



## CEAD6355 Leading Family Ministry New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Discipleship & Ministry Leadership Division

**Ernest M. Graham, DEdMin**  
Adjunct Instructor  
emgrahamjn1224@gmail.com  
985.500-4914

---

*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 acquaint students with the programs, resources, and organizational structures to enhance the family life education/ministry of a local church, including work with married couples, parents, and single and senior adults. The course also supports the core value of spiritual vitality as it helps students evaluate how to build spiritual vitality into family systems within the local church through its ministries. 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 family as an integrated system.

### **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 worshipping 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 2019-2020 academic year that Core Value is *Spiritual Vitality*.

## **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 family as an integrated system.

## **Course Description**

In this course, the Southern Baptist program of Family Ministry is studied and analyzed. Subjects dealt with include the scope and biblical basis of family ministry, premarital education, and education for family living, including marriage enrichment and parent education. The relationships of family ministry to the total educational programs of churches are studied, methods are discussed, and resources are identified

## **Student Learning Objectives**

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

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

Anthony, Michael J. and Michelle Anthony. *A Theology for Family Ministry*. Nashville, TN: B&H Academics, 2011.

Balswick, Jack O. and Judith K. Balswick. *The Family: A Christian Perspective on the Contemporary Home*. 4th ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2014.

## **Recommended Reading**

Anthony, Michelle & Megan Marshman. *7 Family Ministry Essentials*. Colorado Springs, CO: David C. Cook, 2015

## **Course Teaching Methodology**

### **Units of Study**

Unit 1 Introductions & Course Overview—August 22

Unit 2 Biblical Teachings on Family Life—August 29

Unit 3 Theology of Family Life: Marriage—September 5

Unit 4 Theology of Family Life: Parenting—September 12

Unit 5A Current Issues Impacting Families Today—September 19

Unit 5B Current Issues Impacting Families Today (Part 2)—September 26

Unit 6 Relating as Family in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century—October 3

Unit 7 The Church & Family Ministry—October 10

**Fall Break—October 17**

Unit 8A Family Ministry Models—October 24

Unit 8B Family Ministry Models (Part 2)—October 31

Unit 9 The Local Church as Family—November 7

Unit 10 Intergenerational Family Ministry Issues—November 14

Unit 11 Church Family Model Presentations—November 21

**Thanksgiving Break—November 28**

Unit 12 The Minister's Home & Family—December 5

Unit 13 Church Family Ministry Assessment Paper Due—December 12

**Teaching Method.**

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

**Assignments and Evaluation Criteria**

**Class Participation & Discussion Boards—20%**

**Due: Weekly**

The class will seek to engage the experiences and questions of the class. Times of question-and-answer as well as small group work will provide opportunities to dialogue through the course content. Students are expected to be prepared to give substantial and supportive comment to the course and the overall teaching-learning experience. Therefore, regular class attendance and participation is needed. Also, each class member will prepare and provide a devotional thought as part of this year's seminary Core Value—spiritual vitality.

**Family Ministry Assessment Tool – 0%**

**Due: September 12, 2019**

From your textbook reading, critical reflection, supplemental reading, and discussion boards collaborate with classmates to create of a *Family Ministry Assessment* tool to evaluate the design and maintenance of a balanced family ministry. All students in the class will contribute.

**Biblical Rationale of Family Ministry Paper— 20%****Due: September 20, 2019**

Create a 5-page document communicating your biblical foundation for family ministry. Present and explain, from various Old and New Testament passages, the biblical presentation of family as designed by God. Employ commentaries, our course readings, journal articles as sources for your biblical rationale. Use Turabian #8 format.

**Family Ministries Current Issues Paper—20%****Due: October 18, 2019**

Write a 7-page paper on three current, modern-day issues that families face (2 pages each). (Keep in mind the families in your church context when selecting these issues.) Use our course reading and journal articles, as well as references from your biblical rationale, when discussing your three issues. Use Turabian #8 format.

