



CEAD6370 Strategic Church Development Through Sunday School

**New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Christian Education Division
Fall 2016 (New Orleans and Clinton, MS CIV)**

Dr. Hal Stewart
Associate Professor of Discipleship
Director of Spiritual Formation
Director of the Doctor of Education Degree Program
HSC 217
504.816.8107
hstewart@nobts.edu

Grader:

Peter Copeland
copelandconnections@gmail.com

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.

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 worshipping 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 department.

The core value focus for this academic year is *Characteristic Excellence*.

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: *Interpersonal Skills, Servant Leadership, and Spiritual and Character Formation.*

Course Description

This course focuses on the delivery of Christian education in a local church context to foster strategic church development utilizing the Sunday school. Both traditional and contemporary Christian education methods for all age groups will be examined.

Student Learning Outcomes

This course is designed to introduce students to the basic principles, procedures, guidelines, and available resources for conducting the ongoing administration of Christian Education in the local church. The student involved in this process should be able to accomplish the following:

1. Understand the relationships and essential operations in the administration and management of the Sunday school ministries of the local church.
2. Identify from Scripture biblical concepts for administration of the Sunday school in the local church, and analyze these administrative practices in terms of a biblical worldview.
3. Value the similarities and differences between leadership, management, and administration.
4. Students will demonstrate administrative principles and practices to the planning, organizing, leading and evaluating the Sunday school ministries of the local church.

Course Teaching Methodology

The course will involve the following methodologies: a lecture and interactive discovery-learning format.

Embedded Assignment

This course has not been identified as an assessment core course and does not have an embedded assignment.

Textbooks

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

Required Texts

Mancini, Will. *Church Unique: How Missional Leaders Cast Vision, Capture Culture, and Create Movement*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2008. ISBN:978-0-7879-9683-3

Parr, Steve. ed. *Sunday School That Really Excels: Real Life Examples of Churches with Healthy Sunday Schools*. Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel, 2013. ISBN: 978-0-8254-4318-3

Taylor, Allan. *Sunday School in HD*. Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman Press, 2009. ISBN: 978-0-8054-4973-0

Course Requirements

All assignments should be submitted on time via blackboard for this course. In the blackboard shell, click the “Upload Assignments” link to upload your work. Please note that every assignment that is uploaded is time stamped with the date and time of the upload.

Sunday School That Really Excels Summaries – 20 points

Due: Sept. 26th

Students will summarize findings in the book, *Sunday School That Really Excels* by Steve Parr, on assigned chapters in the book. The assigned chapters will be provided the second week of the course. After reading the **text in its entirety**, you should generate:

- A list of **three** quotes from the assigned chapters which are significant for your own personal discipleship, leadership development and/or for the discipleship of other ministry leaders. After each *quote*:
- You should include a **3-5 sentence paragraph** with **explanation** of the quote’s significance or life-changing truth.

- You should also include how **future usage for personal growth and in church ministry** of the quote's significance or life-changing truth with **at least one practical application** for implementation in local church ministry.

Exegetical Research Paper– 25 points

Due: Oct. 24th

You will create a clear and concise **10-page** critical reflection paper (body) on a Small Group leadership and management necessity for local church ministry (20 pts). Your paper will consist of a synthesis and analysis of the pertinent literature as well as a proposal for the integration of disciple making concepts to this specific local church ministry context. (*Always begin a paper with the **theological basis** before entering into the philosophical concerns.*) Students should use a minimum of **ten (10) sources** for this assignment. The paper should be written using Turabian formatting. A grading rubric is found in the online blackboard shell. You will provide your research findings to the teacher via Powerpoint presentation. Your presentation to the class will be included in the grading of this assignment (5 pts).

- The Purpose and Mission of a Growing Sunday School
- How to Hire and Fire Sunday School Teachers
- How to Recruit New Teachers for Every Age Group in the Church
- Creating and Communicating Expectations and Job Descriptions for Teacher and Leaders of Sunday School
- How to Assimilate People from the Community into the Sunday School
- Choosing the Best Curriculum for Age-Graded Sunday Schools
- Creating and Training a Staff Team that Leads Sunday School
- Creating a Church-wide Space Plan for Sunday School Growth
- The Model Sunday School Teacher
- The Sunday School Pastor's Leadership Attributes
- Principles and Methods of Missional Sunday School Classes
- Planning an Annual Sunday School Training Event

Assignment Formatting

- Turabian format
- All papers must be written in third person and double-spaced
- Use 12 point Times New Roman font
- Use the same number of **references** as assigned pages
- Use correct spelling and grammar
- Use proper pagination
- Include your name on the *cover page*
- Staple assignments together as necessary or as required (*no report covers please*)
- Write the *full* assignment

Book Critiques – 10 points total (each book is 5 points)

Due: Oct 10th & Nov 14th

On the assigned day, you turn in a 3-page, type-written report on the assigned book. The book review should include the following two components: 1) A **content summary** that is double spaced for page one and 2) A **reflection summary** that is a single-spaced list of significant ideas (direct quotes or general ideas) from the book with a page number and 1 of the 3 categories below. Double space between each entry of the list. **Brief reflective comments should be included with each entry.** A grading rubric is found in the online shell.

1. **AGREEMENT** – Thoughts with which you are in firm agreement; things that make you say “Yes!” or items that inspire you to action in your life and move your spirit.
2. **DISAGREEMENT** – Thoughts in which you find dissonance; areas with which you might disagree.
3. **MORE THOUGHT** – Areas that you want to spend more time thinking about; things that make you wonder; items on which you are not sure what your stance it.

