

CHPL5380 Principles of Church Planting NOLA2U FLEX New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Division of Church Ministry Spring Semester 21 (Mon 2:00-4:50pm)

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Mission Statement

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College prepare servants to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.

Course Description

In this course, students will become familiar with key principles related to church planting. Emphasis will be given to the biblical basis of church planting/replanting, the motivation for church planting/replanting, and factors making for effective church planters/replanters. Various models of church planting will be addressed as well as factors effective in the growth of new churches. Students will also be introduced to the respective church planting strategies of the North American Mission Board and the International Mission Board.

Student Learning Outcomes

In order to help fulfill the Great Commission, the students, by the end of the course, should:

- 1. Be able to apply their knowledge and comprehension of the biblical, theological, historical, and cultural foundations of church planting/replanting to the process of starting new churches and replanting dying churches.
- 2. Understand the calling and giftedness for the role of church planter/replanter and the unique role of church planting team members.
- 3. Value strategic concerns affecting the planting of new churches and replanting of dying churches.
- 4. Be able to accomplish the following:
 - a) Develop a plan for a new church plant/replant.
 - b) Advocate church planting/replanting among Southern Baptists.

Textbooks

Clifton, Clint. Church Planting Thresholds, New City Network, 2016

Clifton, Mark. *Reclaiming Glory Revitalizing Dying Churches*, Nashville, TN: B&H Publishing, 2016.

McCrary, Larry. *Tradecraft: For the Church on Mission*, Portland, OR: Urban Loft Publishers, 2013.

Payne, J. D. *Apostolic Church Planting*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2015.

Stetzer, Ed., Im, Daniel. *Planting Missional Churches: Your Guide to Starting Churches That Multiply*, Nashville, TN: B&H Academic, 2016.

Required Blogs, Ebooks, and Resources

These resources are **free**.

Payne, J. D. "Ethical Guidelines for Church Planters: A Suggested Proposal" https://www.jdpayne.org/2010/02/ethical-guidelines-for-church-planters/

NAMB Ecclesiological Guidelines for Church Planters (Available at http://www.sbts.edu/documents/cpc/EcclesiologicalGuidelines.pdf)

SEND NETWORK EBOOK: "5 Marks of a Healthy Planter" https://www.namb.net/send-network/resource/5-marks-of-a-healthy-planter/

SEND NETWORK EBOOK: "Never Alone: How to Avoid Isolation in Church Planting" https://www.namb.net/send-network/resource/never-alone-how-to-avoid-isolation-in-church-planting/

SEND NETWORK EBOOK: "Co-Vocational Church Planting" https://www.namb.net/send-network/resource/ebook-covocational-church-planting/

SEND NETWORK EBOOK: "Why the Send Network" https://www.namb.net/send-network/resource/why-the-send-network/

George Ross BLOG: Church Planting in New Orleans https://www.georgeross.net/blog/how-is-the-lord-moving-in-new-orleans

George Ross BLOG: Cultivating Self Awareness https://www.georgeross.net/blog/5pma67acm05fk078er0fsxfqmd3reb

George Ross BLOG: Hospitality as a Missional Strategy https://www.georgeross.net/blog/gvlqzttyahey2mjz2fmm486nw4jzr2

George Ross BLOG: Don't Lose Your Urgency in Church Planting: https://www.georgeross.net/blog/lha59wjjnnmhyglb4gjvg72ys86cwp

Evangelism App and Resources

3 Circles Life Conversation Guide App http://lifeonmissionbook.com/conversation-guide

Course Teaching Methodology

The course will involve the following methodologies:

A variety of teaching methods will be utilized such as class presentations by the professor using Power Point and handouts. Other teaching methods include small and large group discussion, group projects, multi-media presentations, utilization of missions related websites, and other communication mediums. A Blackboard shell for the class will be utilized extensively as a resource for students. Students will be expected to be thoroughly prepared for class discussions through readings and the Blackboard weekly unit supplements.

