



CM508 Church Planting and Church Development

Full Syllabus

Instructor: Randy Bloom

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 Professor.”

GCS mission statement

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

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.

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.

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.

Requirements and assignments

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

- 1 inch margins on all sides
- New Times Roman, font size 12
- Double spacing

1. Church Planting and Jesus' Mission – 15 points

1500 word minimum. Must include multiple references from reading assignments (in addition to lecture reading).

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.

2. Church Planter Characteristics – 10 points

1,200 word minimum. Must include multiple references from reading assignments (in addition to lecture reading).

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?

3. Church Planting Models – 10 points

1,200 word minimum. Must include multiple references from reading assignments (in addition to lecture reading).

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.

4. *Apostolic Church Planting*, reflection paper – 15 points

1,500 word minimum. Must include multiple references from reading assignments (in addition to lecture reading). Your reflection must include:

- What is the overall thesis (main point) of the book?
- Briefly describe 3 points the author makes that are particularly relevant, important or surprising to you and explain why they are.
- Briefly describe one aspect of the reading material you do not agree with and explain why.
- How do the issues or ideas brought up in this reading mesh with issues or ideas presented in the writings of Stetzer and/or Malphurs? Do they support or contradict each other? Give one or two examples.
- How does the reading challenge you theologically and in ministry?
- Has the reading changed your way of thinking and participation in ministry? If so, how?
- Does the reading leave you with any questions?
- Your overall assessment of the value of the book.

5. Discussion – 15 points

Part of the learning that occurs comes through discussion and interaction with other students. In an online class, this is done through comments posted on a discussion forum. Answer the questions for each lecture and respond to the answers of at least two of the other students in the class. *Post your reply on Thursday. Reply to other students by Friday night. Be concise with your answers and comments.*

6. Final Project: New Church Proposal – 35 points

5,000-word minimum

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. 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)
- 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 for each of these ministries.)
- A Discipleship Pathway (based on guidelines provided in class materials)
- Funding plan – brief description of how you plan to raise necessary funds for your church plant or church re-launch.
- Budget estimate for two years (using guidelines provided in class materials)

Note: Weeks 3-10 contain materials that will prepare you to develop your New Church Proposal. Feel free to utilize PowerPoint, graphs, charts and other and other graphic material to illustrate your concepts and conclusions.

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 Writing Lab

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>>.

Assignments, estimated hours, and grade weighting

Assignment	Hours *	Percentage of grade
Reading the syllabus and lectures	12	0
Watching videos	3	0
Online discussion (answering questions and	20	15

interacting with other students)		
Reading the textbooks	30	0
Writing papers	30	50
Final project	40	35
Total – about 12 hours each week	135	100

* 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 (tentative)

Week	Topic	Assignments to be completed during the week
Week 1	Introduction and Theological Reflections for Church Planting	Lecture notes <i>Planting Missional Churches</i> , Chapters 1-3 <i>Mission-shaped Church</i> , Chapters 3 and 5 <i>Apostolic Church Planting</i> , pages 13-39 At https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s6KemUXHwZo&list=UUHOjeZlh7mxr2ZuJwqJVstA watch, “Paradigm Shifts.” Participate in online discussion. Answer lecture questions and interact with other students.
Week 2	Characteristics of a Church Plant Leader and Church Planting Models	Lecture notes <i>Planting Missional Churches</i> , Chapter 5 At https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fmL4Kzh2QZc&list=UUHOjeZlh7mxr2ZuJwqJVstA watch, “What is a Church Planter?” <i>Planting Growing Churches</i> , Chapter 5 <i>Planting Missional Churches</i> , Chapter 4 <i>Mission-shaped Church</i> , Chapter 4

