Course Description
Every church, even those committed to the Scriptures and the Gospel, are in need of ongoing renewal and
revitalization. This course is designed to provide the student with a theological, missional, and personal
application in the ministry of church growth and renewal. The emphasis will be on equipping the student with
the principles and strategies needed for growing and renewing healthy, reproducing, gospel centered churches
that result in healthy, growing, reproducing disciples and leaders.

This course will also include a thorough study of the biblical view of the Gospel Story and integrating a Gospel
theology of change into ministry in a way that results in the renewal of the pastor/leadership, the church and the
community that church serves.

Students will asked to identify their own area of ministry leadership in order to apply the practical results into
an integrated coaching model for sustaining leaders in their respective ministry roles.

Course Instructor
Dr. Tom Wood has degrees from Columbia International University and Columbia Biblical Seminary. He
earned his D.Min. from Reformed Theological Seminary, Orlando, FL. He is the President of Church
Multiplication Ministries, Inc. in Alpharetta, GA. CMM is involved in coaching leaders, training and certifying
others to be gospel coaches. Their ministry coaches church planters, pastors, youth pastors and small group
leaders/staff leaders. They also facilitate the launch and support of micro-church planter communities and
assess and assist for the NEXT 5-7 year old churches. He has worked internationally, training leaders in
Canada, UK and Cuba.

Tom is the author of the four book series, Church Planter Field Manual and co-author of Gospel Coach
(Zondervan). He and his wife, Rachel, were used to plant two churches, both from scratch. He was the Director
of Church Planting for PMI, Atlanta and the Southeast Regional Church Planting Director for MNA/PCA. He
currently serves as a Director for Church Planter Assessment, (MNA/PCA) and co-founded, along with a great
team of leaders, the North Georgia Church Planting Network.

Course Objectives
The course objectives include equipping the students to:

1. Formulate a Biblical and Gospel Paradigm for growing a healthy and reproducing church.

2. Review the historical and contemporary church growth methodologies utilized primarily in the
evangelical church in North America.
3. Identify one’s calling, character, competency and chemistry for growing a healthy and reproducing church.

4. Develop and participate in a learning community for developing a prayer strategy for church and city renewal.

5. Apply gospel leadership to their ministry sphere in the church and set an example that reflects the Bible’s teaching about the role of the church leader.

6. Determine a strategy to train and mobilize their church to growth in the gospel and mission.

Required Readings (If not previously read. Minimum 2,000 pages required per course)


Swanson, Eric and Sam Williams, *To Transform a City*. (200 p) ISBN: 978-0310325864


Recommended Readings (Optional, unless needed to complete 2,000 page requirement)


Saccone, Steve, *Protégé: Developing Your Next Generation of Church Leaders*


Course Assessment
Grades are based on: Class Participation 20%
Reading Reports 30%
Post Class: Theology of Change Paper 25%
Written Ministry Plan for Church Renewal and Reproduction 25%
**Assignment & Due Date**

**Reading Reports:**
Students are required to read at least 2,000 pages of new reading and will submit a “Reading Report” (RR). This Word document or PDF begins with a “Summary Sheet” and is followed by a one-page (double spaced) standard report for each book or article more than 50 pages in length (see sample below). Please separate the summary and each one-page book report with a “page-break”. This document must be received via email.

Reading Reports not submitted by the first day of class are to be submitted with the course integration paper no later than October 31, 2015. Please submit to rtsa.doctorofministry@gmail.com and identify your reading report document as Yourlastname.Churchgrowth.GCL.RR (for Reading Reports). If “Required Reading” texts have already been read the student may substitute books from the “Recommended Reading” list. All readings for the course must be taken directly from these two lists unless otherwise approved by the professor. Non-credit (audit) students do not submit reports.

**Theology of Change Paper:**
Students are required to write a 12-15-page (double–spaced, 12 point font) paper on their understanding and application of a Theology of Change. This paper must reflect new work done by the student as a result of this course. This paper must demonstrate how the course readings, lectures, discussions and their learning community can be integrated/applied to their understanding of how people change.

This paper should reflect good scholarship, including accurately quoted credible sources (8 minimum references/footnotes) and a References Cited section at the end of the paper. This is good preparation for writing a doctoral project. The paper must also include a specific plan for the student’s continued application of the course concepts to his/her future personal life and pastoral ministry.