Course Requirements

- 1. Participation and Attendance. Because this course will include lectures, small group discussion, team activities, videos, guest speakers, and presentations, students are expected to participate actively in each class. Punctual attendance and full participation is expected. Unexcused absences will hinder the student's grade. The seminary's attendance policy is followed for this class.
- 2. Reading reports. Students are expected to have read all of the assigned readings prior to the particular class. Students are expected to be prepared to discuss all reading assignments on the specific due dates. On the day each reading is due, students will be asked to submit a reading report regarding the percentage of the reading completed. The reading reports will be averaged to determine the student's reading grade for the course. Students are expected to turn in the reading reports at the beginning of each class. Reports not submitted at the beginning of class will be considered late work (see section discussing Late Work).
- 3. I. E. M. Paper. Students are to complete a 3–4-page critical reflection paper answering the following question: "What is the Irreducible Ecclesiological Minimum in order for a local church to exist?" In other words, what is necessary for the church to come into existence among any people, in any location, at any time? This assignment will be evaluated on how well the student has thought through his or her ecclesiology and interacts with the Scriptures, readings, lectures, and discussion material (Due Feb 22).
- **4. Fieldwork.** This semester the class will experience certain aspects of church planting in the city of New Orleans (or local context). The purpose of the field activities is to develop an awareness of the context, people, oneself as a missionary, and what the Lord is presently doing in the area.

Each student will be assigned a zip code in the city for which they are responsible for carrying out fieldwork. The fieldwork is to be carried out in sequential order, thus building off of the previous activity. The fieldwork this semester will include, but not necessarily be limited to:

- Prayer walking & Mapping
- Exegeting Culture
- Building Relationships
- Identifying Persons of Peace
- Contextualization
- Protecting Indigeneity
- Engaging people with the Gospel

Field Activity #1. Each student must do some demographic/cultural/etc. research on their zip code. A portion of this activity can be done on-line. Students must spend 30-60 minutes driving through their zip code.

Field Activity #2. Each student is to return to their zip code for 2 hours for prayer walking and exploring. During this activity, students should be praying for particular needs as the Spirit

reveals them, for insight into how best to reach the people with the gospel, and for an openness of peoples' hearts to the gospel. Students should also engage at least three people in conversation in order to better understand the needs of the community, to share the gospel, and identify persons of peace.

Field Reflection Papers. Following each field activity, each student will reflect on his or her experience. For each field activity, each team member will complete a one-to-two-page reflection paper of his or her experience. Each reflection paper is to include responses to the following questions:

- What did you like/dislike about the activity? Did anything make you uncomfortable? If so, why?
- How did this experience influence your thinking about church planting, both in general and in this particular community?
- What did the Lord teach you about yourself as related to missionary service?
- Did you fully participate and complete the field activity as described in the syllabus? If not, why not? (a negative response to this question that reveals a lack of responsibility and seriousness related to the activity will constitute a failing grade for the activity)

Field Activity #1, Reflection Paper Due: March 1 Field Activity #2, Reflection Paper Due: March 29

- 5. Personal evangelism. Since church planting is evangelism in action, students are expected to be involved in sharing their faith this semester. Three witnessing reports are due May 3. Students must use and demonstrate proficiency in using the NAMB Life Conversation Guide
- 6. For requirement number six, students are allowed to choose to do one of the following activities: 1) Case Study Paper or 2) Church Planting Experience.

Case Study Paper. Students are expected to discover and develop a case study of a newly planted church. The congregation must be having public worship services before the time of your research. The congregation has to be in the SEND Network with the North American Mission Board or State Baptist Convention. Regarding the research and paper, students must interview the church planter(s). This is an independent research project. The paper is to be divided into four sections. Section one is to focus on the church planter(s). Section two is to focus on the overall church planting strategy. Section three is to focus on the newly planted church. Section four is the student's conclusion. Only one student per case study is permitted. Students must receive the professor's approval to study the particular church (Due Feb 1) The case study is to be 8-10 pages in length. The church studied cannot be over five years old. All case studies are due May 3. The paper should include at least the following:

Section one

- Name of church planter(s). Very brief biographical information (age, background, any significantly relevant material.).
- Calling to the ministry of church planting.
- Gifts and talents; personality traits.

Section two

- How was the church started?
- Did the church planting strategy have to change over time?

Section three

- Evangelistic growth since birth (number of new believers, baptism: membership, what person/persons have been responsible for the evangelistic growth of the church? What has been the evangelistic strategy used? Have they been effective? Why or why not?)
- Assimilation (How is the new church incorporating new believers into the congregation? Is it effective? Why or why not?)
- Leadership development (How are leaders being raised up? Where does the new church get its leaders [seminary, Bible college, believers from the community, members of other churches, from the harvest, etc.?])
- Church's involvement in multiplication (What plans have unfolded or are in the process of unfolding for the multiplication of other churches?)

Section four

- Evaluation (Do you believe that the church's plans [if any] to multiply other churches will be effective? Why or why not? What, if anything, is hindering the church from witnessing multiplication?)
- Conclusion (What else do we need to know regarding the church planter(s), overall strategy, or church? Offer your concluding thoughts and suggestions?)

