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 prepare students to be effective leaders and administrators of ministry to children and families through 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 2013-2014 academic year that Core Value is *Doctrinal Integrity*.

**Curriculum Competencies Addressed**

This course seeks to develop the following competency:
Disciple-making: Students will understand and facilitate an effective and efficient ministry to children and families.

**Course Description**

In this course the role of the children’s minister in planning and facilitating ministries for children and families will be examined.

**Learning Objectives**

The student will:

1. Identify key factors in creating a children’s ministry that is holistic and effective.
2. Develop an appreciation for the challenges inherent in ministry to children.
3. Apply course learning to a specific ministry context.

**Required Readings**


**Course Teaching Methodology**

**Units of Study**

Vision
21st Century Children
Discipline
Facilities
Relationships
Finances
Program and Curriculum
Personnel Policies and Procedures
Program Design
Publicity
Recruiting the Team
Leading the Team
Equipping the Team
Special Events
Evaluating the Ministry

**Teaching Method.** This class will include group discussions, field experiences, lecture, and individual assignments. The delivery method of this class is on campus in class.
Assignments and Evaluation Criteria

1. Assigned Reading: Students will read assigned chapters in the texts and submit a statement of percentage read. (15%)

2. Interviews of Children’s Ministry leaders: Students will interview 2 Preschool and/or Children’s Ministers, 2 preschool leaders, and 2 children’s leaders. Interviews should focus on opportunities and challenges of children’s ministry. Interviews are to be submitted as verbatim. A summary of the interviews synthesizing information gleaned is to be submitted with the verbatim. (20%)

3. Ministry Assessment: Students will assess a particular local church ministry for adherence to best practices as reviewed in course materials and discussions. Particular instructions for this assignment are included in a separate page in the syllabus. (50%)

4. Budget Planning: Students will be assigned to a group to create a ministry budget. The professor will assign a particular ministry context for budget purposes. (15%)

Evaluation
Reading 15%
Interviews 20%
Ministry Assessment 50%
Budget Planning 15%

Course Policies

Assignments: All assignments are to be submitted to Blackboard by 11:59 p.m. of the due date unless otherwise indicated. Assignments are not to be emailed to the professor or grader. Late assignments will not be accepted.

Attendance: Class attendance is critical to the learning experience. Each student’s participation in class discussion, role plays, and other group assignments is vital. Per NOBTS policy, a student may be absent from this class a maximum of 9 class hours. A student who is absent in excess of 9 hours will receive a grade of F for the course.

Blackboard and SelfServe: The student is responsible for maintaining current information regarding contact information on the Blackboard system and SelfServe. Grades will be posted to Blackboard.

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.

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**Selected Bibliography**


Zuck, Roy B. *Precious In His Sight-Childhood and Children In the Bible*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House Co., 1996.