Due Dates: Allan Taylor (*Sunday School in HD*) – **Oct 10**
Will Mancini (*Church Unique*) – **Nov 14**

Strategic Planning Project - 35 points

Due: Dec 5th

Develop a strategic plan for a Sunday School or the counterpart small group Bible study ministry of the local church. Your goal is to create a strategy that can be presented to the leadership of the church for future implementation. Guidelines for the development of this process will be provided online through the lectures and handouts. You may delimit SPP to the specific age group for which you are preparing to serve. You will post your project on Blackboard

via Microsoft PowerPoint presentation (minimum of 25 slides) or Publisher handbook (minimum of 30 pages). A grading rubric will be provided in the blackboard shell.

Classroom Discussion and Engagement – 10 points

Due: Weekly

Participation/attendance is expected for every course session due to the interactive learning format of the course. A positive attitude can only enhance the learning experience. Therefore, for the purposes of this class, a *positive attitude* and *participation* are defined as productive and interactive engagement with dialogues throughout a full course session. Additionally, students cannot participate effectively if you are not engaged in the classroom dialogues on the **WEEKLY** subject matter. Students are expected to be fully engaged in the lectures, the teaching tools and handouts, and the dialogue and learning engagement during each course session.

Final Examination

The professor reserves the right to administer a final exam if the class fails to participate in a manner that is engaging and acceptable.

Text Review Readings for Extra Credit – 3 points extra credit

Due: Dec 9

OPTIONAL: Create a five-page text review for a book selection not already required or read for the course. The text selected *must be pre-approved* and consist of at least 150 pages. The text review should include a brief summary, the vital concepts, and your appraisal and considerations on the text.

Evaluation of Grade

The student's grade will be computed as follows:

- | | |
|--|--------------|
| 1. Summary <i>Sunday School that Really Excels</i> – 20 points | Due: Sept 24 |
| 2. Book critique <i>Sunday School in HD</i> – 10 points | Due: Oct 10 |
| 3. Exegetical Research Paper – 20 points | Due: Oct 24 |
| 4. Book critique <i>Church Unique</i> – 5 points | Due: Nov 14 |
| 5. Strategic Planning Project – 35 points | Due: Dec 5 |
| 6. Classroom Discussion/Engagement –10 points | Due: Weekly |
| 7. OPTIONAL Extra Credit (Text Review Readings) – 3 points | Due: Dec 9 |

Technical Assistance

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

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

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.

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.

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

Unit	Lecture Topic	Date
Unit 1	Introduction	August 22
Unit 2	Leadership of Sunday School	August 29
Break	Labor Day	September 4
Unit 3	Management of Sunday School	September 11
Unit 4	History and Current State of Sunday School	September 18
Assignment	<i>Sunday School that Really Excels Summary– Due</i>	September 24
Unit 5	Organizational Chart and Leadership positions	September 26
Unit 6	Recruiting and Enlistment	October 3
Unit 7	Administrating the Sunday School	October 10
Assignment	<i>Book Critique Due – SS in HD</i>	October 10
Unit 8	Sunday School Teacher’s Call and Training	October 17
Break	Fall Break	October 24
Assignment	Exegetical Research Paper	October 24
Unit 10	Developing Ministry through Sunday School	October 31
Unit 11	Choosing and Evaluating Curriculum	November 7
Unit 12	Starting New Groups	November 14
Assignment	<i>Book Critique Due – Church Unique</i>	November 14
Break	Thanksgiving Break	November 21
Unit 13	Strategic Planning	November 28
Assignment	Strategic Sunday School Project	Dec. 5
Unit 14	Designing Educational Space	Dec. 5

Selected Bibliography

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- Donahue, Bill. *Leading Life-Changing Small Groups*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2002.
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Student Services

This is a partial list of NOBTS student services available to all students, no matter your delivery system or location. If you have questions or do not see what you need here, please refer to www.nobts.edu/student-services, email us at studentservices@nobts.edu, or call the Dean of Students office at 800-662-8701, ext. 3283. We are glad to assist you!

Need	Email	Phone	Web Page
Advising – Graduate Program	studentservices@nobts.edu	504.282.4455 x3312	www.nobts.edu/registrar/default.html#advising
Advising – Undergraduate Program	lcadminasst@nobts.edu	504.816.8590	www.nobts.edu/LeavellCollege
Church Minister Relations (for ministry jobs)	cmr@nobts.edu	504.282.4455 x3291	www.nobts.edu/CMR
Financial Aid	financialaid@nobts.edu	504.282.4455 x3348	www.nobts.edu/financialaid
PREP (help to avoid student debt)	Prepassistant1@nobts.edu	504.816.8091	www.nobts.edu/prep
Gatekeeper NOBTS news	pr@nobts.edu	504.816.8003	nobtsgatekeeper.wordpress.com
Information Technology Center	itcsupport@nobts.edu	504.816.8180	selfserve.nobts.edu
Help with Blackboard	blackboardhelpdesk@nobts.edu	504.816.8180	nobts.blackboard.com
Library	library@nobts.edu	504.816.8018	www.nobts.edu/Library
Online library resources	library@nobts.edu	504.816.8018	http://www.nobts.edu/research-links/default.html
Writing and Turabian style help	library@nobts.edu	504.816.8018	http://www.nobts.edu/writing/default.html
Guest Housing (Providence Guest House)	ph@nobts.edu	504.282.4455 x4455	www.provhouse.com
Student Counseling	lmccc@nobts.edu	504.816.8004	www.nobts.edu/student-services/counseling-services.html
Women’s Programs	womensacademic@nobts.edu	504.282.4455 x3334	www.nobts.edu/women

For additional library resources in your state, check <http://www.nobts.edu/library/interlibrary-loan.html>

- GALILEO for Georgia students
- LALINC for Louisiana students
- Florida Virtual Library (<http://www.flelibrary.org/>) for Florida students
- Interact with us online at –



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