



CEYH5344 The Work of the Minister of Youth

Christian Education Division

Online

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HSC 217

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 Course

The purpose of the course is to equip the seminary student to be an effective youth minister in the local church, creating environments which partner with families in discipleship of students.

Our Core Values

The seminary has five core values. This course supports the five core values of the seminary.

Doctrinal Integrity: Knowing that the Bible is the Word of God, we believe it, teach it, proclaim it, and submit to it. Our confessional commitments are outlined in the "Articles of Religious Belief" and the "Baptist Faith and Message 2000."

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.

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.

The focal core value for 2016-2017 is *Characteristic Excellence*.

Curriculum Competencies Addressed

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 seven areas:

Biblical Exposition: Students will explore biblical foundations and rationale for youth ministry.

Disciple Making: Students will examine developmental and educational issues that play a significant role in the development of adolescent faith.

Interpersonal Skills: Students will develop or improve the skills necessary for relating to and communicating well with teenagers, parents, youth volunteers, church staff, and the church body as a whole.

Servant Leadership: Students will consider the nature of servant leadership and explore practical application within the work of youth ministry.

Spiritual and Character Formation: Devotional content will help students address their own spiritual and developmental needs in areas related to the topic of each session.

Course Catalog Description

The primary focus is to assist the student in leading and developing a sound philosophy of youth ministry and how to program youth ministry in the church. Additional study is on the various roles of the youth minister as a staff member, family member, and community leader.

Student Learning Outcomes

The student involved in this course should be able to accomplish the following:

The student involved in this course should be able to accomplish the following objectives, stated in terms of learning domains:

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| Cognitive | Formulate and articulate a biblical philosophy and purpose statement for ministry to youth. Identify resources for youth ministry and youth ministers. |
| Affective: | Understand and distinguish between the roles of the minister of youth and other youth workers. |
| Psychomotor: | Demonstrate an understanding of personnel issues in youth ministry for both paid staff and volunteer workers. Demonstrate understanding and ability to implement the essential components of youth ministry programming for the local church setting. Demonstrate competency regarding the administrative functions of youth ministry. |

Textbooks

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

Required Texts

Robbins, Duffy. *This Way to Youth Ministry*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan/Youth Specialties, 2004.

Habermas, Ronald T. "How Should We Teach Biblical Truth?" in Dunn, Richard R. and Mark H Senter, eds. *Reaching A Generation for Christ*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1997. (provided)

Work, Mike and Ginny Olson. *Youth Ministry Management Tools 2.0*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2014.

Book Review Text (choose one)

Geiger, Eric & Jeff Borton. *Simple Student Ministry: A Clear Process for Strategic Youth Discipleship*. Nashville: B&H Books, 2009.

McKee, Jonathan & David R. Smith. *Ministry by Teenagers*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan/Youth Specialties, 2011.

Ross, Richard. *Youth Ministry and the Supremacy of Christ*. Nashville: CrossBooks, 2009.

Course Teaching Methodology

Units of Study

Unit 1: Philosophy and Programming for Youth Ministry

Unit 2: Personnel Issues in Youth Ministry

Unit 3: Core Competencies for Youth Ministers and Volunteers

Unit 4: Administrative Functions of Youth Ministry

Teaching Method. Lecture, research and writing, and discussion in an online delivery.

Course Requirements

1. Discussion Board Interaction (10 @ 20 pts = 200 total; 20% of semester grade)

- a) The Discussion Board is a central component of an online learning community. As such, the initial post is due each week by midnight on Sunday night. Discussion centers on the assigned reading, course content, and viewpoints of others. Each student is expected to reflect on other class member's posts by the final day of the session.
- b) Discussion is also a measure of class attendance. In some sessions, major assignments will take the place of discussion. Failure to submit a post/assignment before the next session opens will constitute an absence for the week. Students whose absences exceed 25% of the course may be assigned a grade of F.
- c) In the event of an emergency or unavoidable circumstances, contact the instructor before an absence is incurred.

