

EVAN6221 Church Revitalization

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

Pastoral Ministries Division

May 23-25, 2016

(The workshop begins on May 23 at 1 p. m. and concludes on May 25 at 11:30 a. m.)

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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 Commandment through the local church and its ministries.

Pastoral Ministries Division Mission Statement

To prepare leaders by the development of the skills necessary for performing pastoral ministries, primarily within the context of the Church, and to assist churches, organizations, and individuals through the gifts and skills of Division members.

Core Value Focus and Curriculum Competencies Addressed

- The core values of the seminary include: Doctrinal Integrity, Characteristic Excellence, Spiritual Vitality, Servant Leadership, and Mission Focus. Each school year one of the core values is highlighted. **Mission Focus is the Core Value Focus for the 2015-2016 academic year.**
- The Curriculum Competencies to be addressed include Disciple Making and Servant Leadership.

Course Description

The purpose of this class is to help students develop the knowledge and skills necessary to lead plateaued and declining churches in a variety of settings to become revitalized. This course provides the conceptual tools necessary to understand and work effectively in revitalizing churches by using a case study approach.

Student Learning Objectives

In order to serve churches effectively through team ministry, the students, by the end of the course, should:

- Be able to apply their knowledge and comprehension of key issues germane to effective church revitalization.
- Value leadership skills necessary for effective church revitalization.
- Be able to identify possible causes of plateau and decline of a local church in order to develop a strategy for revitalization of the selected local church.

Course Methodology

This course will feature a variety of teaching/learning methods including lecture, dialogue, required reading, small and large group discussions, testimonies, reports, research/reflection project and personal evangelistic efforts in the context of church revitalization.

Textbooks

Each student will read the required four textbooks:

- (1) *Autopsy of a Deceased Church: 12 Ways to Keep Yours Alive* by Thom Rainer;
- (2) *Can These Bones Live: A Practical Guide to Church Revitalization* By Bill Henard;
- (3) *Taking Your Church to the Next Level: What Got You Here Won't Get You There* by Gary McIntosh; and
- (4) *There's Hope for Your Church: First Steps to Restoring Health and Growth* by Gary McIntosh.

Assignments

1. Each student will read the required textbooks and submit an integrative analysis **for each book**. Each analysis is to be double-spaced and four to five pages in length, involving the following components: (1) summary of the contents of the book, including strengths and weaknesses, (2) discussion of five [5] key insights and issues addressed in the book, (3) synthesis of five [5] implications of the book for 21st century church revitalization. The integrative analysis must employ formal style according to Turabian, 6th edition, regarding cover page, margins, pagination, footnotes, headings/subheadings, etc. No first person allowed. The assignment is due May 22nd at 11:59pm and it should be posted on Blackboard.

2. Each student will facilitate a presentation for the class based on his or her reading and integrative analyses of the required textbooks. The assignment of textbooks and sections to be presented per class schedule will be made during the first day of class. The best way to prepare for the assignment is to develop a working knowledge of the content of the four required textbooks.

3. Each student will develop a Church Revitalization Strategy for a church experiencing plateau or decline. The Strategy must employ insights from all of required textbooks, presentations, and class discussions. Specific instructions regarding the format, structure, and components of the Strategy will be given by the professor in class. The Church Revitalization Strategy paper should be ten to twelve pages, double-spaced and is due June 25th at 11:59pm on Blackboard.

Evaluation

Integrative Analyses of Required Textbooks	40%
Church Revitalization Strategy	25%
Class Presentation	25%
Class Participation, Interaction, and Decorum	10%

Grading Considerations:

- 1) Assignments will be penalized four points for each day they are late, weekends and holidays included.
- 2) All work submitted for this class is to be typed. Grammar, syntax, spelling, punctuation, capitalization, etc. will be evaluated. Typographical errors and poor proofreading will be penalized. All due work will be submitted via the Blackboard.
- 3) The student should submit all assigned work to receive a passing grade for the class.

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