



## Grace Communion Seminary

### CM508 Church Planting and Church Development (Intensive Class)

#### Short Syllabus

**Instructor: Randy Bloom**

**Phone: 901.289.2786**

To send a message to the instructor, log in to the GCS website, go to the main page for this course, and in the right column you will see a section named “Message My Teacher.”

#### **GCS mission statement**

*“Equipping the Saints for Pastoral Ministry.”* We are committed to equip the saints for pastoral ministry through quality graduate-level distance education programs in biblical, theological, ministerial and pastoral studies informed by Incarnational Trinitarian faith.

#### **Course description**

This course explores the practical application of starting new churches that are centered on Jesus Christ, culturally relevant, share the gospel, make disciples, and continue to multiply new churches. Principles and practices discussed in this course can be applied by pastors and ministry leaders to help established congregations participate more effectively in Jesus’ mission and prepare to “re-plant”, i.e. relocate a congregation to more effectively participate in Jesus’ mission to a focus group or community.

Please obtain the textbooks before the class begins. To find the lowest prices on these books, use [www.bookfinder.com](http://www.bookfinder.com).

#### **Required textbooks**

Archbishop’s Council on Mission and Public Affairs. *Mission-shaped Church: Church Planting and Fresh Expressions of Church in a Changing Context*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. London: Church House Publishing, 2010.

192 pages. About \$20. ISBN 9781596271265

Crider, Caleb; Larry McCrary; Rodney Calfee and Wade Stephens.  
*Tradecraft for the Church on Mission*. Portland, OR: Urban Loft Publishers, 2013. 202 pages. About \$12. ISBN 9780996184755

Malphurs, Aubrey. *Planting Growing Churches for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: A Comprehensive Guide for New Churches and Those Desiring Renewal*. 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2004. 431 pages. About \$20. ISBN 9780801090530

Stetzer, Ed and Daniel Im. *Planting Missional Churches: Your Guide to Starting Churches That Multiply*. 2d ed. Nashville, TN: B & H Academic, 2016. 401 pages. Cost: between \$17 and 26. ISBN 9781433692161

### **Recommended textbooks**

Bailey, John M., Steve Canter and Randy Ferguson. Eds. *Ready? Preparing for the Pressures of Church Planting*. Alpharetta, GA: North American Mission Board, 2009.

Conn, Harvie M. ed. *Planting and Growing Urban Churches: From Dream to Reality*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 1997.

Hastings, Ross. *Missional God, Missional Church: Hope for Re-evangelizing the West*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2012. 321 pages.

Jones, Tom, ed. *Church Planting from the Ground Up*. Joplin, MO: College Press Publishing Co., 2004.

Logan, Robert E. *Be Fruitful and Multiply: Embracing God's Heart for Church Multiplication*. St. Charles, IL: Church Smart Resources, 2006.

Murray, Stuart. *Church Planting: Laying Foundations*. Scottdale, PA:

Herald Press, 2001.

Nebel, Tom. *Big Dreams in Small Places: Church Planting in Smaller Communities*. St. Charles, IL: ChurchSmart Resources, 2002.

Searcy, Nelson, & Kerrick Thomas. *Launch: Starting a New Church from Scratch*. Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 2006.

### **Student learning outcomes**

Students will be able to:

1. Articulate the role of church planting within the framework of Trinitarian theology and the church's participation in Jesus' mission to the world. This outcome will be addressed in Lesson 1 and Chapters 1-3 of Stetzer's book. This outcome will be verified in the student's "Church Planting and Jesus's Mission" paper and contributions to online discussion.
2. Evaluate their personal characteristics and competencies related to planting a church. This outcome will be addressed in Lesson 2 and Chapter 4 of Stetzer's book. This outcome will be verified in the student's "Church Planter Characteristics" paper, contributions to online discussion and contributions in the class.
3. Describe various types of models for church planting and explain which model best suits their personal characteristics and context. This outcome will be addressed in Lesson 2 and Chapters 6-9 of Stetzer's book. This outcome will be verified in the student's "Church Planting Models" paper and contributions to online discussions.
4. Develop a New Church Proposal – a strategic plan for starting a new church – that includes:
  1. A Mission Statement for a new church.
  2. Core values for a new church.
  3. A description of a focus group or community
  4. A description of a launch team including specific ministries necessary for launch.
  5. A general plan for gathering people leading up to a church plant launch.

