

Church Planting & Renewal (2MS702)
Reformed Theological Seminary – Orlando
Spring 2011

Instructor: Bob Orner, Guest Lecturer of Practical Theology.
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Office Hours:

Mondays: 1:30 – 3:30
Tuesdays: 2:30 – 4:00
Wednesdays: 11:00 -12:00
Thursdays: 11:00-12:00

Class Meeting: Tuesdays 6:00-9:00 PM

I. Purpose of the Course

This course is designed to give you an introduction to the ministry of church planting, growth, renewal and multiplication. The emphasis will be on equipping students with the principles and strategies needed for starting and developing Gospel-Centered Churches. You will learn, in hands-on ways, how to develop a biblical vision for ministry, philosophy of ministry and church development strategy. Lectures, discussion, and learning activities will allow you to formulate your own personal ministry vision, values, mission, and strategy that can find immediate application in the field. Church planting methodology (Seasons of Church Planting) will be surveyed from pre-birth to reproduction.

Topics Include:

- Confirming the church planter's call
- Determining the ministry focus group
- Developing a strategic prayer plan
- Contextualizing without compromise.
- Designing a church planting action plan
- Creating a church planting proposal
- Establishing a core group and launch team
- Developing gospel-centered ministries
- Raising and managing finances
- Mentoring church ministry leaders
- Ordering the church planter's private world
- Establishing a church multiplication movement

II. Course Objectives

A. A Mind for Truth: Transforming Your Understanding.

1. To understand why the church exists.
2. To know how to identify a ministry focus group.
3. To realize the priority of prayer and how to build a prayer team.
4. To understand how to contextualize without compromise.
5. To identify a church plant's priorities in ministry.
6. To know how to determine the core motivations for ministry.
7. To understand cultural dynamics of ministry.
8. To understand how church ministries work together.
9. To know how to raise and manage ministry finances.
10. To understand how to build a launch team.
11. To know how to lead and manage the church.
12. To understand the priority of having a clear call.
13. To understand how to personally survive and thrive in ministry.

B. A Heart for God: Transforming Your Affections.

1. To have a renewed love for the Church.
2. To have a deep, personal conviction concerning the biblical priority of church planting.
3. To have a broken heart for the lost, especially for those who have no church.
4. To lead others by being a servant and a chief repenter, always pointing others to Christ.

C. A Life for Ministry: Transforming Your Behavior.

1. Understands the danger of the "Ministry Success Syndrome" and is developing a biblical view of success.
2. Knows how to balance competing time demands by ordering life and ministry according to associated priorities as defined in Scripture.
3. Understands the difference between goals and desires as they relate to work and prayer.
4. Is aware of the value and importance of "principle centered living" in ministry.
5. Has learned to enjoy the process of ministry and not just the product of ministry.
6. Shares the vision of being a vital, ongoing part of a church planting movement.
7. Develops an intentional discipleship strategy to make, build and multiply disciples through the local church plant.
8. Has started taking the steps necessary for developing a personal philosophy of ministry and "action plan" (Planting Prospectus) to plant a multiplying church.

III. Course Schedule

Date	Schedule
Class One <i>February 1st</i>	Introduction
Class Two <i>February 8th</i>	Vision
Class Three <i>February 15th</i>	Focus
Class Four <i>February 22nd</i>	Prayer Lovelace Reading Report Due
Class Five <i>March 1st</i>	Philosophy
Class Six <i>March 8th</i>	Purpose
No Class <i>March 15th</i>	Values Stetzer Reading Report Due
Class Seven <i>March 22nd</i>	Spring Break
Class Eight <i>March 29th</i>	Styles
Class Nine <i>April 5th</i>	Models
Class Ten <i>April 12th</i>	Finances Miller Reading Report Due
Class Eleven <i>April 19th</i>	Launching
Class Twelve <i>April 26th</i>	Planning
Class Thirteen <i>May 3rd</i>	Calling
Class Fourteen <i>May 10th</i>	The Main Thing Warren Reading Report Due
Class Fifteen <i>May 17th</i>	Final Exam Church Planting Proposal Due

IV. Course Texts

Required:

Childers, Steven L., Foundations for Church Planting, Orlando, FL: Global Church Advancement, Inc., 2008. (Class notes will be sold on the first day of class.)

Lovelace, Richard, Renewal as a Way of Life. Downers Grove, IL: Intervarsity Press, 1985. ISBN 978-1579108663

Miller, John C, (Jack), Outgrowing the Ingrown Church. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1999. ISBN 978-0310284116

Stetzer, Edward, Planting Missional Churches. Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 2006. ISBN 978-0805443707

Warren, Rick, The Purpose Driven Church. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1995. ISBN 978-0310201069

V. Course Requirements

A. Attendance and Class Participation

This course requires attendance and participation. Class lectures and discussions are based on the assumption that you have completed all of the assigned readings and weekly class assignments (*Action Point Exercises*—see below). Tardiness, unexcused absence and/or lack of class participation will impact your final grade.