Post to the Discussion Board before midnight on Sunday night

2. Theological Essay (50 points; 5% of semester grade)

Submit a 750-1000 word essay, entitled “Why I Believe Student Ministry is Biblical” to Blackboard. Cite references and use short phrases or verses, but avoid long quotations of Bible verses. Submit to Blackboard by Sunday night September 4 at 11:59 PM.

Due: September 4

3. Article Reflection Reports (2 @ 50 points = 100 total; 10% of semester grade)

a) Select and read an article from a youth ministry-related journal. Each article of the article reviewed must be from scholarly peer-reviewed journals in the course bibliography (See Selected Bibliography below. For example: *The Journal of Youth Ministry* or *Christian Education Journal*).

b) Write a 250-350 word critical reflection report on the article and submit to Blackboard before midnight on the following Sunday nights. Choose two of the following topics:

“Evangelism among Teenagers”

“Personal Challenges in Youth Ministry”

“Leading Volunteers”

“Family Ministry”

Article Reflection 1 Due: September 11

Article Reflection 2 Due: October 23

c) The report should include:

1. A full bibliographic reference
2. The author’s primary point(s)
3. At least one identified strength
4. At least one identified weakness

Note: Strengths and weaknesses are not likes or dislikes, but an academic evaluation that should be supported by the course texts or content.

4. Book Review (100 points; 10% of semester grade)

a) Write a review (3-4 pages) of one of the three optional texts listed on the syllabus.

The review is to be five pages in length (double-spaced) that includes the following:

1. Identify the author’s purpose for writing. Was he able to communicate his purpose?
2. Provide a brief overview of the key ideas from the text (about 2 pages).
3. Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the book. Note: Strengths and weaknesses are not likes or dislikes, but an academic evaluation that should be supported by the course texts or content (about 2 pages).
4. Answer the question, “Did the book help your overall view of Youth Ministry? If so, how did it help? If not, why not?”

b) Submit to Blackboard by Sunday night September 18 at 11:59 PM.

Due: September 25

5. Philosophy of Youth Ministry (50 points; 5% of semester grade)

a) Develop a personal philosophy of student ministry (1-2 pages), to include:

1. Mission – what you want to accomplish
2. Core values – the values that will guide the process
3. Vision – the specific way you will engage in ministry

4. Strategy – how you will accomplish your vision (programs and events)
 5. Measures of success – tangible evidence that the ministry is effective
- b) Submit to Blackboard by Sunday night, October 9 at 11:59 PM.

Due: October 9

6. Youth Minister Interview (100 points; 10% of semester grade)

- a) Interview an experienced youth minister in person, by phone, or video conference.
- b) The questions to cover include:
 1. What is your youth ministry philosophy/strategy?
 2. What is your program design for implementing the philosophy?
 3. What is your process for developing leaders?
 4. How do you maintain personal balance?
 5. What advice would you give to a first-time youth minister?
- c) In addition, obtain a copy of the youth ministry budget and calendar, as well as some publicity pieces that can be included in the Operation Manual assignment.
- d) Write a summary of the interview (3-4 page) that includes some background on the person interviewed as well as the response to the questions asked.
- e) Submit to Blackboard by Sunday night November 6 at 11:59 PM.

Due: November 6

7. Operations Manual (350 points; 35% of semester grade)

- a) Create an operations manual for youth ministry. Find material and resources for your manual by contacting other youth ministers, going back through your files, or including material from class. *Minimally*, your manual should include:
 1. Theology of youth ministry
 2. Philosophy of youth ministry
 3. A basic strategy for doing youth ministry
 4. Job descriptions of volunteer and paid positions
 5. Name and description of each component of the youth program
 6. Sample calendar
 7. Annual youth ministry budget
 8. Disciplinary policies
 9. Parent ministry strategy
 10. Copies of publicity for youth ministry
- b) Previously submitted sections must be revised to reflect further learning.
- c) Scan or take digital photos of sample items and include them in the document.
- d) Submit to Blackboard by Sunday night November 20 at 11:59 PM.

Due: November 20

8. Final Exam (50 points; 5% of semester grade)

- a) The exam will be objective in nature (multiple choice, matching, listing, and true-false) and cover material from the class lectures and class reading assignments.
- b) Except for emergencies (death in immediate family, serious illness), a make-up exam will not be given. Make-up exams will be given only by permission, must be scheduled in advance with the professor, and must be taken within one week of the scheduled exam.