**Church Family Model Power Point—20%****Due: November 22, 2019**

Create a 25-30 slide power point explaining the Family Ministry Model you have chosen to biblically promote family ministry in your church. The slides need to include: opening slides that introduces your church ministry context; slides that present your biblical rationale for ministry; the current issues your family ministry will be addressing that are present in the church; and what family ministry model you are employing and how specific ministry activities (weekly, monthly) are addressing the issues in your church setting. The family model needs to cover one year of church ministry from January to December 2020.

**Church Family Assessment Paper – 20%****Due: December 12, 2019**

During the semester, distribute the *Family Ministry Assessment* (created by the class) to four members of the congregation where you are a member. Have them complete the assessment and then interview them concerning the assessment as well as class agreed to interview questions in which each the interviewee shares what they believe to be (1) a biblical rationale of family ministry, (2) three current issues the church is facing, and (3) the best family ministry model. The four church member interviewees need to be: a student (16 to 22 years-old); one young adult (22-40 years-old); one median adult (40 to 60 years-old); one senior adult (60 years-old or older). Summarize and share your findings in a report (5 pages). (*If you quote an interviewee be anonymous.*) Highlight those findings that surprised you, showed a dominant family dynamic/belief, and possible future ministry direction to consider. Use Turabian #8 format.

**Evaluation and Grading**

Biblical Rationale Paper	20%
Current Issues Paper	20%
Family Ministry Model Power Point	20%
Family Ministry Assessment Report	20%
<u>Class Attendance/Participation</u>	<u>20%</u>

**Total** **100%**

## Course Policies

### **Late Assignments**

Assignments not submitted *on the due dates* are considered late and will be automatically penalized 5% for each day 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 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

### Children's Ministry

- Anderson, Bill. *When Child Abuse Comes to Your Church*. Minneapolis: Bethany House, 1992.
- Anderson, Herbert, and Susan B. W. Johnson. *Regarding Children*. Westminster John Knox Press, 1994.
- Barna, George. *Transforming Children into Spiritual Champions*. Regal Books, 2003.
- Blackwell, Muriel. *How Do I Become a Christian?* Nashville: Broadman Press, 1990.
- Blazen, Doris. *Faith Development in Early Childhood*. Kansas City, MO: Sneed and Ward, 1989.
- Briggs, Dorothy Corkville. *Embracing Life: Growing Through Love and Loss*. New York: Doubleday, 1985.
- Coles, Robert. *Spiritual Life of Children*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1990.
- Davis, Cos. *I'm Big Enough*. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1990.
- Davis, Cos. *Children and the Christian Faith*. (rev.) Nashville: Broadman Press, 1990.
- Edleman, Marian Wright. *The Measure of Our Success*. Boston: Beacon Press, 1992.
- Elkind, David. *The Hurried Child: Growing Up Too Fast Too Soon*. Reading, MA: Addison Publishing, 1981.
- Garland, Diana. *Precious in His Sight*. Birmingham: New Hope, 1993.
- Hewlett, Sylvia Ann. *When the Bough Breaks: The Cost of Neglecting Our Children*. New York: Basic Books, 1991.
- Ketterman, Grace and Pat Holt. *Choices are Not Child's Play: Helping Your Child Make Wise Decisions*. Wheaton: Harold Shaw Publishers, 1990.
- Lester, Andrew D. *Pastoral Care with Children in Crisis*. Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1985.
- Lester, Andrew D. *When Children Suffer*. Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1987.
- Louv, Richard. *Childhood Future*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1990.

Smalley, Gary and John Trent. *The Blessing*. New York: Simon and Schuster, 1986.

Wright, H. Norman. *The Power of A Parent's Words*. Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 1991.

### **Adolescent Ministry**

Atkinson, Harley. *Ministry with Youth in Crisis*. Birmingham: Religious Education Press, 1997.

Benson, Peter L. *What Kids Need to Succeed*. Minneapolis: Free Spirit Press, 1995.

