

EVAN9403 Church Growth Foundations and Development
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Pastoral Ministries Division
Fall 2011

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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 and its ministries.

CORE VALUE FOCUS

Characteristic Excellence

CURRICULUM COMPETENCIES ADDRESSED

Disciple Making

I. Course Description

The purpose of this seminar is to study the church growth movement in America from the middle part of the 20th century to the present.

II. Course Methodology

- A. Lectures. The lectures of the professor will be resource material for the course.
- B. Discussion. Class discussions will be conducted based on questions raised in the assigned reading and in the lectures.
- C. Presentations. Students will prepare research papers and present them in the seminar.

III. Course Objectives

1. The student will learn and understand the development of the modern church growth movement.
2. The student will become familiar with significant literature on church growth.

3. The student will participate in a church growth research project and write a major paper covering his contribution to the project.

IV. Course Requirements

1. The student will read the required textbooks and write a five to seven page, double spaced, Book Review on each book. The Review should include a brief summary, a critical analysis including strengths and weaknesses of the book, and application for the church today.

Understanding Church Growth by Donald McGavran and Peter Wagner

**Why Conservative Churches Are Growing* by Dean M. Kelley

**Church Growth Principles: Separating Fact from Fiction* by C. Kirk Hadaway

Evaluating the Church Growth Movement by Gary McIntosh, ed.

Breaking the Missional Code by Ed Stetzer and David Putman

Transformational Church by Ed Stetzer and Thom Rainer.

* Book is out of print. Book will be loaned by the professor if the student is unable to secure a copy.

2. The student will read one current journal or periodical article on church growth and write a three to five page, double spaced, Review on the article.

3. The student will be assigned two research papers to present and discuss in class.

4. The student will participate in a research project which will consist of an individual Church Growth Case Study. The project should be approximately twenty pages, double spaced, in length.

5. The student will write a research paper dealing with a relevant topic on church growth as determined by the class. The paper should be approximately thirty five pages, double spaced, in length.

V. Course Grading Procedures

Percent of Grade:

1. Book/Article Reviews	20%
2. Research Project	30%
3. Research Paper	50%

VI. Course Schedule

August 26 Book Reviews of *Understanding Church Growth* and *Why Conservative Churches Are Growing*

September 30 Book Reviews of *Church Growth Principles: Separating Fact from Fiction*, *Evaluating the Church Growth Movement* and *Breaking the Missional Code*

October 14 Book Review of *Transformational Church* and Review of journal/periodical article

November 18 Research Project Presentation

December 9 Research Paper Presentation

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