		Paper 1, “Church Planting and Jesus’ Mission” due by end of Sunday
Week 3	New Church Pathway Mission Statements and Focus Group	<p>Lecture Notes</p> <p><i>Planting Missional Churches</i>, Chapters 11 and 13</p> <p><i>Planting Growing Churches</i>, pp. 124-148</p> <p><i>Tradecraft</i>, Chapters , 3 and 4.</p> <p><i>Apostolic Church Planting</i>, pages 40-76</p> <p>At</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gg_MK7IR4ik&list=UUHOjeZlh7mxr2ZuJwqJVstA</p> <p>watch, “Values, Vision and Mission.”</p> <p>Participate in online discussion. Answer lecture questions and interact with other students.</p> <p>“Sample Mission Statements”</p> <p>“Demographic Resources”</p>
Week 4	Disciplemaking Pathway	<p>Lecture notes</p> <p><i>Planting Missional Churches</i>, Chapter 24</p> <p><i>Planting Growing Churches</i>, pp. 148-154</p> <p>At</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dM3v7OCRgDE&list=UUHOjeZlh7mxr2ZuJwqJVstA</p> <p>Watch, “Discipleship Pathway.”</p> <p>Paper 2, “Church Planter Characteristics”, due by end of Sunday</p>
Week 5	The Launch Team	<p>Lecture notes</p> <p><i>Planting Missional Churches</i>, Chapters 8 and 16</p> <p><i>Apostolic Church Planting</i>, pages 77-99</p> <p>At</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IFoAFPU2puM&list=UUHOjeZlh7mxr2ZuJwqJVstA</p> <p>watch, “Launch Team.”</p>

		Participate in online discussion. Answer lecture questions and interact with other students.
Week 6	Evangelism	Lecture notes <i>Planting Missional Churches</i> , Chapter 15 <i>Planting Growing Churches</i> , Appendix D <i>Tradecraft</i> , Chapters 5-7 At https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4KAJr7bAcFA&list=UUHOjeZlh7mxr2ZuJwqJVstA watch, “Evangelism.” Paper 3, “Church Planting Models”, due by end of Sunday
Week 7	Core Group and Small Group	Lecture notes <i>Planting Missional Churches</i> , Chapter 17 <i>Planting Growing Churches</i> , , Appendix E and pp. 165-176 <i>Tradecraft</i> , Chapter 9 Apostolic Church Planting, pages 100-22 At Lessons 1, 2 and 6. Participate in online discussion. Answer lecture questions and interact with other students.
Week 8	Launching Public Worship Services	Lecture notes <i>Planting Growing Churches</i> , Appendix C and Chapter 10 At https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RVjvkv_S06E&list=UUHOjeZlh7mxr2ZuJwqJVstA watch, “Preview & Launch Services.” At https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=psgjC5VM5A4&list=UUHOjeZlh7mxr2ZuJwqJVstA

		<p>watch, “Promotion.”</p> <p>Read: “Components of Big Days”</p> <p>Read: “First Impressions Checklist”</p> <p>Read: “Making Guests Feel Welcome”</p> <p>Paper 4: Reflection Paper: <i>Apostolic Church Planting</i> (see above for requirements), due by end of Sunday.</p>
Week 9	Leadership Issues, Fundraising and Financial Management	<p>Lecture notes</p> <p><i>Planting Missional Churches</i>, Chapters 7 and 18</p> <p><i>Planting Growing Churches</i>, Chapters 3 and 6</p> <p>At https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T0Sj-nybh78&list=UUHOjeZih7mrx2ZuJwqJVstA</p> <p>watch, “Fundraising.”</p> <p>Read: “Budget Items”</p> <p>Participate in online discussion. Answer lecture questions and interact with other students.</p>
Week 10	Assessment, Coaching, New Church Proposal and Multiplying New Churches	<p>Lecture notes</p> <p><i>Planting Missional Churches</i>, Chapters 28 and 29</p> <p><i>Planting Growing Churches</i>, Chapter 13</p> <p><i>Tradecraft</i>, Chapter 10</p> <p>Read: “New Church Proposal Components”</p> <p>Participate in online discussion. Answer lecture questions and interact with other students.</p>
Week 11		<p>Work on Final Project – <i>requirements for this project are listed above in this syllabus.</i></p>
Week 12	Final project must be completed and submitted to the instructor by Monday, August 10, 2020	

