Introduction to Women's Ministry CEWM 5360

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.*

Purpose of the Course

This course will aid students in gaining the skills needed for beginning and developing a ministry for women in the local church setting.

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 the 2015-2016 academic year, this Core Value is *Mission Focus*.

Curriculum Competencies Addressed

This course will address the following curriculum competencies:

1. *Disciple Making*: The student will learn to facilitate spiritual growth in women through ministry programs, missions, and special events.

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2. *Spiritual and Character Formation*: The student will be challenged to develop personal and spiritual maturity.

3. *Effective Servant Leadership*: The student will discover how to lead others toward spiritual maturity and use of spiritual gifts.

Course Description

This course is designed to provide the understanding and skills necessary to begin and implement women's ministry in the local church. Special attention will be given to the purpose, philosophy, planning, programming, and potential leader development of women's ministry.

Student Learning Outcomes

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

1. Articulate clearly the purpose and philosophy of women's ministry in the local church.
2. Demonstrate skills in planning and programming for women in a local church setting.
3. Value the effectiveness of leadership development and training.

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. Adams, Chris, ed. *Women Reaching Women: Beginning and Building a Growing Women's Ministry.* Nashville, TN: Broadman Press, 1997 (Revised 2005).

2. Duncan, J. Ligon and Susan Hunt. *Women's Ministry in the Local Church.* Wheaton: Crossway Books, 2006.

Optional Textbook

1. Porter, Carol and Mike Hamel. *Women's Ministry Handbook: A Comprehensive Guide to Reaching, Teaching and Training Women in the Local Church.* Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1992.

Course Teaching Methodology

Units of Study. Topics will include:
1. Purpose of Women's Ministry
2. Generations/Stages of Adulthood
3. Equipped for Ministry / Spiritual Gifts
4. Beginning a Women's Ministry
5. Balancing a Women's Ministry
6. Staffing a Women's Ministry
7. Leadership Training

8. *Women's Ministry in the Local Church* (Part 1
9. *Women's Ministry in the Local Church* (Part 2)
10. Ministry Programs
11. Special Events/ Conferences & Retreats
12. Missions' Programs and More
13. Publicity and Promotion/Recreation in Women's Events
14. Rewriting the Chapter on Resources

Teaching Methods. This online course will utilize textbook reading, power point, discussion board, and interactive discovery-learning.

Assignments and Evaluation Criteria

1. **Reading Contract/Class Participation**. Student is expected to complete the ongoing reading assignments in preparation for each week's assignments, and then submit a signed statement at the end of the course, indicating what percentage of the textbooks you have read. She also will "present" a discussion of an assigned chapter in the Ligon/Hunt book. Class participation will be determined by input in discussion boards, presentations, and timely submission of assignments.

2. **Program Area and Missions Presentations**. The student will present on an assigned programming resource area for women in the local church and an assigned mission agency *(see course schedule for possible options)*. In these separate presentations, the student should address (1) the purpose of the program/mission agency; (2) what this program/mission agency has to offer a local church women's ministry as well as individual participants; and (3) if applicable, how a local church women's ministry can work with this program/mission agency. Power point presentations as well as resource bibliographies required in the assigned weeks. Research for this should begin immediately to ensure adequate time to collect significant data and possible giveaways.

3. **Events and Interviews.**
   a. Attend at least two women's ministry events this semester (church-based, regional, or seminary). Write a one page paper for each event, briefly describing the event but spending more time reflecting on the value of the event in an attendee's life.

   b. Conduct two interviews with leaders of women's ministries (one local church paid staff and one local church volunteer layperson. Submit a typed summary of the findings from the interviews which should include but are not limited to: (1) the leader's philosophy of ministry; (2) hints/guidelines this leader uses in program planning; (3) ways this leader develops leaders within her ministry; and (4) the 'take-away' or highlight of the interview. Current Turabian guidelines for title page and format are to be followed.

4. **Calendar/Final Exam.** Each student will develop a year-long calendar of ministry with women based in a local church. This programming should reflect content from the textbooks, discussions from class, information from the interviews you have conducted, and one's own ideas about planning for women. The student will begin with a paragraph

or two summarizing her philosophy of women's ministry and continue by presenting a theme for the year and a scripture focus, and then develop programming and special events to support all of this. When an event or program is named, it should be included with an explanation of why it is included as well as the target audience. What will be the content focus of the event or program (for example: name specific Bible studies to be used with rationale for their inclusion)? Include a women's retreat or conference as well as at least two other special events spaced throughout the year.

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 with the Registrar's Office in the 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	Reading Contract/Class Participation	25%
B = 85-92	Program Area/Missions Presentations	25%
C = 77-84	Events & Interviews	25%
D = 70-76	Final Exam/Calendar	25%
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.

Instructor Response Time
The instructor will strive to answer email and grade assignments in a reasonable amount of time.

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.

Course Schedule

Unit One (Week of August 24)
Introductions; review syllabus; Purpose of Women's Ministry (WRW 20-27)

Unit Two (Week of August 31)
Generations/Stages of Adulthood (WRW 28-47)

Unit Three (Week of September 7)
Equipped for Ministry / Spiritual Gifts (WRW 48-57)

Unit Four (Week of September 14)
Beginning a Women's Ministry (WRW 58-69)

Unit Five (Week of September 21)
Balancing a Women's Ministry (WRW 70-79)

Unit Six (Week of September 28)
Staffing a Women's Ministry (WRW 80-97)

Unit Seven (Week of October 5)
Leadership Training (WRW 106-117)

Unit Eight (Week of October 12)
Women's Ministry in the Local Church (Part I)

FALL BREAK

Unit Nine (Week of October 26)
Women's Ministry in the Local Church (Part II)

Unit Ten (Week of November 2)
Ministry Programs (Bible Study; Prayer; Mentoring; Evangelism; Ministry to Mothers)

Unit Eleven (Week of November 9)
Special Events/Conferences & Retreats (WRW 191-204, 205-215)

Unit Twelve (Week of November 16)
Missions in Women's Ministry

THANKSGIVING WEEK

Unit Thirteen (Week of November 30)
Publicity and Promotion (WRW 216-221) / Recreation in Women's Events

Unit Fourteen (Week of December 8)
Rewriting the Chapter on Resources (WRW 222-225)

Selected Bibliography

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Beck, James R. and Craig L. Blomberg eds. *Counterpoints: Two Views on Women in Ministry*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing, 2001.

Belleville, Linda L. *Women Leaders and the Church: 3 Crucial Questions*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2000.

Briscoe, Jill et al. *Designing Effective Women's Ministries*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1995.

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Demoss, Nancy. *Biblical Womanhood in the Home*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 2002.

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Graham, Anne. *Womanhood Revisited: A Fresh Look at the Role of Women in Society*. Great Britain: Christian Focus Publications, 2002.

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_____ and Peggy Hutcheson. *Leadership for Women in the Church*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1991.

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Women's Ministry in the 21st Century: The Encyclopedia of Practical Ideas. Loveland, CO: Group Publishing, 2004.

Internet Sources

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Woman's Missionary Union	www.wmu.com
Women's Evangelism	www.namb.net/heartcall
Women's Ministry Network	www.womensministry.net
Just Between Us Magazine	www.jusbetweenus.org