Church Planting Experience. Students selecting this option need to spend at least 40 hours involved in church planting activities, with a SEND Network Church Plant, related to personal evangelism, starting small groups, and developing leaders. Students selecting this option must meet with the professor a minimum of three times (once per month), outside of class time, to discuss the church planting experience.

Students selecting this option must complete a 5-page reflection paper on his or her overall experiences throughout the semester answering the following questions: What did I learn that I can apply to my future missionary work? How did the Lord reveal Himself during this experience? What would I have done differently if I could start over again? What did the Lord teach me about myself and church planting? The reflection paper is **Due May 3.**The professor's approval is required in order for a student to participate in this option. Therefore, students selecting this option must provide a one-page summary to the professor of the present stage of the church planting work, how they will be significantly involved in personal evangelism, starting small groups, and developing leaders, with whom they will be working, and the location and people group/population segment they will be reaching. Students will have to give an account of their 40 hours serving in the field **(May 3).**

7. Final Exam. There will be a cumulative final exam over the contents of this course.

Evaluation of Grade

Participation/Attendance/Reading Reports	10%	
I.E.M. Paper	10%	
Field Activity Reflection Papers	20%	
Personal Evangelism Reports		10%
Case Study or Church Planting Exp.		25%
Church Planting Notebook		10%
Final Exam		15%
Total		100%

Students should follow the seminary's manual of style and form for all written assignments.

The following is the grading scale used for this course:

A = 93-100

B = 85-92

C = 77-84

D = 70-76

F = Below 70

NOLA2U FLEX

If you are taking this course as a NOLA2U Flex student, please note the following attendance policies:

- 1. You are required to be in class either through viewing the lectures live or viewing the recorded lectures on Blackboard. When you view the recorded lecture, you will be considered present for that class. Regardless of if you watch the class live or recorded, you are only allowed to miss the amount of class time specified in the NOBTS attendance policy as stated in the graduate catalog. (See page 184 in the graduate catalog: https://www.nobts.edu/_resources/pdf/academics/GraduateCatalog.pdf).
- 2. You will be asked to certify that you have been present for the live session or have viewed the recorded session. This certification will be done through **email** after having watched the class live or viewing the recorded session.
- 3. All video lectures are available for 7 days after the video is posted. If you are unable to view the video within that time frame, you will be considered absent for that class session.
- 4. Technical issues will not be considered a valid reason for missing a lecture.

Technical Assistance

For assistance regarding technology, consult ITC (504-816-8180) or the following websites:

- 1. <u>Selfserve@nobts.edu</u> Email for technical questions/support requests with the <u>Selfserve.nobts.edu</u> site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)
- 2. <u>BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu</u> Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Blackboard Learning Management System <u>NOBTS.Blackboard.com</u>.
- 3. ITCSupport@nobts.edu Email for general technical questions/support requests.
- 4. <u>www.NOBTS.edu/itc/</u> General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

[Other items may be included, such as: expectations for reading assignments, policy on late assignments, academic honesty, classroom demeanor, extra credit]

Help for Writing Papers at "The Write Stuff"

NOBTS maintains a Writing Center designed to improve English writing at the graduate level. Students can receive writing guides, tips, and valuable information to help in becoming a better writer.

Plagiarism on Written Assignments

NOBTS has a no tolerance policy for plagiarism. Plagiarism in certain cases may result in expulsion from the seminary. See the NOBTS Student Handbook for definition, penalties, and policies associated with plagiarism.

Course Schedule

Jan 25

- 1. Overview and Introductions
- 2. Team Assignments
- 3. Definition of Biblical Church Planting
- 4. Biblical and Theological Principles for Church Planting

Read: All readings must be completed prior to class with submitted reading report

- 1. "Ethical Guidelines for Church Planters: A Suggested Proposal"
- 2. "NAMB Ecclesiological Guidelines for Church Planters"
- 3. Planting Missional Churches, Section 1 (Chapters 1-4)

Feb 1

Due: Church Planting Experience Summary for certain students (see Course Requirement #6

- 1. Redeveloping a Missional Mindset for North America
- 2. Leadership Models of Church Planting
- 3. Models of Church Planting

Read: All readings must be completed prior to class with submitted reading report

Reading: Planting Missional Churches (Chapters 5-9, 10-12)

Feb 8

- 1. Defining Replanting and Understanding the Need.
- 2. Replanting Pathways
- 3. Church Planting Systems & Ministries

Read: All readings must be completed prior to class with submitted reading report