Appendix A: Grading standards

Grades will be assigned according to the following criteria:

- A to A- = Outstanding work: Above and beyond the requirements; outstanding effort and significant achievement are evident. Some measure of *remarkable* skill, creativity, or energy is also evident. Although most students in this class do great work, we cannot give an A to every student who does well.
- B+ to B = Above average work: Fulfills all aspects of the assignment and goes a bit beyond minimum competence to demonstrate reflection, research, and integration of the texts that show extra effort, achievement or improvement. This is a very honorable grade.
- B- to C = Average work: Fulfills all aspects of the assignment with competence. Assignments are completed as assigned. This is also an honorable grade.
- C- = Below average work: Below average either because some aspect of the assignment has not been fulfilled or because the number of errors interferes with clear communication. A grade of C- may also indicate failure to follow directions, failure to follow specific recommendations, or failure to demonstrate effort and improvement.
- F = Not acceptable, either because the student did not complete the assignment as directed, or because the level of performance is below an acceptable level for graduate level work.

The final grade will be calculated based on a 100-point scale. Letter grades are assigned as follows:

95 - 100 % = A	77 - 79 % = C+
90 - 94 % = A-	74 - 76 % = C
87 - 89 % = B+	70 - 73 % = C-
84 - 86 % = B	00 - 69 % = F
80 - 83 % = B-	

Appendix B: Course policies

To contact the instructor: Log in to our website, go to the main page for this course, and in the right column you will see a section named “Message My Teacher.” Click on my name there to send a message to me (your message will not be visible to any other students). We want all class-related communications to be sent through the website, rather than email.

Late papers will be penalized 5 percent for each day they are late, so only in rare cases will it be advantageous to take an extra day to do a better job. Most GCS students are involved in pastoral work, and emergencies are common in this line of work, so you need to allow for the possibility.

Late discussion forum assignments will be penalized 20 percent for each day they are late. The discussions are opportunities for other students to learn from you. But we cannot have a *discussion* if your comments are late.

Plagiarism is representing the words, ideas, or work of someone else as if they were your own. It does not matter whether this is done intentionally or accidentally. In general, any quote of more than five words in a row should be put within quote marks, and the source noted. The penalty for plagiarism is a grade of zero on the assignment. The penalty for a second infraction is a failure of the entire course. See the *Student Handbook*, section IX.A. No more than 20 percent of your paper should be quotes—we want to see *your* thoughts.

Nondiscrimination policy: Grace Communion Seminary admits students of any race, sex, color, creed, age, or national origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, creed, age, or national origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and other school-administered programs.

Appendix D: Bibliography

Following are works that have been used to develop this course. We do not

necessarily agree with everything that is in them; indeed, they sometimes contradict one another. This bibliography can introduce you to the broad array of questions involved in this topic and help you follow the discussion.

Allen, Roland. *Missionary Methods: St. Paul's or Ours?* Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1962.

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

Arment, Ben. *Church in the Making: What Makes or Breaks a New Church Before it Starts*. Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman Publishing, 2010.

Arn, Charles. *How to Start a New Service: Your Church Can Reach New People*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 1997.

Arn, Charles. *How to Assimilate Newcomers into Your Church*. One-day seminar. Monrovia, CA: Church Growth Inc. no date.

Barna, George. *Revolution: Finding Vibrant Faith Beyond the Walls of the Sanctuary*. Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, 2005.

Barna, George. *Grow Your Church From the Outside In*. Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 2002.

Barth, Karl. *Christ and Adam: Man and Humanity in Romans 5*. Edinburgh: Oliver and Boyd, 1963.