6. A Discipleship Pathway including key ministries needed to start a new church.
7. A plan for assimilating people into the life and mission of the church plant.
8. An estimated budget for a starting a new church.

This outcome will be addressed in Lessons 3-5 and 10; Chapters 12 - 22 of Stetzer's book. This outcome will be verified in the student's "Focus Group" paper, participation in the class and the final project.

## **Requirements and assignments**

The following assignments are to be completed using lecture materials and required reading. Papers should be written with the following format:

- 1inch margins on all sides
- New Times Roman, font size 12
- Double spacing
- Papers will be graded for content, style, grammar and spelling

### **1. Church Planting and Jesus's Mission – 10 points**

Write a reflection paper answering the following questions and defend your position using Scripture, lesson material and required reading: Does church planting have a place in the church's participation in Jesus' ministry and mission to the world? Explain your position. 1,000-word minimum.

### **2. Church Planter Characteristics (written and submitted during class) – 10 points**

Write a paper describing:

- Three of your strongest personal characteristics that would enable you to lead a church plant or serve on a church planting team. Describe past experiences you have had that affirm these characteristics. (Be specific and detailed) Include any personal affirmations you have had from other people (without names.)
- Three characteristics of a church planter that least apply to you. How would you compensate for these characteristics?

1,000 word minimum

**3. Church Planting Models (written and submitted during class) – 10 points**

Write a paper describing the church planting model that best suits your personal characteristics as a church planter and your cultural context. Explain why you chose your model. Explain the strengths and weaknesses of your preferred model. 1,000 words minimum.

**4. Class Participation – 30 points**

Part of the learning that occurs comes through personal interaction with the instructor and other students during the class. Interactive participation includes asking questions and making comments that add to the topic at hand, reflect thought and which are related to experience, lectures and textbooks. Students will also be required to participate in small group work sessions. Students will also write and submit two papers during the class: “Church Planter Characteristics” and “Church Planting Models”.

**5. Final Project: New Church Proposal – 35 points**

Write a New Church Proposal for a church plant based on research related to an actual focus group or community. Your proposal may be developed to apply to the relocation (re-planting) of an existing congregation. Consider your proposal a “living document”, one which remains flexible and adaptable to your changing context and the guidance of the Spirit. *If you are working with an established church that is re-missioning or replanting, write a Missional Plan.* In either case your proposal should include:

- Name and location of the church (include detailed rationale for the choice of location)
- A Mission Statement for the church (based on guidelines provided in class material)
- Core values for the church
- Detailed description of a focus group or community (include a description of the process you used to identify a focus group or community)
- Detailed plan and timeline leading up to launch.

- Key ministries you need to start to reach and serve your focus community or group (with job descriptions and leader competencies for the leaders you will need for each of these ministries.)
- A plan for gathering people leading up to a church plant launch.
- A Discipleship Pathway (based on guidelines provided in class materials)
- A plan for assimilating people into the life and mission of the church plant.
- Budget estimate for two years (using guidelines provided in class materials)

Feel free to utilize PowerPoint, graphs, charts and other and other graphic material to illustrate your concepts and conclusions. (5,000-word minimum)

*Note: Weeks 3-10 contain materials that will prepare you to develop your New Church Proposal as well as better prepare you to participate in the class.*

**Read the lectures.** Lectures will be posted each Monday for the first ten weeks. See the *Student Handbook* for study suggestions. You should look up any scripture references in the lectures.

For a guide to formatting academic papers, see Purdue University's Online Lab: <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>.

### **Assignments, estimated hours, and grade weighting**

<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Hours *</b>	<b>Percentage of grade</b>
Reading the syllabus and lectures	13	0
Watching videos	2	0
Reading the textbooks	30	0
Writing papers (3)	15	30
Church Planting Workshop participation	35	35
Final project	40	35

Total – about 12 hours each week	135	100
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\* This is an estimate for the “average” student. A student who reads quickly may be slow in writing papers, and vice versa. Some students will complete the course requirements in less total time, and some will take more time.

