



<http://seminary.erskine.edu>

## **Church Planting**

January 2018

Professor:

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Kennedy Institute of Reformed Leadership*

DELIVERY: Residential Intensive J-Term Course at Due West, SC campus.

### **CLASS MEETING TIMES AND LOCATION**

- One-week intensive
- January 15-19 Classroom



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## **COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs)**

This course is designed to introduce the theological student to the Biblical and theological foundations and resources to discern, practice, and sustain a spiritually healthy ministry as Christian shepherd and person. The purpose of this course is to help the seminary student to explore and grow in Biblical and theological understanding of vocation and the ongoing personal ministry of formation and transformation through Word, Sacrament, and Prayer, expressed through a variety of spiritual formation resources available. By the completion of this course, the student will:

1. Understand and be able to articulate the Biblical mandate for new church development.
2. Think and speak with precision about the theological nature of church planting.
3. Discover the common principles required to start and to revitalize churches
4. Be able to assess the health of a local church body
5. Articulate both methodologies and the stages involved in new church development.
5. Be able to articulate the vocational portrait of a church planter according to Scripture.
6. Demonstrate an understanding of the necessary relation of culture and new church development.

## **GRADING, MODE OF INSTRUCTION, AND REQUIRED ASSIGNMENTS**

### **GRADING AND EVALUATION**

The grading scale published in the seminary catalog will be used to arrive at your final grade. The assignments will be given letter grades. For letter grades, the scale is:

A	4.0	3.0	2.0	1.0
A-	3.7	2.7	1.7	0.7
B+	3.3	2.3	1.3	0.0

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## MODE OF INSTRUCTION

The class will be taught using these modes of instruction: (1) Online Lectures (asynchronous lectures that can be reviewed 24/7); (2) Readings; (3) Case Study Research; and (4) Student Presentations.

Attendance at all class sessions is expected. Attendance at the very first class is mandatory. If absent for whatever reasons for more than one day class session or the equivalent (arriving late or leaving early), the student is expected to withdraw from the class or receive a failing grade for the course.

Attendance and Research Group Participation 20

Reading Component (Reading & Accountability) 20

Research Component (Papers & Projects): 60

Total Points: 100

Participation is evaluated through your involvement in small-group presentations on research questions during the live classroom portion of the class and through discussion boards during the online portion of the class. (20% of final grade)

The capstone product for this course will be a "Church Planting Plan". This Plan will be at least 10 pages (Turabian, not including cover page and bibliography). The paper will follow the general guidelines presented in class (a church planting plan based on your own denominational affiliation, a geographic location of either an urban, suburban, or rural location in the CONUS; the area must be approved before the end of the residential segment of the Course). The outline will follow that provided in the textbook, *Finding a Vision for Your Church* (Milton). This capstone research paper is expected to be supported by at least three peer-reviewed journal articles, as well as citations from the course textbooks. The major research paper is due by the end of the semester. (60% of final grade)

The reading requirement for this course is a minimum of 1300 pages, except for international students with English as a second language. Use the "40-20 minutes" rule: 40 minutes of reading with 20 minutes of reflection for each hour of reading. The student will submit a reading statement to document the degree or percentage of completion of the required course

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reading. (20% of final grade)

### **REQUIRED ASSIGNMENTS**

Summary of deliverable products for the course:

1. Group research and daily class presentations (20%). (CLOs 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5)
2. The course culminates in a major project by the student: a church planting plan. This project involves an 8 to 10 page capstone research paper that integrates lecture, textbook readings, case study experience, theological reflection, and critical thinking about assessment, ministry stages, and financials. (60%). (CLOs 5, 6, 7 and 8)
3. Statement of Reading (20%). (CLOs 1, 2 and 4)

### **CLASS OUTLINE**

- Monday: introductions, Lecture 1: Overview of Church Planting
- Tuesday: Lecture 2: Shallow Roots; Lecture 3: The Biblical Basis of Church Planting; Research topics: Case Study assignments, research, presentations.
- Wednesday: Lecture 4: Portrait of a Church Planter (Part-1); Lecture 5: Portrait of a Church Planter (Part-2); Case Study assignments, research, presentations.
- Thursday: Lecture 6: Portrait of a Church Planter (Part-3); Lecture 7: Portrait of a Church Planter (Part-4)
- Friday: Lecture 8: Church Planting Strategies from the Acts of the Apostles; Lecture 9: Preparing the Plan; Lecture 10: Stages, Stresses, and Defining Success in Church Planting; Class wrap up with attention to the Church Planting Plan

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### **REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS**

Students are expected to secure their own copies of all required textbooks. As a convenience, the seminary has this [bookstore portal](#). There you will find links to familiar vendors (CBD and Amazon) and can check availability of texts, compare prices, and place orders. The ETS SBA will receive a modest percentage of the profits from students' and professors' purchases through this portal. The Erskine Campus Bookstore will carry a limited number of copies of every required text and orders for books can be placed through the Campus Bookstore.

