

EVAN6221-0001 Church Revitalization (Mentoring)
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Pastoral Ministries Division
Spring 2016

Dr. Bo Rice

Assistant Professor of Evangelism and Preaching
Associate Dean of Supervised Ministry and Mentoring Programs

E-mail: brice@nobts.edu

Office: Dodd 203

Office Phone: 504-816-8112

Twitter: @drborice

Administrative Assistant: Lydia Wood | mentoring@nobts.edu
Teaching Assistant (Grader): Drew Gardner | dgardner517@gmail.com

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, mentor 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.

The total cost for the books (Amazon) is approximately \$50.

Assignments

1. Each student will read the required textbooks and submit an integrative analysis for each book. The assignment 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.

2. Mentorship Hours and Meetings: The student will be required to fulfill the requirements of the mentorship, including the minimum of 30 hours working in the ministry setting during the semester. These specified hours do not include the weekly scheduled times for worship and Bible study. The student will meet with the mentor each week to discuss personal and ministry issues and hours worked. The student will submit weekly reports of the mentorship and ministry experiences. The reports should be two paragraphs with one paragraph devoted to the mentorship experiences of the week and one paragraph devoted to the ministry experiences of the week.

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.

Evaluation

Integrative Analyses of Required Textbooks	40%
Mentorship Meetings and Reports	35%
Church Revitalization Strategy	25%

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.

Course Schedule

A schedule for the course will be provided in the course shell in Blackboard.

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