



SHORT SYLLABUS FE503 Field Education

Instructor: Randy Bloom and Jeff Broadnax
(Instructor may be contacted through GCS course website)

Course description

FE503 is 2 credit hours per semester. Students are to reflect on the Incarnational Trinitarian theological foundations of their ministry work and how their ministry work is centered in Christ. The course entails 90 hours of student work per semester on a ministry-related project.

Prerequisites

1. CM501 Foundations of Christian Ministry
2. FE501, FE502, and CM504 Practice of Ministry
3. Students should have at least 34 semester hours of previous academic work and at least three years of ministry experience, so that there is sufficient basis for reflection and integration.

Ministry focus projects

Students should select one ministry project.

- **Community service** development and leadership includes planning, starting and providing primary leadership for a community service project that contributes to the missional activity of a local church.
- **Ministry fundraising** includes developing and implementing a Fundraising Plan for raising funds to meet ministry needs (including the above ministry projects).
- **Ministry team formation and leadership** includes recruiting, preparing and providing primary leadership for a ministry team that contributes to the missional activity of a local congregation.

- ***Small group development and leadership*** includes planning, starting and providing primary leadership for a short-term small group that contributes to the missional activity of a local congregation.
- ***Worship ministry*** development and leadership includes planning, recruiting for, implementing and providing primary leadership for congregational worship ministry.
- ***Youth ministry*** development and leadership includes planning, recruiting for, implementing and providing primary leadership for a ministry that contributes to the missional activity of a local congregation related to young people (young adults, teens, pre-teens).
- ***Elective:*** Students may select, with approval of their ecclesiastical supervisor and instructor, a ministry project of their choice.

Requirements and assignments

1. Ministry Action Plan (1,000-word minimum). The student will develop (with assistance and input from their ministry supervisor, such as a senior pastor, intern director or regional pastor) and implement a Ministry Action Plan (MAP) for a ministry project to submit to the GCS instructor for grading. (Approximately 60 hours total.) This accounts for 30 percent of your grade.

The MAP should include a:

- Clearly articulated missional purpose and overall vision for the ministry project. Explain how the activity or project supports the theological and biblical purpose and priorities of the church. Be specific. The instructor will be looking for depth of thought.
- Clearly defined focus group or focus community (target audience) for the ministry
- Detailed set of desired outcomes for the ministry and theologically informed criteria for evaluating degrees of success or failure
- Detailed plan and timeline for achieving outcomes
- Budget for the ministry (if applicable)
- **The MAP should be developed in time to be reviewed by the student's supervisor prior to submission at the end of week one. Therefore, we recommend students begin work on the MAP immediately after registration.**

Students who select *Ministry Fundraising* will develop (with assistance and input from, and approval of, their ministry supervisor, e.g. senior pastor, intern director or regional pastor) and implement a Fundraising Plan to submit to the instructor for grading. The Fundraising Plan must include:

- Objectives for the ministry for which funds will be raised
- A ministry budget (listing financial needs)
- A plan for contacting potential donors and asking for donations

- Plans for providing progress reports/updates
- Criteria for evaluating how the plan and its execution are aligned with the nature, purposes, and priorities of being the church of Jesus Christ, and recommendations for modification.
- Donor follow-up plans

2. *Forum Discussion* The student will make brief weekly contributions to forum discussion by answering provided questions. Answers need to reflect depth of thought and reflection. (Approximately 20 hours total.) This accounts for 25 percent of your grade.

3. *Project Summary* (1500-word minimum, with multiple citations). For the ministry project the student will write a Project Summary to submit to the GCS instructor for grading. The project will not necessarily be completed by the end of the semester, but the student should submit a report summarizing the progress that has been made, lessons learned, and insights gained. The summary should reflect depth of thought, especially regarding theological insights, personal transformation and connections between the project and the life and purpose of the church. (Approximately 10 hours total.) This accounts for 45 percent of your grade.