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.

We are here not 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.

Core Value Focus
The seminary has five core values.
1. **Doctrinal Integrity**: Knowing that the Bible is the Word of God, we believe it, teach it, proclaim it, and submit to it. This course addresses Doctrinal Integrity specifically by preparing students to grow in understanding and interpreting of the Bible.
2. **Spiritual Vitality**: We are a worshiping community emphasizing both personal spirituality and gathering together as a Seminary family for the praise and adoration of God and instruction in His Word. Spiritual Vitality is addressed by reminding students that a dynamic relationship with God is vital for effective ministry.
3. **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. This course addresses Mission Focus by helping students understand the biblical foundations for fulfilling the Great Commission and the Great Commandments.
4. **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. Characteristic Excellence is addressed by preparing students to excel in their ability to interpret Scripture, which is foundational to effective ministry.
5. **Servant Leadership**: We follow the model of Jesus and exert leadership and influence through the nurture and encouragement of those around us. Servant Leadership is modeled by classroom deportment.

The core value focus for this academic year is **Spiritual Vitality**.
Course Objectives:

Curriculum Competencies
NOBTS faculty members realize that all ministers need to develop specific competencies if they are going to have an effective ministry. To increase the likelihood of NOBTS graduates having an effective ministry, the faculty developed a competency-based curriculum after identifying seven essential competencies necessary for effective ministry. All graduates are expected to have at least a minimum level of competency in all of the following areas:

1. **Biblical Exposition**: to interpret and communicate the Bible accurately.
2. **Christian Theological Heritage**: To understand and interpret Christian theological heritage and Baptist polity for the church.
3. **Disciple Making**: To stimulate church health through mobilizing the church for missions, evangelism, discipleship, and church growth.
4. **Interpersonal Skills**: To perform pastoral care effectively, with skills in communication and conflict management.
5. **Servant Leadership**: To serve churches effectively through team ministry.
6. **Spiritual and Character Formation**: To provide moral leadership by modeling and mentoring Christian character and devotion.
7. **Worship Leadership**: To facilitate worship effectively.

The curriculum competencies addressed in this course are: Biblical Exposition, Christian Theological Heritage, Disciple Making, Interpersonal Skills, Servant Leadership, and Spiritual and Character Formation.

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. Students will develop a working definition of biblical church planting.
2. Students will explore the biblical picture of shepherding leadership and create a working definition of church planter leadership.
3. Students will explore an effective system to discover, develop and deploy church planters.
4. Students will evaluate missional leadership, vision casting, and current culture for disciple making movements.
5. Students will explore different leadership and gifting assessments and consider their impact on church planting leadership.
6. Students will examine leadership in a post Christian, multi-ethnic, and multi-cultural context.
7. Students will consider how self-awareness, family leadership, and personal health are foundational for healthy leadership in church planting.
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.

REQUIRED TEXTS/LEADERSHIP ASSESSMENT


Leading from Your Strengths Assessment:
https://www.ministryinsights.com/product/leading-from-your-strengths-profile/

APEST Assessment:
https://www.theforgottenways.org/what-is-apest.aspx

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.

Pre-Seminar Assignments

2. **Church Plant Targets Profile and Map** discover 3 community sites (in three different communities within your ministry context) for potential church plants. Write a one-page (maximum) Target Profile for each of the potential targets. Target Profile should include:
Name of the community including its location (country if not USA, county, closest city)
MapPoint; street or highway intersection, closest business address
A historical and cultural overview (what a tourist agency would write)
A demographic study; use a 1-5 mile Ring study, Census Blocks, zip codes, etc.
Setting; intercity, urban, suburban, exurban, small town
Potential focus group; ethnicity, multiethnic, education, social-economic
Observed community needs (best guess concerning current or anticipated future need)
Other churches in the target area and their apparent focus group
Each student will present their Church Plants Targets Profile in the class for about 10
minutes, followed by 10 minutes questions and answers. Use a PowerPoint and/or a mapping
program/app (Google Earth) for the presentation. Student will present the targets in rank
order from least to most potential and the reasoning behind the ranking. The Student can use
church plant targets provided by a state convention, an association, or a church planting
network. Due March 8th.

