



CEAD 6358 Ministry with Older Adults
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Christian Education Division

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Grader's Name

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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.

Purpose of the Course

The purpose of this course is to familiarize students with the programs, resources, and organizational structures an older adult ministry of a local church.

Core Value Focus

Doctrinal Integrity – Knowing that the Bible is the Word of God, we believe it, teach it, proclaim it, and submit to it. The doctrinal statements used in our evaluations are our Articles of Religious Belief and the Baptist Faith and Message Statement.

Spiritual Vitality – We are a worshiping community, with both personal spirituality and gathering together as a Seminary for the praise and adoration of God and instruction in His Word.

Mission Focus – We are not here merely to get an education or to give one. We are here to change the world by fulfilling the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

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.

Servant Leadership – We follow the model of Jesus and exert leadership and influence through the nurture and encouragement of those around us.

Annually, the President will designate a core value that will become the focus of pedagogy for the year. For 2013-2014 academic year that Core Value is *Doctrinal Integrity*.

Curriculum Competencies Addressed

The course addresses the curriculum competencies within the area of Christian education and supports interpersonal relationship skills as well by enhancing one's ministerial skills in relating to the ministry of older adults.

Course Description

The characteristics and needs of older adults are a primary part of this study. Possible programs churches may use in ministry with aging persons are considered.

Learning Objectives

The student involved in this course should be able to accomplish the following:

- Identify and discuss older adult ministry from biblical, historical, demographic, and developmental perspectives.
- Value specific components of older adult ministry in the local church setting.
- Utilize administrative procedures in planning and implementing an older adult ministry in the local church.

Required Readings

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

Gallagher, David P. *Senior Adult Ministry in the 21st Century: Step-By-Step Strategies for Reaching People Over 50*. Loveland, CO: Group, 2002.

Houston, James M. and Michael Parker. *A Vision for the Aging Church: Renewing Ministry for and by Seniors*, Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2011.

Hanson, Amy. *Baby Boomers and Beyond: Tapping the Ministry Talents and Passions of Adults over 50*. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass, 2010.

Teaching Plan and Units

The class is a workshop that meets October 14th-18th. Due to the compressed seat time, students are expected to be present for all times that the class meets. The class will meet for the following times:

Monday, October 14 th	1-4 pm and 6-9 pm	Introductions, Definitions of Seniors, Theological Perspectives on Aging
Tuesday, October 15 th	8-11 am and 1-4 pm	Physiological, Psychological, and Sociological Dimensions of Older Adults; Student Presentations in Afternoon
Wednesday, October 16 th	8-11 am and 1-4 pm	Theories of Aging, Needs and Interest of Seniors
Thursday, October 17 th	8-11 am and 1-4 pm	Planning Senior Adult Ministry in Church; Discipling Senior Adults; Student Presentations in Afternoon
Friday, October 18 th	8-12 pm	Senior Adult Ministry Models, Pastoral Ministry

Teaching Method

This course will utilize lecture, group presentations, and an interactive discovery-learning format

Assignments and Evaluation Criteria

Church Survey and Senior Adult Survey and Presentation - 30%

Students will interview one church pastor or staff member regarding ministry to Senior Adults. Also, students should interview five senior adults from the same church who are over the age of 60 to determine their personal needs and interests. Use **Appendix A and B** in the required book *A Vision for the Aging Church: Renewing Ministry for and by Seniors* to guide the questions for both **created** surveys. Surveys should have a minimum of 8-10 questions and should inform the final program/ministry assignment that is due November 15th. This survey assignment must be completed before the class meets in October. All students will present their findings to the class on **Tuesday, October 15th**. Presentations to class should include the following components: 1) each survey should be summarized in narrative form and list the questions and 2) students should determine implications for senior adult ministry based on the compilation of the surveys. (Length: 1/2 page typed double-spaced format for each of the surveys (church and five senior adult) and 3 pages for implications – 6 pages total plus a cover sheet). Use Powerpoint or keynote for presentation and turn in the typed report on **October 15th**.

Issues of Aging/Ministry Plan Paper & Presentation – 30%

Students will select an issue related to aging as the focus of research. The paper should provide an overview of the issue and a plan for ministry relevant to the issue. The **body of the research** paper should be 8-10 pages and typed (double-spaced) according to Turabian, using a minimum of 10 scholarly sources in addition to citing biblical references. All paper topics should be submitted to the professor by **October 1st** via email or blackboard for approval. Students will present the finding of their research in class and each student will have 25 minutes for their presentations using Powerpoint. All students will present their findings in their research papers on **Thursday, October 17th**.

Senior Adult Program/Ministry Reports – 15%

Students will highlight the church program ministry organizations or specialized ministries that relate to the needs of older adults that form important building blocks for a senior adult ministry. Students will prepare a 45-minute Powerpoint presentation (25-30 slides) on the components of the program organization or ministry, the unique aspects related to older adults, and the administration and incorporation of the organization or ministry into the overall senior adult ministry. *This project should align with student's findings in the church and senior adult surveys.* Therefore survey questions should be aimed at this ministry program goal. For students to receive full-credit for this assignment, notes should be added to each slide in the presentation. Students may choose from the following programs or ministries:

- Ministries in nursing homes or assisted living centers
- Senior adults trips and retreats
- Older adults and mission activity involvement
- Homebound ministries

Financial consultation and training
Grief and encouragement support groups
Senior Adult Sunday School Department training and plan
(other topics are can be chosen, with professor approval)

This assignment is due on **November 15th** via blackboard upload.

Classroom Participation and Engagement – 15%

Participation is required for every course session due to the interactive learning format of the course. A positive attitude can only enhance the learning experience. Therefore, for the purposes of this class, a *positive attitude* and *participation* are defined as productive and interactive engagement with classroom presentations and classroom dialogues throughout a full course session. You cannot participate effectively if you are not focused on the subject matter while in the classroom. Consequently, the student is expected:

- To come class with a constructive point of view, prepared to interact with the readings and resources on the course topic in discussion groups and classroom dialogues.
- To dress appropriately and in accordance with the NOBTS Student Handbook. *This means no flip-flops and no ball caps!*
- To turn off cell phones and to not accept any phone calls during class.
- To use laptops appropriately this includes refraining from gaming and social media while in class.

Assigned Books Reading Commitment – 10%

Students will signed a form and report on the reading for each required book in the course.

Course Policies

Late Assignments

Assignments not submitted *on the due dates* 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 2011-2012 catalog.

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

Netiquette

Appropriate Online Behavior. Each student is expected to demonstrate appropriate Christian behavior when working online on Discussion Boards or whenever interaction occurs through web, digital, or other electronic medium. 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.

Academic Honesty Policy

All graduate and undergraduate NOBTS students, whether on-campus, internet, or extension center students, are expected to adhere to the highest Christian standard of honesty and integrity when completing academic assignments for all courses in every delivery system format. The Bible provides our standard for academic integrity and honesty. This standard applies whether a student is taking tests, quizzes, exams, writing papers, completing Discussion Boards, or any other course requirement.

Selected Bibliography

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- Deane, Barbara. *Caring for Your Aging Parents: When Love is not Enough*. Colorado Springs: NavPress, 1990.
- Elliott, Nancy. *Golden Opportunities: Ministry Ideas for Senior Adults*. Birmingham, AL: Woman's Missionary Union, 2000.
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- Johnson, Colleen L. and Barbara M. Barer. *Life Beyond 85 Years: The Aura of Survivorship*. New York: Springer Publishing Co., 1997.
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