Final Exam available Sunday, November 27.

Course Evaluation

| | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| Discussion Board | 20% |
| Theology of Youth Ministry | 5% |
| Articles 1-2 | 10% |
| Book Review | 10% |
| Philosophy of Youth Ministry | 5% |
| Interview | 10% |
| Operations Manual | 35% |
| Final Exam | 5% |

Course Policies

Reading Assignments

Students are responsible for completing all reading assignments.

Professor's Policy on Late Assignments

All work is due on the assigned date in the syllabus. Assignments are due by the beginning of class on the day they are due. Late assignments will be penalized 5 points for each day the assignment is late. Submit assignments electronically on Blackboard.

Exam Policy

When exams are given via Blackboard, students will have a 24 hour window in which to take the exam. There should be no reason for any exams to be missed. If dire illness, personal emergency, or school sponsored events prevent access to the internet, the student will be responsible for contacting the professor before the exam to secure permission to schedule the exam and to schedule an appointment for a make-up exam. Failure to do so will result in an automatic grade of 0.

Professor's Availability and Assignment Feedback

The student may contact the professor at any time using the email address provided in the course syllabus. The professor will make every effort to return answers to emailed questions within a 24-hour period of time. Assignments requiring grading will be returned to the student within a reasonable period of time. Student feedback on graded assignments will be provided through the grading rubric located in the student's Blackboard Grade Book. The student will find comments in the grading rubric, as well as on graded paper assignments. The student may also email the course grader with questions regarding grading.

Style and Formatting

All assignments are to be typed, double-spaced with a 12-point font, Times New Roman, with 1-inch margins. Include your name, date of submission, and the assignment title on the cover page.

Help for Writing Papers at "The Write Stuff"

This is the official NOBTS Writing Center online help site for writing academic papers and essays. <http://www.nobts.edu/writing/default.html> You will discover writing guides,

tips, and valuable information to help you become a better writer. Go here for Turabian and APA style helps and guidelines. You will also find language fonts for Greek and Hebrew.

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 on Written Assignments

NOBTS has a no tolerance policy for plagiarism. Please be aware that plagiarism in certain cases may result in expulsion from the seminary. Refer to the NOBTS Student Handbook <http://www.nobts.edu/resources/pdf/student-services/NOBTSHandbook.pdf> where the definition, penalties and policies associated with plagiarism are clearly defined.

Extra Credit

The policy for extra credit in this course is students can submit an additional book review for extra credit. The extra book review will not substitute or replace any course assignment.

Blackboard and ITC Technical Support

Blackboard is the instructional platform used in this class. Please make sure that your contact information is accurate and up-to-date. If you need assistance, please contact the Information Technology Center (Hardin Student Center 290 or call **504.816.8180**). Here are other helpful links to ITC assistance. Selfserve@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support request for help with the site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.) BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Blackboard System. For Student Assistance in using Blackboard, visit: [Student Bb Help](#). ITCSupport@nobts.edu - for general technical questions/support requests. www.NOBTS.edu/itc/ - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

Academic Policies

Academic policies relate to absences, grading scale, final examination schedules, and other topics can be found in the current online catalog: [New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Graduate Catalog](#).

Policy for Graduating Seniors

Graduating Seniors are responsible for alerting the professor of your intention to graduate. All of your assignments must be completed by noon (12:00 PM) on the Wednesday prior to commencement exercises.

Web-based Course Reminder/Warning

Web-based courses are, by nature, a different kind of learning experience than courses taught in the traditional classroom. Because of this structure, this web-based course is more reading and writing intensive than traditional classroom courses. Rigorous study of the deep things of God can be a rewarding experience for anyone who participates in it, but it also calls for extra diligence and integrity in completing the work. This reality does not mean that a web-based course cannot be successful in equipping you, the student, for effective, God-honoring ministry. It simply means utilizing a different strategy. Internet courses allow room for independent learners to thrive—to work at a responsible pace, to engage in student-led discussions, and to take ownership of the learning of course content. Note that your instructors are praying for your success.

