



CEAD 6250 Adult Ministry in Theory and Practice
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Christian Education Division
Jan. 2 Term Workshop

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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 familiarize students with adult development theory and the programs, resources, and organizational structures interplay in leading an adult ministry of a local church.

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 worshipping 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 2014-2015 academic year that Core Value is *Spiritual Vitality*.

Curriculum Competencies Addressed

The course addresses the curriculum competencies within the area of Christian education and supports interpersonal relationship skills as well by enhancing one's ministerial skills in relating to the adult ministry in the local church.

Course Description

This course focuses on the exploration of foundational theories related to the development, social, cognitive processing, and spiritual needs of adults. A strong emphasis will be placed on how local churches should provide and can implement a complete ministry program for all adults. Special attention will be given to Bible study and discipleship strategies, men's and women's ministries, and the needs of singles and senior adults.

Learning Objectives

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

- Identify and discuss leadership and adult ministry from biblical, historical, demographic, and developmental perspectives.
- Value specific components of adult ministry in the local church setting.
- Utilize administrative procedures in planning and implementing an adult ministry in the local church.

Required Readings

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

Required Texts

Estep, James R. and Jonathan H. Kim, ed. *Christian Formation: Integrating Theology and Human Development*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman Academic, 2010.

Rainer, Thom. *I Am A Church Member*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 2013.

White, James E. *The Rise of the Nones: Understanding and Reaching the Religiously Unaffiliated*. Grand Rapids, MI: BakerBooks, 2014.

Optional Texts

Early, David and Ben Gutierrez. *Ministry Is: How to Serve Jesus with Passion and Confidence*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman Academic, 2010.

Keller, Timothy. *Counterfeit Gods: The Empty Promises of Money, Sex, and Power, and the Only Hope that Matters*. New York, NY: Riverhead Books, 2011.

Keller, Timothy. *The Prodigal God: Rediscovering the Heart of the Christian Faith*. New York, NY: Riverhead Books, 2011.

Course Teaching Methodology

This course will utilize lecture, group presentations, and an interactive discovery-learning format. Students will engage in personal research, presentations, and class discussions. The professor will present foundational material through lecture and interactive class experiences

Assignments and Evaluation Criteria

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.

Book Critiques – 5 points each

Create a two or three sentence single-spaced annotation for each of the course texts to meet the reading requirement. Each Annotated bibliography should contain the correct format as cited in Turabian 9.36 with the addition of the number of pages of the referenced work at the end of the citation. Each annotation that follows should contain of your appraisal and considerations on the text not just a synopsis of the text. Following the annotation, indicate whether or not you read the text in its entirety.

Christian Formation: Integrating Theology and Human Development – **Due Jan. 29th**

The Rise of the Nones: Understanding and Reaching the Religiously Unaffiliated – **Due Feb. 6th**

Following the critiques, indicate **whether or not you read** the text in its entirety.

Adult Ministry Issue Paper – 20 points (Due Jan. 13th)

Write a 5-page paper on an adult ministry issue for today’s adults in the local church. Be specific in what you study and choose a specific age group of adults (young, middle, or late adulthood). This paper should include information on the adult ministry issue (3 pgs), inclusion of adult developmental concerns (1 pg) and also implications (1 pg) for ministering to the specific age group. Remember that each ministry issue must be addressed by biblical truths while considering the developmental issues that adults face in life. Use at least 5 sources, preferably current scholarly journal articles and books (within the last ten years). **Pay close attention to the Assignment Formatting section of this syllabus!** Choose from the examples below:

- Purpose, creation and implementation of a new church member class
- Purpose, planning and hosting an adult ministry event (marriage enrichment, parenting seminar, stewardship banquet, etc.)
- Recruiting, training, and rewarding adult volunteer leaders for adult men’s and women’s ministries
- Purpose, model and implementation of intergenerational mentoring for single adults and couples
- The development of a personal life goals plan that includes spiritual, mental, physical, and social development
- Create and implementation of a church-wide prayer ministry including specific prayer concerns.
- Purpose, creation, and implementation of a holistic church-wide strategy to teach, evaluate, and model a Christian worldview to family units.
- Purpose, creation, and strategy to reach millennials with the gospel and disciple them to maturity.

This paper will be presented (20 min) by students in class on **Tuesday, January 13th**. The presentation will be graded and evaluated by the professor.

Critical Reflection Paper – 25 points (Due Feb. 13th)

Create a critical reflection paper identifying **five** adult education principles that you deem important to adult ministry in the local church. The five principles should be clearly outlined in the body of the paper. The primary sources for this assignment include: 1) the Bible and 2) the Estep, Jr and Kim textbook. Support your choice of principles with information from the course readings and additional research, as well as ministry and life experiences. (You must be able to validate your experience.) These principles should guide your understanding, evaluation, and research of education and discipleship systems utilized in local churches. Present your findings in a 6-page paper. **Pay close attention to the *Assignment Formatting* section of this syllabus!**

Ministry Model Presentation– 30 points (Due Feb. 27th)

Based on the theoretical foundations laid in class, the principles identified in a critical reflection paper, and on personal research, develop a model or matrix of ministry to adults. This model should highlight the principles that are considered important in adult ministry and how these principles can be implemented within the local church. This assignment has 3 parts: 1) Write a 5-page paper, which provides an explanation and rationale for the model using Turabian formatting; 2) The ministry model will be submitted online via PowerPoint presentation and 3) one page handout (listening guide) for attendees. The goal for this assignment is for students to use this adult ministry research to train and present to church leadership.

Assignment Formatting

- Unless otherwise noted, type all assignments according to 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

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.

Classroom Decorum – 15 points

Participation is required 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 classroom presentations and classroom dialogues throughout a full course session. You cannot participate effectively if you are not focused on the subject matter while in the classroom. Consequently, the student is expected:

- To come to class with a constructive point of view, prepared to interact with the readings and resources on the course topic in discussion groups and classroom dialogues.

- To dress appropriately and in accordance with the NOBTS Student Handbook (i.e., *no ball caps or flip-flops*).
- To turn off cell phones and not to accept any phone calls during class.
- Use laptops, iPads and other electronic devices appropriately to enhance class participation and abstain from social media (i.e., Face Book, messaging, etc.) and ministry responsibilities (e-mails, web site updates, etc.) during class sessions.

Course Policies

Late Assignments

Assignments not submitted *on the due dates* are considered late and will be automatically penalized 10% for each date late including weekends. Late assignments will not be accepted one week beyond the original due date, *no exceptions*. **No grades of Incomplete will be issued for this course. If a late assignment is not received, a grade of "F" is automatically earned for the course.**

Grading Scale

Your final grade will be based on your total accumulation of points as indicated under the *Learning Activities and Assessments* section of this syllabus according to the grading scale in the NOBTS 2011-2012 catalog.

A: 93-100 B: 85-92 C: 77-84 D: 70-76 F: 69 and below

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.

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