



**Women and Church Growth: CEWM 5170**  
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary  
Christian Education Division  
Online Fall 2017

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**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.

**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**

The seminary has five core values: Doctrinal Integrity, Spiritual Vitality, Mission Focus, Characteristic Excellence, and Servant Leadership. The core value focus for this academic year is *Servant Leadership*: We follow the model of Jesus and exert leadership and influence through the nurture and encouragement of those around us.

**Curriculum Competencies**

All graduates of NOBTS are expected to have at least a minimum level of competency in each of the following areas: Biblical Exposition, Christian Theological Heritage, Disciple Making, Interpersonal Skills, Servant Leadership, Spiritual and Character Formation, and Worship Leadership. The curriculum competencies addressing in this course are: Biblical Exposition, Christian Theological Heritage, Disciple Making, Interpersonal Skills, Servant Leadership, Spiritual and Character Formation, and Worship Leadership.

**Course Description**

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

**Student Learning Objectives**

By the completion of this course, the 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.

## 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

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
2. Rainer, Thom S. and Eric Geiger. *Simple Church: Returning to God's Process for Making Disciples*. Nashville, TN: B&H Publishing Group, 2006. ISBN: 0805443908

## 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, interactive discovery-learning, and internet research. The student should expect different presentation formats to enhance the learning motif.

## Course Requirements

1. **Attend class.** The course is divided into 8 one-week units. Each week's unit will typically consist of a video introduction or lecture as well as a power point presentation. Class attendance is based on a self-reported percentage of content completed. **The student will provide a written statement of the percentage of completion of all in-class content items, due four weeks after the last week of class.** This may be uploaded in the Assignments folder.
2. **Participate in class discussion.** Participation is determined by postings and responses in the Threaded Discussions held each week. These discussions will be related to the material covered in each week's content. **All students are required to post a minimum of three responses in the main discussion each week: one in answer to the presenting questions, and two in response to classmates' postings.** In order for the threaded discussion to be of maximum benefit to everyone involved it is recommended that you stay as close to the course schedule as possible—so that everyone will participate in the discussion in the same week. **Late postings will be penalized one point for each day late.** Please limit discussions in this venue to the assigned topic. Students may e-mail or use the miscellaneous forum to discuss other topics with your classmates.

3. **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. This may be uploaded in the Assignments folder and is **due four weeks after the last week of class**.
4. **Read assigned textbooks and other reading assignments.** Reading assignments will include readings from the textbooks, Scripture, and other sources. The student will provide a written statement of completion of all reading assignments, **due four weeks after the last week of class**. This may be uploaded in the Assignments folder.
5. **Complete an on-line final examination.** The final exam will be posted on Blackboard under "Course Documents" for **four weeks after the last week of class**. It will be a review of the weekly readings as well as content covered in videos, power points, and other referenced materials. Please complete it in the allotted time.

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.

### Evaluation of Grade

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

A = 93 – 100	¼ = Class Attendance/Participation
B = 85 – 92	¼ = Textbook Reading
C = 77 – 84	¼ = Interactive Textbook Report/Project
D = 70 – 76	¼ = Final Exam
F = Below 70	

### Technical Assistance

For assistance regarding technology, consult ITC (504.816.8180) or the following websites:

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

## **Reading Assignments**

Students are responsible for completing all reading assignments.

## **Classroom Parameters**

Respect the professor and other members of the class.

Maintain confidentiality when someone shares personal information.

Participate in class and group discussions.

## **Extra Credit**

The policy for extra credit in this course is made in collaboration with the professor.

## **Academic Policies**

Academic policies related 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.

## **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.

## **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.

## **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 tips and valuable information to help in become 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 are clearly defined.

