus for Adult Ministry in Theory and Practice CEAD 6250 for the Fall 2011 semester. I have read the syllabus and have been offered an opportunity to ask questions about it. I understand, agree and realize I am entirely responsible for completing the requirements in this syllabus. I will be faithful to the tasks before me.

Name _____ Date _____

Selected Reference List

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- Anderson, Robert C. *Circles of Influence*. Chicago: Moody Press, 1991.
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- Barber, Cyril J. *Nehemiah and the Dynamics of Effective Leadership*. Neptune, NJ: Loizeaux Brothers, Inc., 1991.
- Barna, George. *Without a Vision, the People Perish*. Glendale, CA: The Barna Research Group, Ltd., 1991.
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- Callahan, Kennon L. *Twelve Keys to an Effective Church: Strategic Planning for Mission*. San Francisco: Harper San Francisco, 1983.
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- Ciona, John R. *The Troubleshooting Guide to Christian Education*. Denver, CO: Accent Books, 1986.

- Cladis, George. *Leading the Team-Based Church*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass Publishers, 1999.
- Finzel, Hans. *The Top Ten Mistakes Leaders Make*. Colorado Springs, CO: Victor Books, 1994.
- Frazee, Randy. *The Connecting Church*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House, 2001.
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- _____. *The Church Education Handbook*. Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1985.
- _____. *Feeding and Leading*. Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1994.
- Habecker, Eugene B. *Leading With a Follower's Heart*. With a foreword by Ted W. Engstrom. Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1990.
- Haystead, Wes. *The 21st Century Sunday School: Strategies for Today and Tomorrow*. Cincinnati, OH: The Standard Publishing Company, 1996.
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- Hersey, Paul, Kenneth H. Blanchard, and Dewey E. Johnson. *Management of Organizational Behavior: Utilizing Human Resources*. 7th ed. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall, 1996.
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- Koestenbaum, Peter. *Leadership: The Inner Side of Greatness*. The Jossey-Bass Management Series, ed. Warren Bennis, Richard O. Mason, and Ian I. Mitroff. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass Publishers, 1991.
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