B. Church Planting Proposal (35%)

You will write a minimum 15-20 page (single spaced with graphics, diagrams, timelines, etc.) real or hypothetical church planting proposal (prospectus) showing the application of the principles and methods taught in the course. The proposal will include your vision, philosophy, strategy, plan, core values and timeline for a new church (hopefully one you might truly want to plant soon). The proposal is due Wednesday, May 17th at 11:59 a. m.

C. Church Planting Action Point Exercises (20%)

To help the student find immediate personal application of the principles taught in class, students will periodically be assigned *Action Point Exercises*. These assignments will be due one week (next class) after they are assigned in class and will normally be included as part of the student's final church planting proposal (above).

D. Church Planting Reading (25%)

Students are required to submit a one-page maximum reading report on each book using the format of the *Reading Report Form* located in the syllabus appendix. Reports that do not follow the required format will not receive credit. Report deadlines are listed on the class schedule.

E. Final Examination (20%)

There will be a comprehensive final examination (take-home, open-book) covering the classroom lecture content and the required reading. The examination will be comprehensive and essay in format.

VI. Grading

Grades will be assigned according to the RTS grading system: 100-97=A, 96-94=A-, 93-91=B+, 90-88=B, 87-86=B-, 85-83=C+, 82-80=C, 79-78=C-, 77-75=D+, 74-72=D, 71-70=D-, below 70=F.

Late Assignments Policy

Please do not ask for permission to turn in an assignment late. All late assignments will automatically be penalized. If you have truly been providentially hindered from completing an assignment on time (such as a serious illness or death in the immediate family), turn in a written request asking to waive the late penalty with the assignment. No assignments will be received after May 17.

READING REPORT GUIDELINES

Your Name
Course Title & Number
Professor
Date

Title of Book
Complete Bibliographic Reference

Overview—Give a brief overview of the book, including its theme, perspective and approach.

Critique—Offer a brief critique of the book, including elements of strength and weakness.

Application—Offer some specific application to your own ministry— demonstrating the value and relevance of the material in this book.

Best Quote—Be sure to include the page number where the quote can be found.

Did you read the entire book thoughtfully (not merely skimmed)? Yes ___ No ___ % Read (0-100) ____

Course Objectives Related to MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes

Course: 2MS702

Professor: Dr. Robert H. Orner

Campus: Orlando

Date: Spring 2011

<u>MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes</u>		<u>Rubric</u>	<u>Mini-Justification</u>
<p><i>In order to measure the success of the MDiv curriculum, RTS has defined the following as the intended outcomes of the student learning process. Each course contributes to these overall outcomes. This rubric shows the contribution of this course to the MDiv outcomes.</i></p> <p><i>*As the MDiv is the core degree at RTS, the MDiv rubric will be used in this syllabus.</i></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Strong ➤ Moderate ➤ Minimal ➤ None 	
Articulation (oral & written)	Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks.	Strong	Knowledge of church planting and renewal will be presented and articulated in both written assignments and a dialogical teaching approach.
Scripture	Significant knowledge of the original meaning of Scripture. Also, the concepts for and skill to research further into the original meaning of Scripture and to apply Scripture to a variety of modern circumstances. (Includes appropriate use of original languages and hermeneutics; and integrates theological, historical, and cultural/global perspectives.)	Moderate	Direct engagement with Scripture in the original languages will not be required. Student will demonstrate suitable use of Scripture and hermeneutical methods in understanding the priority of a healthy reproducing church.
Reformed Theology	Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.	Moderate	Material will be presented through the grid of Reformed Theology and Practice. Minimal emphasis will be placed on the Westminster Standards.
Sanctification	Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student's sanctification.	Strong	By God's grace and through interaction with the materials and each other, the student will die more to self, and deepen their affection for the Triune God, the Church, and their neighbor.
Desire for Worldview	Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.	Strong	Student will gain a deep understanding of the Mission of God, particularly as it applies to church planting.
Winsomely Reformed	Embraces a winsomely Reformed ethos. (Includes an appropriate ecumenical spirit with other Christians, especially Evangelicals; a concern to present the Gospel in a God-honoring manner to non-Christians; and a truth-in-love attitude in disagreements.)	Strong	Student reads books by authors that are not Reformed, and discusses the value of ecumenicalism as it applies to church planting and renewal.
Preach	Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.	Moderate	Materials will be presented that give the students a better understanding on how to teach and preach in a church planting context.
Worship	Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service.	Minimal	Materials will be presented that give the student a better understanding of the priority of worship in church planting and renewal.
Shepherd	Ability to shepherd the local congregation: aiding in spiritual maturity; promoting use of gifts and callings; and encouraging a concern for non-Christians, both in America and worldwide.	Moderate	The student will grow in their understanding of the role of a shepherd in a church planting context.
Church/World	Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.	Strong	The student will gain an understanding on how to interact denominationally, ecumenically and in the local context.

Personal Student Information

Please fill this out and turn it in during the first class.

Name:

Spouse name:

Children, name(s) and age(s):

RTS degree program/emphasis:

Years at RTS Orlando:

Church presently attending:

Denomination background (Southern Baptist, PCA, etc.):

Desired future ministry role (pastor, church planter, missionary, counselor, etc.):

What are your expectations of the course? What would you like to learn?

What is a specific, personal prayer request you would like the professor to be remembering in prayer for you this semester?