3. Textbook Reading: Students will read Gospel Coach: Shepherding Leaders to Glorify God
and be prepared to discuss this book during seminar sessions.

4. Textbook Reading: Students will read The Honest Guide to Church Planting and be prepared
to discuss this book during seminar sessions.

5. Reading Report H3 Leadership: Be Humble, Stay Hungry, Always Hustle. On three to five
pages maximum list two key quotes from each chapter that provided you with an insight about
leadership. (a total of 40). Each listing should consist of a quote (one to four lines max) from the
book and the page number. Due March 8th.

6. Leading from Your Strengths Assessment. Students will take and complete the Leading
from Your Strengths Assessment https://www.ministryinsights.com/product/leading-from-your-
strengths-profile/. Due March 8th.

7. APEST Assessment. Students will take and complete the APEST Assessment

Post-Seminar Assignments:

1. Reading reports. Students will read The High Definition Leader and write a two-page, double
spaced critical review. The review should cover summary of the ideas, strengths and weaknesses,
and the relevancy of the book in church planting leadership. March 20th.

2. Potential Church Planter Profiles Develop three church planter profiles, one each for each
potential church plant target discovered in pre-seminar assignment. The professor will give
additional details on this assignment during the seminar. Due March 30th.

3. Interview a church planter strategist, a sponsoring church pastor, or a church planter.
(suggested length of the interview: one hour). The interview questions should relate to issues
raised in the course. Write a two-page, double-spaced summary and reaction to the interview. A
The list of the questions asked should be attached as an appendix. The assignment may be done in informal style, first person allowed, but is not to be a verbatim of the interview. Due: April 1st. Students are advised to secure the person to be interviewed and the time for the interview prior to the beginning of the seminar.

**EVALUATION/GRADING:**

- Participation/Attendance/presentation 20%
- Church Plant Targets Profile and Map 20%
- Reading Reports 30%
- Potential Church Planter Profiles 10%
- Interview 20%

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

**DISCLAIMER:** This syllabus is intended to reflect accurately the course description, course objectives, general content, grading criteria, course requirements, attendance requirements, and other information necessary for students to appraise the course. The instructor, however, reserves the right to modify any portion of this syllabus as may appear necessary because of the events and circumstances that change during the term.

**HONOR CODE:** All students are required to affirm their academic integrity when submitting all course work with the following statement, signed by the student, and attached to each written assignment:

“On my honor, I have neither given nor taken improper assistance in completing this assignment.”

**LATE WORK:** All assignments are due in class on the assigned dates. All late work will be penalized one quality point per day the assignment is late (this includes weekends). Assignments turned in after class, yet on the same day that they are due, will still be considered late work.

**NOTE:** In order to ensure full class participation, any student with a disabling condition requiring accommodations (e.g. tape recorders, special adaptive equipment, special note-taking or test-taking needs) is strongly encouraged to contact the instructor at the beginning of the course.

**PROJECTED COURSE SCHEDULE:**
March 8th.
Introduction
Biblical Church Planting
Church Planting Leadership
March 9th.
Presentation of Church Plant Targets Profiles
Leading from Your Strengths
APEST

March 10th.
Church Planter Leadership Issues
Church Planter Health

Selected Bibliography


Allen, Jack M. *Re redeeming the Culture through Missional Living,* in *Pursuing the Mission of God in Church Planting,* 2007.


*The Urban Christian: Effective Ministry in Today=s Urban World.* Downers Grove:


Davis, Don L. *Planting Churches among the City's Poor: An Anthology of Urban Church Planting Resources:* Volume 1: Theological and Missiological Perspectives for Church Planters. Wichita, KS: The Urban Ministry Institute, 2015.

Ministry Institute, 2015.


*Surprising Insights from the Unchurched and Proven Ways to Reach Them*. Grand Rapids,


Rohrmyer, Gary. *First Steps for Planting a Missional Church.* St. Charles, IL: ChurchSmart, 2006.


Baptist Theological Seminary, 1993.