Bickers, Dennis W. *The Tentmaking Pastor: The Joy of Bivocational Ministry*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2000.

Bohannon, John S. "Church Planting Teams: A Proposed New Hermeneutic

- for Church-Planting Strategy.” *Faith and Mission* 22 (Spring 2005): 69-75.
- Bolsinger, Todd E. *It Takes a Church to Raise a Christian: How the Community of God Transforms Lives*. Grand Rapids, MI: Brazos Press, 2004.
- Callahan, Kennon L. *Building for Effective Mission: A Complete Guide for Congregations on Bricks and Mortar Issues*. New York, NY: Harper Collins, 1995.
- Cole, Neil. *Organic Church: Growing Faith Where Life Happens*. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass, 2005.
- Crider, Caleb; Larry McCrary; Rodney Calfee and Wade Stephens. *Tradecraft for the Church on Mission*. Portland, OR: Urban Loft Publishers, 2013.
- DeYmaz, Mark. *Building a Healthy Multi-ethnic Church: Mandate, Commitments, and Practices of a Diverse Congregation*. San Francisco, CA: John Wiley and Sons, 2007.
- Dillon, William P. *People Raising: A Practical Guide to Raising Support*. Chicago, IL: Moody Press, 1993.
- Financial Management Manual for Worldwide Church of God Congregations in the United States*. Rev. ed. Glendora, CA: Worldwide Church of God, 2008.
- Forman, Rowland, Jeff Jones and Bruce Miller. *The Leadership Baton: An Intentional Strategy for Developing Leaders in Your Church*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2004.
- Francis, Hozell C. *Church Planting in the African American Context*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House, 1999.

Frost, Michael and Alan Hirsh. *The Shaping of Things to Come: Innovation and Mission for the 21st Century Church*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishing, 2003.

Gangel, Kenneth O. Rev. ed. *Team Leadership in Christian Ministry: Using Multiple Gifts to Build a Unified Vision*. Chicago, IL: Moody Press, 1997.

Gibbs, Eddie. *Church Next: Quantum Changes in How We Do Ministry*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2000.

Gibbs, Eddie and Ryan K. Bolger. *Emerging Churches: Creating Christian Community in Postmodern Cultures*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academy, 2005.

Gray, Stephen. *Planting Fast-growing Churches*. St. Charles, IL: ChurchSmart Resources, 2007.

Green, Michael. *Evangelism Through the Local Church*. London: Hodder and Stoughton, 1993.

Guder, Darrell L. ed. *Missional Church: A Vision for the Sending of the Church in North America*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1998.

Harvard Business Essentials. *Creating Teams With an Edge: The Complete Skill Set to Build Powerful and Influential Teams*. Boston, MA: Harvard Business School Press, 2004.

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

Hesselgrave, David J. *Planting Churches Cross-Culturally: North America*

- and Beyond*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2000.
- Hirsch, Alan. *The Forgotten Ways: Reactivating the Missional Church*. Grand Rapids, MI: Brazos Press, 2006.
- Humphrey, Edith M. "Why We Worship God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit." *Crux*. 32, no. 2 (June 1996): 2-12.
- Hunter III, George G. *The Celtic Way of Evangelism: How Christianity Can Reach the West...Again*. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 2000.
- Jenkins, Michael. *Invitation to Theology*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2001.
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- Lencioni, Patrick. *Overcoming the Five Dysfunctions of a Team: A Field Guide for Leaders, Managers and Facilitators*. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass, 2005.
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- Logan, Robert E. *Be Fruitful and Multiply: Embracing God's Heart for Church Multiplication*. St. Charles, IL: Church Smart Resources, 2006.
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- Dynamic Church*. Grand Rapids, MI: Fleming H. Revell, 1989.
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Newbigin, Lesslie. *The Open Secret: An Introduction to the Theology of Mission*. Rev. ed. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1995.

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