Benson, Peter L. *The Troubled Journey: A Portrait of 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Youth*. Minneapolis: Search Institute, 1993.

Cobb, Nancy J. *Adolescence: Continuity, Change, and Diversity*. Mountain View, CA: Mayfield Publishing Co, 1995.

DeVries, Mark. *Family-Based Youth Ministry*. Downer's Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1994.

Jackson, Allen and Randy Johnson. *Connected, Committed and a Little Bit Crazy*. Nashville: Convention Press, 1996.

Parrott, Les. *Helping the Struggling Adolescent*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2000.

Peterson, Eugene. *Working the Angles*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1987.

Stiles, Mack. *Speaking of Jesus*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1995.

### **Adult Issues and Ministry Practice**

#### **Adult Development**

Aiken, Lewis R. *Aging: An Introduction to Gerontology*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, 1995.

Cavanaugh, John C. *Adult Development and Aging*. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Publishing, 1990.

Jordan, C. Ferris. *Today's Adults: A Profile for Teachers and Leaders*. Nashville: Convention Press, 1993.

Rice, F. Philip. *Adult Development and Aging*. Boston: Allyn and Bacon, 1986.

Roof, Wade C. *A Generation of Seekers: The Spiritual Journeys of the Baby Boom Generation*. New York: Harper Collins Publishers, 1993.

Rybash, John M., Paula Roodin, and William J. Hoyer. *Adult Development and Aging*. 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. Dubuque, IA: Brown and Benchmark, 1995.

Stevens-Long, Judith. *Adult Life*. Mountain View, CA: Mayfield Publishing Company, 1992.

### **Adult Learning**

Gangel, Kenneth O. and James C. Wilhoit, eds. *The Christian Educator's Handbook on Adult Education*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 1993.

Hanks, Louis. *Vision, Variety, and Vitality: Teaching Today's Adult Generations*. Nashville: Convention Press, 1996.

Knowles, Malcolm. *The Adult Learner: A Neglected Species*. 4<sup>th</sup> ed. Houston: Gulf Publishing, 1990.

Knowles, Malcolm S., Richard Swanson, and Elwodd Holton. *The Adult Learner*. Elsevier Science and Technology, 1998.

### **Intergenerational Religious Education**

White, James W. *Intergenerational Religious Education: Models, Theory, and Prescription for Interage Life and Learning in the Faith Community*. Birmingham: Religious Education Press, 1998.

### **Senior Adult Ministry**

Dychtwald, Ken and Joe Flower. *Age Wave: The Challenges and Opportunities of an Aging America*. Los Angeles: Jeremy P. Tarcher, Inc. 1989.

Howse, W.L., compiler. *Senior Adult Leader's Notebook*. Nashville: Convention Press, 1990.

Johnston, Jay, compiler. *Forward Together: A New Vision for Senior Adult Ministry*. Nashville: Convention Press, 1998.

### **Single Adult Ministry**

Cleary, Tim, compiler. *The Single Adult Ministry Solution*. Nashville: Lifeway Press, 1996.

Fagerstrom, Douglas, L. ed. *Single Adult Ministry: The Next Step*. Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1993.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Single Ministry Handbook: A Practical Guide to Reaching Adult Singles in Church*. Wheaton: Victor Books, 1988.



## **Family Issues**

Barna, George. *The Future of the American Family*. Chicago: Moody Press, 1993.

Jones, Timothy Paul, *Family Ministry Field Guide: How Your Church Can Equip Parents to Make Disciples*. Indianapolis, IN: Wesleyan Publishing House, 2011.

Lampman, Lisa Barnes, ed. *Helping a Neighbor in Crisis*. Foreword by Charles Colson. Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House, 1999.

Self, Charles M. *Family Ministry*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1995.

## **Understanding and Ministering to/with Families**

Beavers, W. Robert. *Successful Marriage: A Family Systems Approach to Couples Therapy*. New York: W.W. Norton and Company, 1985.

