



Women and Church Growth CEWM 5170

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

Christian Education Division

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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 provide an understanding of the dynamics of church growth as they relate to women's ministry.

Core Value Focus

Each academic year, a core value is emphasized. This academic year, the core value is 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."

Curriculum Competencies Addressed

This course will address the following curriculum competencies:

1. *Biblical Exposition:* The student will explore biblical teachings about church health and church growth.
2. *Christian Theological Heritage:* The student will explore theological and historical background for building a healthy church.
3. *Disciple Making:* The student will learn to facilitate spiritual growth in Christian women.
4. *Interpersonal Skills:* The student will improve interpersonal and ministry skills.
5. *Servant Leadership:* The student will discover how to lead others toward spiritual maturity and growth in the body of Christ.

6. *Spiritual and Character Formation*: The student will develop personal and spiritual maturity as she learns to about the dynamics of church growth.
7. *Worship Leadership*: The student will increase skills for training others for leadership in a healthy church.

Course Description

This course is designed to study the basic principles of church growth and their application to women's ministry.

Student Learning Outcomes

By the completion of this course, each student should be able to accomplish the following:

1. Understand basic principles of church growth.
2. Study types of churches and trends in church growth.
3. Assess the health of her own church to develop specific strategies for the growth of her women's ministry.
4. Apply church growth principles to her women's ministry program.

Required Readings

The following texts and resources are required reading for class discussions and are to be read in their entirety unless otherwise specified.

1. Stetzer, Ed and Thom S. Rainer. *Transformational Church: Creating a New Scorecard for Congregations*. Nashville: B&H Publishing Group, 2010. ISBN: 978-1-4336-6930-9

This textbook may only be available through a Life Way store or online at www.lifeway.com.

2. Rainer, Thom S. and Eric Geiger. *Simple Church: Returning to God's Process for Making Disciples*. Nashville, TN: B&H Publishing Group, 2011. ISBN: 0805443908

The textbook can be purchased and ordered at any Life Way store or online at www.lifeway.com or from any other book retailers that carry them.

Course Teaching Methodology

Units of Study. Topics will include:

1. Introduction and Biblical Basis for Church Growth
2. Types of Churches
3. Breakout Churches
4. Connecting the Next Generation
5. Reaching the Postmodern Woman

6. Transformational Church
7. Future Trends and Strategic Planning
8. Conclusion

Teaching Method. This course will utilize lecture and interactive discovery-learning and will be team-taught. The student should expect different presentation formats to enhance the learning motif.

Assignments and Evaluation Criteria

1. Students will attend class as stated in the graduate catalog.
2. Students will participate in class discussion including one separate session for graduate students.
3. Students will read assigned textbooks and provide a written statement of completion due four weeks after class.
4. Students will evaluate the health of their own churches using the data presented by Ed Stetzer and Thom Rainer in *Transformational Churches*. Write a report which includes an assessment of the church's evangelism, discipleship, ministry, fellowship, and worship plus some specific strategies for the growth of your women's ministry. The report should be ten to fifteen pages, typed double spaced following *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations* by Kate Turabian, published by University of Chicago Press. It is due four weeks after class.
5. Students will complete a take home final examination due four weeks after class.

Mail the written statement, critical review, evaluative report, and project to Dr. Rhonda Kelley, N.O.B.T.S., 3939 Gentilly Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70126 or email it to rkelley@nobts.edu.

Requirements must be received by the end of each semester or the student will receive a course grade of an "F". Students may request an incomplete in the course in case of emergency. Please see the Graduate catalog for details about the request process.

Course Evaluation

This course will follow the grading system for the Graduate School:

A = 93-100	1/4 = Class Attendance/Class Participation
B = 85-92	1/4 = Textbook statement
C = 77-84	1/4 = Church Evaluation Report
D = 70-76	1/4 = Take-home Final Examination
F = Below 70	

Course Policies

The student will be expected to have access to online resources to download teaching and presentation documents in the Seminary's BlackBoard system.

Students who choose to present assignments via electronic mediums need to present those documents in a Microsoft Word (.doc or .docx) format. WordPerfect and PDF files will not be accepted for grade via electronic format.

The absence policy of the Seminary will be strictly enforced. For a 3-hour course, the student may miss no more than 9 hours of instruction. Examinations and case studies will be given and graded on the days announced. The concept of a make-up examination does not exist.

Course Schedule

First Day

Wednesday, 1:00-4:00 p.m. Welcome/Orientation/Registration
Introductions
Biblical Basis for Church Growth
Connecting the Next Generation

Wednesday 6:00-9:00 p.m. Prayer Time
Breakout Churches
Types of Churches

Second Day

Thursday 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Prayer Time
Reaching the Postmodern Woman
Future Trends for Growth

Thursday, 1:00-4:00 p.m. Transformational Church
“The New Methodist”

Third Day

Friday 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Praise and Worship
Strategic Planning
Women and Church Growth
Closing Commitment

Selected Bibliography

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Barker, Joel. *Future Edge: Discovering the New Paradigms of Success*. New York, NY: William Morrow, 1992.

Barna, George. *The Frog in the Kettle*. Ventura CA: Regal Books, 1990.

Campbell, Barry. *Smaller Churches Healthy and Growing: Extraordinary Ministry*. Nashville, TN: LifeWay, 1998.

Dudley, Carl S. *Making the Small Church Effective*. Nashville, TN: Abington Press, 1978.

Growing Churches Magazine - Lifeway quarterly publication.

Hemphill, Ken. *The Antioch Effect*. Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman, 1994.

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Kelley, Chuck. *How Did They Do It? The Story of Southern Baptist Evangelism*. New Orleans, LA: Insight Press, 1993.

McIntosh, Gary L. (gen. ed.). *Evaluating the Church Growth Movement: Five Views*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing, 2004.

Miller, Michael D. *Kingdom Leadership: A Guide to Christ-Centered Leadership*. Nashville: LifeWay, 1996.

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_____ and Eric Geiger. *Simple Church: Returning to God's Process for Making Disciples*. Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman, 2006.

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- Shultz, Glen. *Kingdom Education: God's Plan for Educating Future Generations*, Second Edition. Nashville: LifeWay Press, 2003.
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- _____. *The World's 20 Largest Churches: Church Growth Principles in Action*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1984.
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- _____. *Strategies for Church Growth*. Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 1990.
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