## Course Schedule

### **Week One: Introduction and Biblical Basis for Church Growth**

*begins: August 21, 2017*

### **Week Two: Types of Churches**

*begins: August 28, 2017*

### **Week Three: Breakout Churches**

*begins: September 4, 2017*

### **Week Four: Connecting the Next Generation**

*begins: September 11, 2017*

### **Week Five: Reaching the Postmodern Woman**

*begins: September 18, 2017*

### **Week Six: Transformational Church**

*begins: September 25, 2017*

### **Week Seven: Future Trends and Strategic Planning**

*begins: October 2, 2017*

### **Week Eight: Conclusion**

*begins: October 9, 2017*

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## Selected Bibliography

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.

George, Carl F. and Warren Bird. *How to Break Growth Barriers: Revise Your Role, Release Your People, and Capture Overlooked Opportunities for Your Church*. Ada, MI: Baker Books, 2017.

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

- \_\_\_\_\_. *The Bonsai Principle of Church Growth*. Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman, 1991.
- Hybels, Bill. *Rediscovering Church: The Story and Vision of Willow Creek Community Church*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing, 1995.
- Kelley, Chuck. *How Did They Do It? The Story of Southern Baptist Evangelism*. New Orleans, LA: Insight Press, 1993.
- Malm, Jonathan. *Unwelcome: 50 Ways Churches Drive Away First-Time Visitors*. Los Angeles: Center for Church Communication, 2014.
- McIntosh, Gary L. (gen. ed.). *Evaluating the Church Growth Movement: Five Views*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing, 2004.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Taking Your Church to the Next Level*. Ada, MI: Baker Books, 2009.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *There's Hope for Your Church: First Steps to Restoring Health and Growth*. Ada, MI: Baker Books, 2012.
- Miller, Michael D. *Kingdom Leadership: A Guide to Christ-Centered Leadership*. Nashville: LifeWay, 1996.
- Mims, Gene. *Kingdom Principles for Church Growth*. Nashville, TN: LifeWay Press, 2001.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *The Kingdom-Focused Church*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 2003.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *The 7 Churches Not in the Book of Revelation*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 2001.
- Rainer, Thom S. *Autopsy of a Deceased Church: 12 Ways to Keep Yours Alive*. Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman, 2014.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Breakout Churches: Discover How to Make the Leap*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2005.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Eating the Elephant: Bite-sized Steps to Achieve Long-Term Growth in Your Church*. Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman, 1994.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Effective Evangelistic Churches*. Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1996.
- \_\_\_\_\_ and Eric Geiger. *Simple Church: Returning to God's Process for Making Disciples*. Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman, 2006.

Robinson, Darrell W. *Total Church Life: Exalt, Equip, Evangelize*. Nashville, TN: Broadman Press, 1985.

Schaller, Lyle E. *44 Ways to Increase Church Attendance*. Nashville, TN: Abington Press, 1988.

\_\_\_\_\_. *The Middle Sized Church*. Nashville, TN: Abington Press, 1985.

\_\_\_\_\_. *The Multiple Staff and Larger Staff*. Nashville, TN: Abington Press, 1980.

Shultz, Glen. *Kingdom Education: God's Plan for Educating Future Generations*, Second Edition. Nashville: LifeWay Press, 2003.

\_\_\_\_\_. *The Small Church is Different*. Nashville, TN: Abington Press, 1982.

Stetzer, Ed and Mike Dodson. *Comeback Churches: How 300 Turned Around and Yours Can, Too*. Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman, 2007.

\_\_\_\_\_ and Thom S. Rainer. *Transformational Church: Creating a New Scorecard for Congregations*. Nashville: B&H Publishing Group, 2010.

Towns, Elmer L. *A Practical Encyclopedia: Evangelism and Church Growth*. Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 1995.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Ten Innovative Churches*. Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 1990.

\_\_\_\_\_, Peter Wagner & Thom Rainer. *The Everychurch Guide to Growth: How Any Plateaued Church Can Grow*. Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1998.

Vaughan, John N. *The Large Church: A Twentieth-Century Expression of the First Century Church*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1985.