The paper will be graded on the basis of how clearly the student articulates and applies his construction of his theology. Consideration will also be given to the extent that the paper reflects the reading done by the student, integrates material from class lectures, develops a renewal for leaders and reflects serious thought about how theology of change can and should guide their ministry and mission.

The Theology of Change paper is due October 31, 2015. Please include a cover sheet with the name and number of the course, professor, your name and contact information (sample below). If your work cannot be submitted by the due date, you may request a paper extension (by contacting the RTS Atlanta D.Min. Registrar at skim@rts.edu) and receive 2 additional months to complete your paper (December 31, 2015) and you will be assessed a $120 paper extension fee. The extension request and fee payment must be completed before the initial due date of October 31, 2015. Please save your electronic document as: Yourlastname.ChurchGrowth and email it to rtsa.doctorofministry@gmail.com. Your work will be forwarded to the professor.

**Church Renewal Ministry Plan:**
Each student will be expected to write a 10-15 page ministry plan for church renewal and revitalization of mission. It must include a contextual analysis, a theological foundation, and any personal analysis regarding leadership styles, preaching styles, disciple making process, Missional engagement etc.

The ministry plan will be graded on how well the student integrates the theological foundation, the contextual analysis and personal realities into an action plan that will promote renewal and mission reproduction (as we will see this does not equate to a certain size of church) through the making of disciples. The Ministry Plan for Church Renewal and Reproduction is also due October 31, 2015.
RTS Grading Scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Range</th>
<th>Value</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td></td>
<td>(97-100)</td>
<td>4.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td></td>
<td>(94-96)</td>
<td>3.66</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
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<td>(91-93)</td>
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<td>B</td>
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<td>(88-90)</td>
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<td>B-</td>
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<td>C+</td>
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<td>(83-85)</td>
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<td>C</td>
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<td>(80-82)</td>
<td>2.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td></td>
<td>(78-79)</td>
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<tr>
<td>D+</td>
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<td>(75-77)</td>
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<td>D-</td>
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<td>(70-71)</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>(below 70)</td>
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I (incomplete) – indicates that the work for the course was not completed, given only when special extenuating circumstances (such as illness) prevent the student from completing the work or taking the examination. “I” grade must be removed from within the extension time granted; otherwise it will be changed to “F.”

W (withdraw) – indicates that the student has withdrawn from a course after the drop deadline. This grade is granted by the Academic Dean only in extenuating circumstances.

Instructor’s Contact Info
Dr. Tom Wood
ptomwood@comcast.net
# Sample Reading Report Summary

**Church Growth and Revitalization**

**Reading Report Summary**

BY (Insert Your Name)

(Insert Contact Information)

DATE: (Insert date completed)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th># Pages read</th>
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</table>

Total Pages Read

<Insert page break and begin one-page report of each book>
Sample Reading Report

Enter Book Title

& Bibliographic Reference

Number of Pages Read

Overview—Give a brief overview of the book, including its theme, perspective and any relevance to coaching leaders.

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

Application—Offer specific application to your own life and ministry demonstrating the value and relevance of the material in this book as it relates to coaching leaders.

Best Quote—Include the page number where the quote can be found.

<Insert page break and enter your next report with page breaks after each book.>
Church Growth and Revitalization

Theology of Change

Presented to

Dr. Tom Wood

By

Add Your Name

& Contact Information

Completed __________ (Add date)
### Course Objectives Related to DMin* Student Learning Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DMin* Student Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Rubric</th>
<th>Mini-Justification</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>In order to measure the success of the DMin 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 DMin outcomes.</strong></td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Biblical/Theological Foundations:</th>
<th>Signiﬁcant knowledge of biblical and theological foundations for pastoral ministry. (This includes interaction with Biblical texts, as well as awareness of Reformed Theology.)</th>
<th>Strong</th>
<th>Students will be shown the significance of integrating Biblical and theological foundations with cultural and personal analysis.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Historical/Contemporary Practices:</td>
<td>Significant knowledge of historical and contemporary practices of pastoral ministry.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Students will be taught how a healthy church is reproducing and effecting renewal to its members and the community she serves.</td>
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<td>Integration:</td>
<td>Ability to reflect upon and integrate theology and practice, as well as implementation in a contemporary pastoral setting.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Students will be encouraged to develop an intentional disciple making plan for their church that leads to Missional influence.</td>
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<td>Sanctification:</td>
<td>Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids in the student’s sanctification.</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>Students will be taught to use gospel approach to helping grow and assist leaders in their ministry spheres.</td>
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