Introduction to Youth Ministry
CEYH6334
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Christian Education Division

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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 help a student understand the basics of youth ministry and the
work of a New Testament church, to demonstrate understanding of the process of developing a
program of youth ministry in relationship to the work of the church and to generate a calendar
and a comprehensive implementation plan.

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

This course will address the following curriculum competencies:

1. Biblical exposition: *Communicate scriptural truth in large/small groups.*
2. Theological and historical perspective: *Study and interpret the Scripture using various study tools; embrace and articulate right doctrine as part of mission and strategy.*
3. Effective servant leadership: *Balance purposes and content areas in programming; provide leadership for strategic planning and structures through which to implement the vision; enlist, equip, empower, and develop adult volunteers to serve effectively in youth ministry; develop and articulate a vision for youth ministry in the local church; implement a balanced youth ministry calendar; understand and interpret the youth culture.*
4. Interpersonal relationships: *Build relationships with teenagers and help teenagers build relationships with their peers, their families, and their leaders; work effectively with and through the church staff.*
5. Disciple making: *Design and implement need based, ongoing, educational program, which through adult volunteers addresses the basic functions of the church, which includes Bible study, discipleship, ministry, worship, evangelism and fellowship; enlist, train, and encourage adult volunteers who will help in the implementation of the youth ministry.*
6. Spiritual and character formation: *See the need for and be able to stay refreshed spiritually; discern both perceived and felt needs among youth in their church region in order to direct relevant ministry.*

Course Description

This course is designed to help church leaders plan and coordinate a youth ministry in a church. It focuses on determining needs of the youth group, organizing the group, enlisting youth leaders, selecting appropriate resources, and developing an annual youth ministry calendar based on the youth group needs. Special attention will be given to personal discipleship, development in prayer, and fellowshipping with other believers, personal witnessing and ministering.

Learning Objectives

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

1. Examine oneself as a leader, through life mapping.
2. Describe two philosophies of youth ministry.
3. Experience searching the Scripture for methodology used by Jesus in praying, parables, and witnessing, and participate in prayer walking.
4. Discuss healthy staff relations and how to maintain them.
5. Implement a strategic planning process in a church, which includes effective use of small groups.
6. Identify youth trends for the 21st century teenager.
7. Develop a leadership-training program for adult volunteers.
8. Establish a process for working with youth parents as well as working with youth and youth leaders.
9. Select and determine appropriate resources to meet the needs of youth.
10. Develop an annual plan, including a calendar, for implementing youth ministry in a 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.

**Required Texts: (supplied)**
*An Introduction to Youth Ministry*, Wesley Black
*Youth Ministry Management Tools*, Ginny Olson, Mike Work
*Destination: Community – Small-Group Ministry Manual*, Rick Howerton
*DiscipleHelps*
*DiscipleNow Planning Guide*, R. Clyde Hall, Jr. and Wesley Black
*It’s All About Relationships*, R. Clyde Hall, Jr., Jim Graham and Allen Jackson
*Live to Worship - Student Book*, Rick Futch
*Mission Trip Planning Guide*, R. Clyde Hall, Jr. and Valerie Harper
*My Quiet Time*, Billy Beecham
*Student Leadership Training Guide*, R. Clyde Hall, Jr.
*Survival Kit for Youth: A Practical Guide to Spiritual Growth*, Ralph Neighbor
*The 21st Century Teenager* e-book, Allen Jackson and Dwayne Ulmer
(See Bibliography for download instructions)
*Vital Character: Holiness*
*Vital Skills: How to Defend Your Faith*
*Vital Truth: Spiritual Disciplines*

**Course Teaching Methodology**

**Units of study:**
- Youth Ministry Strategy
- Functions of a New Testament Church
- Biblical Basis of Discipleship
- Doctrine of Jesus
- Characteristics of a Growing Youth Ministry
- Developing Leadership Skills
- Staff Relations
- Planning Events
- Training Leaders
- Philosophy of Youth Ministry
- Building Relationships with Youth
- Youth Ministry Administration
- Putting it all Together
**Teaching Method.** Methodology is experiential which includes: lectures, video tapes, small and large group discussions, power point presentations, demonstrations and pre and post assignments, several assignments in required texts.

**Assignments and Evaluation Criteria**

**Pre-Assignments: Prior to the first class of the weekend, each student will have:**
1. Completed a tentative four-month summer youth ministry calendar.
2. Led youth and youth leaders to write out their testimony, memorized it and practiced sharing it.
3. Read *Introduction to Youth Ministry* and written a two-page summary/evaluation.
4. Read *Live to Worship - Student Book* and written a one page evaluation.
5. Collected a group of lists for use in planning a customized youth ministry program for a church.
6. As a group, survey *Youth Ministry Management Tools* and create a list of the top 25 suggestions in the book. Time will be given in class to complete this assignment.

*A pre-class packet will be provided with resources and response sheets.*

**During the Course**
1. Attend each session of the *An Introduction to Youth Ministry* weekend.
2. Complete each of the assignments made during the weekend.

**Post Assignments**
1. Read and highlight *It's All About Relationships.* Submit a five-page summary, including a statement of having completed this requirement.
2. Read *Destination: Community – Small-Group Ministry Manual.* Submit two-page paper evaluating the content of this resource: include readability, usability, personal reflection, and potential use with a youth group.
3. Annotated bibliography: provide a paragraph summary of the content and use of each of the following resources:
   - DiscipleHelps
   - Mission Trip Planning Guide
   - Survival Kit for Youth,
   - The 21st Century Teenager
   - Vital Skills: How to Defend Your Faith
   - DiscipleNow Planning Guide
   - Student Leadership Training Guide
   - My Quiet Time
   - Vital Character: Holiness
   - Vital Truth: Spiritual Disciplines

4. Submit a Twelve Month Youth Ministry Calendar
5. Electronic Submissions are not acceptable. Hard copy must be submitted on or before the due date. If you wish your reports to be returned, a stamped, self-addressed envelope must accompany your post assignments. Otherwise, your reports will be destroyed.
Course Policies

Course Due Dates:
All course requirements must be completed and written work submitted to Dr. Jackson’s office, 3939 Gentilly Blvd, New Orleans, LA 70126 postmarked no later than four weeks after the completion of the course. A letter grade will be issued.

A $50.00 materials fee will be required in addition to the matriculation fee. All texts and other materials are included in this fee.

Course Evaluation:

1. Completion of the weekend and pre assignments 30%
2. Reading Report on It’s All About Relationships and Destination: Community – Small-Group Ministry Manual 25%
3. Annotated Bibliography 20%
4. Class Participation 25%

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.

Course Schedule

Thursday: 6:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.; Friday: 8:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.; Saturday: 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Selected Bibliography

YOUTH DISCIPLESHIP

Hall, Jr., R. Clyde, Graham, Jim, and Jackson, Allen, compilers. It’s All About Relationships:
Youth Ministry in a Small Church, 2001.


**YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL**


**MISCELLANEOUS**


See www.youthministryinstitute.org for a comprehensive Bibliography of Youth Ministry Resources.