### Weekly topics and assignments

Week	Topic	Assignments to be completed during the week
Week 1	Introduction and Theological Reflections for Church Planting	Read lecture notes <i>Planting Missional Churches</i> , Chapters 1-3 <i>Mission-shaped Church</i> , Chapters 3 and 5 Watch: “Paradigm Shifts” at <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s6KemUXHwZo&amp;list=UUHOjeZlh7mxr2ZuJwqJVstA">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s6KemUXHwZo&amp;list=UUHOjeZlh7mxr2ZuJwqJVstA</a>
Week 2	Characteristics of a Church Plant Leader and Church Planting Models	Read lecture notes <i>Planting Missional Churches</i> , Chapter 4-9 <i>Planting Missional Churches</i> , Chapters 4 and 14 <i>Mission-shaped Church</i> , Chapter 4 Watch “What is a Church Planter?” at <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fmL4Kzh2QZc&amp;list=UUHOjeZlh7mxr2ZuJwqJVstA">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fmL4Kzh2QZc&amp;list=UUHOjeZlh7mxr2ZuJwqJVstA</a>
Week 3	New Church Pathway, Mission Statements and Focus Group	Read lecture Notes <i>Planting Missional Churches</i> , Chapter 12 <i>Planting Growing Churches</i> , Chapter 7 <i>Tradecraft</i> , Chapters 2, 3 and 4. Watch, “Values, Vision and Mission” at <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gg_MK7IR4ik&amp;list=UUHOjeZlh7mxr2ZuJwqJVstA">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gg_MK7IR4ik&amp;list=UUHOjeZlh7mxr2ZuJwqJVstA</a>
Week 4	Disciplemaking Pathway	Read lecture notes <i>Planting Missional Churches</i> , Chapter 24

		<p>Watch, “Discipleship Pathway” at  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dM3v7OC RgDE&amp;list=UUHOjeZih7mxr2ZuJwqJVstA">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dM3v7OC RgDE&amp;list=UUHOjeZih7mxr2ZuJwqJVstA</a></p>
Week 5	The Launch Team	<p>Read lecture notes  <i>Planting Missional Churches</i>, Chapters 13 &amp; 19          Watch, “Launch Team” at:  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IFoAFPU2 puM&amp;list=UUHOjeZih7mxr2ZuJwqJVstA">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IFoAFPU2 puM&amp;list=UUHOjeZih7mxr2ZuJwqJVstA</a></p> <p><b>Write paper: “Church Planting and Jesus’s Mission”</b></p>
Week 6	Evangelism	<p>Read lecture notes  <i>Planting Missional Churches</i>, Chapter 20  <i>Planting Growing Churches</i>, Appendix D  <i>Tradecraft</i>, Chapters 5-7          Watch, “Evangelism” at  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4KAJr7bAc FA&amp;list=UUHOjeZih7mxr2ZuJwqJVstA">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4KAJr7bAc FA&amp;list=UUHOjeZih7mxr2ZuJwqJVstA</a></p>
Week 7	Core Group and Small Groups	<p>Read lecture notes  <i>Planting Missional Churches</i>, Chapter 21  <i>Planting Growing Churches</i>, Appendix B, Appendix E and pp. 165-176  <i>Tradecraft</i>, Chapters 8 and 9</p>
Week 8	Launching Public Worship Services	<p>Read lecture notes  <i>Planting Missional Churches</i>, Chapters 16 &amp; 22  <i>Planting Growing Churches</i>, Appendix C and Chapter 10          Watch, “Preview and Launch Services” at:  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RVjv kp_S0 6E&amp;list=UUHOjeZih7mxr2ZuJwqJVstA">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RVjv kp_S0 6E&amp;list=UUHOjeZih7mxr2ZuJwqJVstA</a>          Watch, “Promotion” at:  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=psgjC5VM">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=psgjC5VM</a></p>

		<a href="#">5A4&amp;list=UUHOjeZlh7mxr2ZuJwqJVstA</a> Read: “First Impressions Checklist” “Making Guests Feel Welcome”
Week 9	Leadership Issues, Finances	Read lecture notes <i>Planting Missional Churches</i> , Chapters 11, 14 and 30 <i>Planting Growing Churches</i> , Chapter 3
Week 10	<b>Church Planting Workshop</b>	<i>Planting Missional Churches</i> , Chapters 26-29 <i>Planting Growing Churches</i> , Chapter 13 <i>Tradecraft</i> , Chapter 10  <b>Write papers: “Church Planter Characteristics” and “Church Plant Models”.</b> <b>Develop your “New Church Proposal” or “Missional Plan”</b>
Week 11	Final Project	<b>Develop your “New Church Proposal” or “Missional Plan”</b>
Week 12	<b>Final project must be completed and submitted to the instructor by August 13.</b>	