GRACE COMMUNION SEMINARY

CM508 Church Planting and Church Development

Short Syllabus

Instructor: Randy Bloom

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.

In order to do well in this course, students are expected to put in at least 12 hours of study each week.

Required textbooks

Archbishop's Council on Mission and Public Affairs. *Mission-shaped Church: Church Planting and Fresh Expressions of Church in a Changing Context.* 2nd ed. London: Church House Publishing, 2010. 192 pages. \$20.00.

Crider, Caleb; Larry McCrary; Rodney Calfee and Wade Stephens. *Tradecraft for the Church on Mission*. Portland, OR: Urban Loft Publishers, 2013. 202 pages. \$11.69.

Malphurs, Aubrey. *Planting Growing Churches for the 21st Century: A Comprehensive Guide for New Churches and Those Desiring Renewal.* 3rd ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2004. 431 pages. \$19.80.

- Payne, J. D. *Apostolic Church Planting: Birthing New Churches from New Believers*. Downers Grove, IL. IVP Books, 2015. 122 pages. \$15.34.
- Stetzer, Ed. *Planting Missional Churches*. Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman Academic, 2006. 384 pages. \$11.22.

Please obtain these books before the class begins. To find the lowest prices on these books, use bookfinder.com.

Requirements and assignments

- 1. **Read the syllabus and the lectures.** We estimate this will take approximately 12 hours.
- 2. **View the videos**. This will take 3 hours.
- 3. **Participate.** Part of the learning in this class occurs through discussion and interaction among the students. This interaction will occur through comments posted on the website discussion forum. This counts for 15% of the final grade. We estimate that you will need about 20 hours to work on these papers.
- 4. **Read the textbooks.** We estimate this will take approximately 30 hours.
- 5. **Write four papers.** This counts for 50% of the final grade. We estimate that you will need about 30 hours to work on these papers.
- 6. **Final Project:** a proposal for a church plant based on research related to an actual focus group or community. Additional details provided in full course syllabus. This counts for 35% of the final grade. We estimate that you will need about 40 hours to work on this project.