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Wagner, Peter C. *The Healthy Church*. Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 1996.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Leading Your Church to Growth*. Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 1984.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Strategies for Church Growth*. Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 1990.

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Warren, Rick. *The Purpose-Driven Church: Growth without Compromising Your Message and Mission*. Grand Rapids, MI: 2007.

Womack, David A. *The Pyramid Principles of Church Growth*. Minneapolis, MN: Bethany Fellowship, 1977.

## **Internet Sources**

Christian Information Network <http://www.christian-info.com/>

International Mission Board <http://www.imb.org/>

North American Mission Board <http://namb.net/>

Woman's Missionary Union <http://www.wmu.org>

Kingdom Women (to subscribe to monthly e-newsletter) <http://subscribe.imb.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/studentservices](http://www.nobts.edu/studentservices), email us at [studentservices@nobts.edu](mailto: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	<a href="mailto:studentservices@nobts.edu">studentservices@nobts.edu</a>	504.282.4455 x3312	<a href="http://www.nobts.edu/registrar/default.html#advising">www.nobts.edu/registrar/default.html#advising</a>
Advising – Undergraduate Program	<a href="mailto:lcadminasst@nobts.edu">lcadminasst@nobts.edu</a>	504.816.8590	<a href="http://www.nobts.edu/LeavellCollege">www.nobts.edu/LeavellCollege</a>
Church Minister Relations (for ministry jobs)	<a href="mailto:cmr@nobts.edu">cmr@nobts.edu</a>	504.282.4455 x3291	<a href="http://www.nobts.edu/CMR">www.nobts.edu/CMR</a>
Financial Aid	<a href="mailto:financialaid@nobts.edu">financialaid@nobts.edu</a>	504.282.4455 x3348	<a href="http://www.nobts.edu/financialaid">www.nobts.edu/financialaid</a>
PREP (help to avoid student debt)	<a href="mailto:Prepassistant1@nobts.edu">Prepassistant1@nobts.edu</a>	504.816.8091	<a href="http://www.nobts.edu/prep">www.nobts.edu/prep</a>
Gatekeeper NOBTS news	<a href="mailto:pr@nobts.edu">pr@nobts.edu</a>	504.816.8003	<a href="http://nobtsgatekeeper.wordpress.com">nobtsgatekeeper.wordpress.com</a>
Information Technology Center	<a href="mailto:itcsupport@nobts.edu">itcsupport@nobts.edu</a>	504.816.8180	<a href="http://selfserve.nobts.edu">selfserve.nobts.edu</a>
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Library	<a href="mailto:library@nobts.edu">library@nobts.edu</a>	504.816.8018	<a href="http://www.nobts.edu/Library">www.nobts.edu/Library</a>
Online library resources	<a href="mailto:library@nobts.edu">library@nobts.edu</a>	504.816.8018	<a href="http://www.nobts.edu/research-links/default.html">http://www.nobts.edu/research-links/default.html</a>
Writing and Turabian style help	<a href="mailto:library@nobts.edu">library@nobts.edu</a>	504.816.8018	<a href="http://www.nobts.edu/writing/default.html">http://www.nobts.edu/writing/default.html</a>
Guest Housing (Providence Guest House)	<a href="mailto:ph@nobts.edu">ph@nobts.edu</a>	504.282.4455 x4455	<a href="http://www.provhouse.com">www.provhouse.com</a>
Student Counseling	<a href="mailto:lmccc@nobts.edu">lmccc@nobts.edu</a>	504.816.8004	<a href="http://www.nobts.edu/studentservices/counseling-services.html">www.nobts.edu/studentservices/counseling-services.html</a>
Women’s Programs	<a href="mailto:womensacademic@nobts.edu">womensacademic@nobts.edu</a>	504.282.4455 x3334	<a href="http://www.nobts.edu/women">www.nobts.edu/women</a>

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- LALINC for Louisiana students
- Florida Virtual Library (<http://www.flelibrary.org/>) for Florida students

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