



Special Event in Children's Ministry CESE 8312
Professional Doctoral Seminar
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

Kids Ministry Conference: October 6-8, 2014
LifeWay: Nashville, TN

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Mission Statement

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.

NOBTS Core Values and 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 2014-2015 academic year that Core Value is Spiritual Vitality.

Course Description

The purpose of this course is to expose the student to points of interest in and models for contemporary children's ministry through attendance at a national children's ministry conference.

Course Objectives

Through this course you will:

1. Gain knowledge of trends, points of interest, and models for contemporary children's ministry.
2. Be committed to quality children's ministry through the local church.
3. Demonstrate the ability to provide an assessment of a local church's children's ministry regarding specific topics.

Textbooks

Barna, George. *Transforming Children Into Spiritual Champions: Why Children Should Be Your Church's #1 Priority*. Regal, 2003.

Holmen, Mark. *Faith Begins at Home: The Family Makeover with Christ at the Center*. Regal, 2007.

Choun, Robert, and Michael Lawson. *The Christian Educator's Handbook on Children's Ministry: Reaching and Teaching the Next Generation*. Baker Books, 2002.

Assignment and Evaluation Criteria

Kids Ministry Conference Information

- **Conference Fee:** In addition to registering and paying for the seminar, you must register and pay for the Kids Ministry Conference (\$250).
 - You must register by calling LifeWay Events Registration and Information at 1-800-254-2022. You will pay the STUDENT rate of \$250. (The regular registration fee is \$329). If the person you speak with is not familiar with the student discount, ask for Ms. Eva. You will not receive the discount if you register online.
- **Conference Information:** You will find complete information at <http://www.lifeway.com/Event/Kids-Conference-LifeWay-Kids-Ministry-Conference>
- **Pre-conference Sessions:** Pre-conference sessions are not required. The first required conference session is Monday evening.
- **Housing and Meals:** All travel, food, and room costs are your responsibility. Special lodging rates are available. (See <http://www.lifeway.com/Event/Kids-Conference-LifeWay-Kids-Ministry-Conference#accommodations> .

Pre-Seminar Requirement

- You will read each of the textbooks and prepare a four to five-page *Critical Review* for each textbook. The reviews should follow the *Book Review Guide* posted on Blackboard. In addition to the components defined in the *Book Review Guide*, you should include a discussion of potential application to your ministry context.

Due: October 22

Seminar Requirements

- You will:
 - attend all scheduled conference sessions.
 - record thorough notes on all sessions attended for use in a post-seminar assignment.
 - meet with the professor on October 6 in the evening at a time and location to be announced.

Post-Seminar Requirements

- *Annotated Bibliography:* You will prepare an Annotated Bibliography of 10 resources related to contemporary children's ministry. This bibliography should include books and other resources directly related to the points of interest and/or ministry models addressed by the conference. A one to two-paragraph descriptive summary should accompany each entry. **Due: November 5**
- *Reflection Paper:* You will submit a 6 to 8-page paper reflecting upon what has been learned or affirmed through the readings and attendance at the conference and that you deem valuable. This assignment may be completed in first-person. You should:
 - Connect ideas presented through the readings and conference sessions with your children's ministry experience.
 - Discuss how the conference has informed your commitment to quality ministry to children through the local church.
 - Tip: The use of key phrases, such as "for example," "as a result of," "another idea that supports my view is," "an opposite view is," and "a different perspective is," are all good transitional phrases that provide coherence by helping the reader to understand the relationship between ideas, and they act as signposts that help the reader follow the movement of your discussion. **Due: November 5**
- *Ministry Assessment:* You will submit an assessment of your church's children's ministry with regards to the knowledge gained through the readings and the specific conference sessions attended. Include in your assessment the current practices of the ministry and your recommendations for improvement (where needed). Provide a rationale for each recommendation. **Due: November 5**
- *Conference Notes:* You will organize and submit all conference session notes. Include specific insights gained or skills learned from each session. This assignment may be written in first person. **Due: November 5**

Seminar Evaluation

Critical Reviews	30%
Annotated Bibliography	15%
Conference Attendance	10%
Conference Notes	10%
Reflection Paper	20%
Ministry Assessment	15%

Course Policies

Attendance

Attendance is critical to the learning experience. You may not be absent from any class meeting or conference session related to the special event.

Late Assignment Policy: You must have prior approval from the professor to submit a late assignment. Any assignment submitted late and without prior approval will not be accepted. Late assignments will incur a substantial late penalty.

Netiquette Policy

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.

Plagiarism Policy

A high standard of personal integrity is expected of all students. Copying another person's work, submitting downloaded material without proper references, submitting material without properly citing the source, submitting the same material for credit in more than one course, and other such forms of dishonesty are strictly forbidden. Although anything cited in three sources is considered public domain, we require that all sources be cited. Any infraction will result in failing the course. Any infraction will be reported to the Dean of Students for further action.

Grading Scale

Your final grade will be based on your total accumulation of points as indicated under the Assignments and Evaluation Criteria section of this syllabus according to the grading scale in the NOBTS 2014-2015 catalog

A 93-100 B 85-92 C 77-84 D 70-76 F 69 and below

Additional Information

Blackboard and SelfServe

You are responsible for maintaining current information regarding contact information on the Blackboard system and SelfServe. Grades will be posted to Blackboard.

Special Needs

If you need an accommodation for any type of disability, please set up a time to meet with the professor to discuss any modifications that you may need.

Correspondence with the Professor

I will make every effort to respond to emails and phone calls within 24-48 hours, excluding weekends. Please feel free to contact me with any question you may have regarding this course.

Assignment Formatting: All assignments are to be computer-generated. *Turabian, 6th edition* should be followed when preparing assignments. Grammar will be considered in the grading of papers.

Assignment Submission: All assignments are to be submitted to Blackboard on or before the due date.

Conference Schedule

Monday, October 6

- 8:30 Pre-Conference Check-In
- 9:00-5:00 Pre-Conference Sessions
- 5:00pm Main Conference Check-In
- 7:00pm Main Session 1 - Opening Session

Tuesday, October 7

- 9:00am Main Session 2
- 10:30am Breakout Session 1
- 11:45am Lunch - On Your Own
- 1:30pm Breakout Session 2
- 2:45pm Breakout Session 3
- 4:00pm Breakout Session 4
- 5:00pm Dinner - On Your Own
- 7:00pm Main Session 3

Wednesday, October 8

- 9:00am Main Session 4
- 10:30am Breakout Session 5
- 11:30am Lunch - On Your Own
- 1:30pm Breakout Session 6
- 3:00pm Main Session 5 - Closing Session
- 5:30pm Post-Conference Session