- "10 Qualifications of a Church Planter." Acts 29. Accessed November 14, 2017. <http://www.acts29.com/10-qualifications-of-a-church-planter-2/>.
- Lovelace, Richard F. *Dynamics of Spiritual Life*. 1979.
- Milton, Michael A. *Finding a Vision for Your Church: Assembly Required*.

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Phillipsburg, NJ: P & R Publishing, 2012.

- Stetzer, Ed, and Daniel Im. *Planting Missional Churches: Your Guide to Starting Churches That Multiply*. Nashville, Tennessee: B&H Academic, 2016.

### **Other (non-required) Readings in Church Planting**

Note: This bibliography is for your scholarly and pastoral pursuits. Its inclusion should not be misconstrued as a blanket endorsement of any or all the entries by our faculty. We do believe that the titles represent a broad and good study of the subject.

### **Bibliography**

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Arment, Ben. *Church in the Making What Makes or Breaks a New Church Before It Starts*. Nashville: B & H Publishing Group, 2014.

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Griggs, Donnie. *Small Town Jesus: Taking the Gospel Mission Seriously in Seemingly Unimportant Places*. Damascus, MD: EverTruth, 2016.

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Griggs, Donnie. *Small Town Jesus: Taking the Gospel Mission Seriously in Seemingly Unimportant Places*. Damascus, MD: EverTruth, 2016.

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<http://nationalhumanitiescenter.org/tserve/nineteen/nkeyinfo/fmmovement.htm>.

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James, Frank, III. "Calvin the Evangelist." *The Founders' Journal Winter*, no. 75 (2009): 3-6. Accessed June 29, 2015. [founders.org/main/wp-content/uploads/fj75.pdf](http://founders.org/main/wp-content/uploads/fj75.pdf).

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Piper, John. *Let the Nations Be Glad!: The Supremacy of God in Missions*. Place of Publication Not Identified: Inter-Varsity Press, 2010.

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Milton, Michael A. *Songs in the Night: How God Transforms Our Pain to Praise*. Phillipsburg, NJ: P&R Pub., 2011.

Milton, Michael Anthony. *Your Sovereign Grace*. Bethesda Music, 2015, CD. From the Compact Disc "Wind and Waves."

Milton, Michael Anthony. *Your Sovereign Grace*. Michael Anthony Milton. Bethesda Music, 2015, CD. Accessed October 17, 2015.  
<http://www.amazon.com/Your-Sovereign-Grace/dp/B00TRWQDNA>.

Morris, Leon. *The Apostolic Preaching of the Cross*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1965.



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Morrow, Aaron. *Small Town Mission: A Guide for Mission-driven Communities*. Austin, TX: GCD Books, 2016.

Nevin, John Williamson, and Sam Hamstra. *The Reformed Pastor: Lectures on Pastoral Theology*. Eugene, Or.: Pickwick Publications, 2006.

Nevius, John L. *The Planting and Development of Missionary Churches*. Hancock, NH: Monadnock, 2003.

Newbigin, Lesslie. *The Gospel in a Pluralist Society*. London: Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, 2014.

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Packer, J. I. *Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Books, 2012.

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"The Po-Mo Page: Postmodern to Post-postmodern." *The Po-Mo Page: Postmodern to Post-postmodern*. Accessed August 06, 2015.

<http://faculty.georgetown.edu/irvinem/theory/pomo.html>.

"Postmodernism." Accessed June 29, 2015. <http://www.apologeticsindex.org/p02.html>.

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[http://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/john-calvin-missionary-and-church-planter/conferences/regional/2012\\_atlantic\\_canada](http://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/john-calvin-missionary-and-church-planter/conferences/regional/2012_atlantic_canada).

Stetzer, Ed, and Daniel Im. *Planting Missional Churches: Your Guide to Starting Churches That Multiply*. Nashville, Tennessee: B&H Academic, 2016.

## **SEMINARY POLICIES**

All written work must conform to the latest edition of the Turabian manual of style and

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typed in twelve-point type, Times New Roman (or similar), normally double-spaced, with one-inch margins. Some reflection papers (which do not use footnotes) may be single spaced. See syllabus requirements for each assignment.

Turabian, Kate L., et. al. *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*. Eighth ed. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2013.  
(464 pp., ISBN 978-0226816388)

Click [here](#) for a video tutorial on formatting a document in Turabian style.

Additional writing guidelines are available in the [Sample Paper and Writing Aids](#) folder found on the Seminary's web site. Here you will find sample papers for several courses, a "Seminary Research Paper Template," a Bibliography sample, footnote samples, and more.

Students who may need more assistance are encouraged to make use of the [Write Here Center](#) (Click Here) for improved writing skills.

Students may find the [Erskine Theological Seminary Writing Rubric](#) (Click Here). Scroll down to the Writing Assessment Rubric and download.

All written work presented is expected to be the student's own unless credit for the ideas, words, etc. of others is clearly identified. Plagiarism in sermons costs pastors their jobs. Plagiarism in class will not be tolerated and penalties will be assigned in keeping with the Seminary's Catalog.

Students are strongly encouraged to review the provisions of the Seminary's Catalog, particularly those governing registration for and withdrawal from classes, class attendance, grades (including incompletes), academic conduct, and expectations for written assignments.