Netiquette

Netiquette refers to appropriate online behavior in Blackboard or other online discussions. 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.

Selected Bibliography

Peer-reviewed journals:

Adolescence – available online at ebsco

Journal of Adolescence – published by the Association in Professional Services for Adolescents

Journal of Adolescent Research – available online at ebsco

Journal of Research on Adolescence – published by Society for Research on Adolescence

Journal of Youth and Adolescence – published by Springer

Journal of Youth Ministry – published by the Association of Youth Ministry Educators

Journal of Youth and Theology – published by the International Association for the Study of Youth Ministry

Note: Any journal accessed through the Christian Periodical Index (CPI), accessible through the John T Christian Library online (EBSCO Host) will meet the course requirements.

Books:

Bertoli, Dewey. *Back to the Heart of Youth Work*. Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1989.

Black, Wesley. *An Introduction to Youth Ministry*. Nashville, TN: B&H, 1998.

DeVries, Mark. *Family-Based Youth Ministry*. InterVarsity Press, 2004.

Dunn, Richard and Mark Senter. *Reaching a Generation for Christ*. Chicago: Moody Press, 1997.

Fields, Doug. *Purpose Driven Youth Ministry*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Youth Specialties, 1998.

Fields, Doug. *Your First Two Years in Youth Ministry*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan/Youth Specialties, 2002.

Grassel, Rich. *Help! I'm a Small Church Youth Worker!* Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan/Youth Specialities, 2002.

Kageler, Len. *The Youth Minister's Survival Guide.* Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan/YouthSpecialities, 1992.

Patty, Steven and Steve Keels, eds. *Impact: Student Ministry that Will Transform a Generation.* Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman, 2005.

Reid, Alvin. *Raising the Bar: Ministry to Youth in the New Millennium.* Kregel Publications, 2004.

Wright, Steve with Chris Graves. *reThink.* InQuest Ministries, 2007.

Yaconelli, Mike. *The Core Realities of Youth Ministry: Nine Biblical Principles that Mark Healthy Youth Ministries.* Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan/Youth Specialties, 2004.

For a more extensive list, visit the Resources page at youthministryinstitute.org

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 –



TWITTER.COM/NOBTS INSTAGRAM.COM/NOBTS FACEBOOK.COM/NOBTS

CEYH5344 The Work of the Minister of Youth Course Schedule

| Date | Topic | Reading | Assignment Due |
|---|---|---|---|
| Unit One: Philosophy and Programming for Youth Ministry | | | |
| August 28 | Syllabus Review Youth Ministry Defined | Class Session 1 (on Blackboard) Robbins 1 & 2 | Discussion Board 1 (on Blackboard) |
| September 4 | Theology and Models | Robbins 13 | Theology of Youth Ministry Discussion Board 2 |
| September 11 | Ministry Functions: Evangelism & Discipleship | Robbins 11 | Article Review 1 |
| September 18 | Ministry Functions: Fellowship, Ministry & Worship | | Discussion Board 3 |
| September 25 | Philosophy of Youth Ministry | Robbins 12 | Book Review |
| Unit Two: Personnel Issues in Youth Ministry | | | |
| October 2 | Life of the Minister: Leading Self | Robbins 10 | Discussion Board 4 |
| October 9 | Life of the Minister: Leading Others | Robbins 14 Olson 17-20 | Philosophy of Youth Ministry Discussion Board 5 |
| Unit Three: Core Competencies for Youth Ministers and Volunteers | | | |
| October 16 | Developmental Overview | Robbins 5-7 | Discussion Board 6 |
| October 23 | Principles for Teaching Teens | Habermas Article | Article Review 2 Discussion Board 7 |
| October 30 | Ministry with Parents and Family | | Discussion Board 8 |
| Unit Four: Administrative Functions of Youth Ministry | | | |
| November 6 | Legal Issues in Youth Ministry | Olson 21-22 | Youth Minister Interview Discussion Board 9 |
| November 13 | Budgets, Calendars, and Administration | Olson 8-16 | Discussion Board 10 |
| November 20 | Ministry as a Career | Olson 23-26 | Operations Manual |
| November 27 | Fun and the Final | | Final Exam |