Disciple Making through Small Group Ministry
DISC5371
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Christian Education Division

Professor Name
Professor Title
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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.

Purpose of the Course
The purpose of this course is to provide quality theological education for students in the area of disciple making the context of the 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 2012-2013 academic year that Core Value is Servant Leadership.

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**

The purpose of this course is to engage students in a comprehensive look at strategies, principles, aims, and procedures that facilitate qualitative and quantitative growth of the church (disciple making) through a small group ministry. Students will develop skills in assessing, planning, organizing, leading, and evaluation the ministry of a church which utilizes a small group strategy.

**Learning Objectives**

1. Understand biblical concepts for administration of the small groups in the local church, and analyze these administrative practices in terms of a biblical worldview.

2. Students will demonstrate administrative principles and practices to the planning, organizing, leading and evaluating the small group ministries of the local church.

3. Value the importance of the discipleship mandate given to all believers in Scripture.

**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**


**Course Teaching Methodology**

This course will utilize a lecture and interactive discovery-learning format.

**Assignments and Evaluation Criteria**

**Exegetical Research Paper – 35%**

Create a clear and concise eight-page research paper on a disciple making principle of your choice related to the local church ministry. The paper will consist of a synthesis and analysis of the pertinent literature in light of the exegetical themes of discipleship throughout the Scriptures, and conclude with a proposal for the integration of these biblical concepts to a local church team ministry setting. *(Always begin a research paper with the theological basis before entering into*
**Annotated Bibliography –20%**

Create a two or three sentence single-spaced annotation for each of the course texts to meet the reading requirement. Each Annotated bibliography 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 of 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.**

**Disciple Making Impact Paper – 35%**

Create an eight page paper that integrates your research findings from your Exegetical Research Paper, as well as four ministerial interviews from local church(s) other than your own. Do not interview support personnel; i.e. secretarial, custodial, maintenance, etc. or seminary personnel and/or seminary colleagues. Examples may be, but not limited to: the minister’s philosophy of ministry, met and unmet expectations of ministry, advice for effectiveness in that particular area of ministry, camaraderie, teamwork, synergistic effort, authority and submission, tension, sore spots, effective planning, etc. as well as your personal thoughts/reflections and the insights gained on each matter. **Pay close attention to the Assignment Formatting section of this syllabus!**

**Classroom Decorum – 10%**

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.

**Text Review Readings for Extra Credit – 3% extra credit**

*OPTIONAL:* Create a five-page text review for a book selection not already required or read for the course. The text selected must be pre-approved and consist of at least 150 pages. The text review should include a brief summary, the vital concepts, and your appraisal and considerations on the text. **Pay close attention to the Assignment Formatting section of this syllabus!**
Course Policies

Late Assignments
Assignments not submitted on 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.

Selected Bibliography