Berman, Claire. *Making It as a Stepparent: New Roles/New Rules*. New York: Harper and Row, 1986.

Biler, Henry B. *Fathers and Families: Paternal Factors in Child Development*. Westport, CT: Auburn House, 1993.

Bolton, Joy. *Ideas for Community Ministries*. Birmingham: Woman's Missionary Union, 1993.

Branden, Nathaniel. *How to Raise Your Self-Esteem*. New York: Bantam Books, 1988.

Brown, Beth E. *When You're Mom No. 2*. Ann Arbor: Servant Publications, 1991.

Bustanoby, Andy. *Single Parenting*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1984.

Cerling, Charles. *The Divorced Christian*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1984.

Clinebell, Howard J. and Charlotte H. Clinebell. *The Intimate Marriage*. New York: Harper and Row, 1966.

Curran, Dolores. *Traits of a Healthy Family*. Minneapolis: Winston Press, 1983.

Duvall, Evelyn Mills, David R. Mace, and Paul Popenoe. *The Church Looks at Family Life*. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1964.

Einstein, Elizabeth and Linda Albert. *Strengthening Your Stepfamily*. Circle Pines, MN: American Guidance Service, 1986.

Everett, Craig. *Divorce and the Next Generation*. New York: Macmillian, 1982.

- Galper, Miriam. *Co-Parenting: A Source Book for the Separated or Divorced Family*. Philadelphia: Running Press, 1978.
- Galvin, Kathleen M. and Bernard J. Brommel. *Family Communication: Cohesion and Change*. Glenview, IL: Scott, Foresman, and Company, 1982.
- Garland, Diana S. Richmond and Diane L. Pancoast. *The Church's Ministry with Families: A Practical Guide*. Dallas: Word Publishing, 1990.
- Hensley, J. Clark. *Coping with Being Single Again*. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1978.
- Henslin, James M. *Marriage and Family in a Changing Society*. New York: The Free Press, 1989.
- Juroe, David J. and Bonnie B. Juroe. *Successful Stepparenting*. Old Tappan,, NJ: Fleming H. Revel, 1983.
- Kidder, Virelle. *Mothering Upstream*. Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1990.
- Larson, Dale G. *The Helper's Journey: Working with People Facing Grief, Loss, and Life-Threatening Illness*. Champaign, IL: Research Press, 1993.
- Lewis, Helen Coale. *All About Families-The Second Time Around*. Atlanta: Peachtree Publishers, 1980.
- Luthman, Shirley Gehrke and Martin Kirschenbaum. *The Dynamic Family*. Palo Alto, CA: Science and Behavior Books, 1974.
- Mace, David. *Love and Anger in Marriage*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1982.
- Mace, David and Vera Mace. *We Can Have Better Marriages if We Really Want Them*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1974.
- Madden, Myron C. *Blessing: Giving the Gift of Power*. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1988.
- Perez, Joseph F. *Family Counseling Theory and Practice*. New York: D. Van Norstrand, 1979.
- Phillips, Carolyn E. *Our Family Got A Stepparent*. Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 1981.
- Reed, Bobbie. *Single Mothers Raising Sons*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1988.
- Rosen, Mark Bruce. *Stepfathering: Stepfather's Advice on Creating a New Stepfamily*. New York: Simon and Schuster, 1987.
- Satir, Virginia. *Peoplemaking*. Palo Alto, CA: Science and Behavior Books, 1972.

Smith, Virginia Watts. *The Single Parent*. Old Tappan, NJ: Fleming H. Revell, 1976.

Stanfield, Christine M. *Some Days I Think I'll Live...Surviving the Trauma of Divorce*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1990.

Vigna, Judith. *She's Not My Real Mother*. Chicago: Albert Whitman, 1980.

Visher, Emily B. and John S. Visher. *Stepfamilies: A Guide with Stepparents and Stepchildren*. New York: Brunner/Mazel Publishers, 1979.