- 1. Reclaiming Glory, Chapters 1-3
- 2. Planting Missional Churches, Section 4 (19-25)

Feb 15

Due: 3 Circles Life Conversation Guide Demonstration

- 1. Class Demonstration of 3 Circles Life Conversation Guide.
- 2. 3 Circles Training

3. On the field outreach exercise

Read: All readings must be completed prior to class with submitted reading report

- 1. Planting Missional Churches, Section 5 (Chapters 26-30)
- 2. Apostolic Church Planting, Chapters 1-4

Feb 22

Due: IEM Paper

- 1. Team Development
- 2. Stages of Planting
- 3. Roles in Planting

Read: All readings must be completed prior to class with submitted reading report

- 1. Apostolic Church Planting, Chapters 5-8
- 2. Church Planting Thresholds, Chapters 1-4

March 1

Due: Field Activity #1, Reflection Paper

Church Planter Field Trip- New Orleans-Off Campus

March 8

- 1. Discuss Field Activity
- 2. Contextualization in Church Planting
- 3. On the field Contextualization exercise (CTV)

Read: All readings must be completed prior to class with submitted reading report

- 1. Tradecraft, Chapters 1-5
- 2. George Ross Blog: History of Mardi Gras

March 22

- 1. Sending and Supporting Churches
- 2. Partnership Development
- 3. Leveraging Mission Teams
- 4. Church Planter Checklists

Read: All readings must be completed prior to class with submitted reading report

- 1. George Ross Blog: Ten Practical Ideas for Developing a Strategic Prayer Partnership
- 2. Tradecraft, Chapters 6-10

March 29

Due: Field Activity #2, Reflection Paper

- 1. Church Planter Assessments
- 2. Church Planter Call
- 3. Church Planter Character
- 4. Church Planter Competency

5. Church Planter's Marriage

Read: All readings must be completed prior to class with submitted reading report

1. Church Planting Thresholds, Chapters 5-7

April 5

- 1. Co-vocational Church Planting
- 2. Urban Church Planting
- 3. Multi-Ethnic Church Planting

Read: All readings must be completed prior to class with submitted reading report

- 1. Co-Vocational Church Planting, Chapters 1-2, 7-11
- 2. Church Planting Thresholds, Chapters 8-10

April 12

- 1. Hospitality and Church Planting
- 2. Hospitality as a Catalyst for growth
- 3. Hospitality and Practical Implementation

Read: All readings must be completed prior to class with submitted reading report

- 1. Why Hospitality is Vital to Church Planting
- 2. The Why of Hospitality
- 3. Co-Vocational Church Planting, Chapter 12-14

April 19

- 1. Church Planter Identity
- 2. Church Planter Self-Awareness

Read: All readings must be completed prior to class with submitted reading report

- 1. 5 Marks of a Healthy Church Planter
- 2. Never Alone: How to Avoid Isolation

April 26

Missional Preaching- Dean Inserra

Read: All readings must be completed prior to class with submitted reading report

- 1. Why the Send Network
- 2. Supplemental Reading Extra Credit- "Unsaved Christian"- Dean Inserra

May 3

Due: Case Study Paper for certain students (see Course Requirement #6)

Due: Church Planting Experience Reflection Paper for certain students (see Course

Requirement #6)

Due: Personal Evangelism Reports

- 1. Church Planter Coaching
- 2. Church Planter Formation (Spouses Invited)
- 3. Final Exam Review

May 10: Final Exam

Selected Bibliography

Addison, Steve. Pioneering Movements: Leadership That Multiplies Disciples and Churches. Downers Grove, IL: 2015.

What Jesus Started: Joining the Movement, Changing the World. Downers Grove, IL: 2012.

Movements that Change the World: Five Keys to the Expansion of Christianity. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Books, 2011.

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 - The Urban Christian: Effective Ministry in Today=s Urban World. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 1987.
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 - Vespas, Cafes, Singlespeed Bikes, and Urban Hipsters: Gentrification, Urban Mission, and Church Planting. Portland, OR: Urban Loft Publishers, 2014.
 - The Bikeable Church: A Bicyclist=s Guide to Church Planting. Portland, OR: Urban Loft Publishers, 2012.
 - The Multi-Nucleated Church. Portland, OR: Urban Loft Publishers, 2012.
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- Carlton, R. Bruce. Carlton, R. Bruce. *Acts 29 : Practical Training in Facilitating Church-planting Movements among the Neglected Harvest Fields*. Radical Obedience Publishing, 2003.
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