Course Description:

In this course we will attempt to grow in our understanding of what a healthy and growing church is and how we can more effectively lead a church toward greater health and growth. Our primary resource will be the Scriptures, and we will also look to various theological and cultural commentators, as well as our shared experiences as current leaders and practitioners. Topics will include church and culture, evangelism, discipleship, worship, preaching, teaching, missions, and various aspects of pastoral leadership.

Course Instructor:

Sanders (Sandy) Willson has been the senior minister of Second Presbyterian Church, Memphis, TN since 1995. During these years, Second Church has continued to grow and to expand its mission to urban Memphis and the world.

In Memphis, Sandy is co-founder of Memphis Center for Urban Theological Studies; co-founder and chair of NEXUS (leadership mentoring program for emerging adult professional leaders); co-founder and chair of the Memphis Shalom Project (a unified evangelical church ministry strategy for the city); a founder of Reformed Ministries Network (a regional church planting ministry); and co-founder and board member of the Second Presbyterian Church Foundation for missions. He serves on The Gospel Coalition board and on the Board of Reference for Union University and Reformed Theological Seminary. Sandy's Sunday morning messages are broadcast on WREG TV (CBS affiliate); he also teaches 500 men at AMEN Bible Study every Thursday morning.

Internationally, Sandy ministers with partners in Africa, Asia, South America, and the Middle East and speaks regularly in North American churches on the topic of world missions. He served on the Board of Directors for World Relief. Sandy received a B.S from the University of Virginia, an M.Div. from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, and a D.D. from Crichton College in Memphis. He previously pastored Memorial Presbyterian Church in Elizabethton, TN and Lookout Mountain Presbyterian Church in Lookout Mountain, TN. Sandy and his wife, Allison, were married in 1972 and are grateful for five children, three daughters-in-law, a son-in-law, and four grandchildren.
Course Assignments:

**Book reports** – Each student should read 2000 pages of *new* reading and submit a one-page book report on each book or article over 50 pages in length. The reading report including the summary sheet is due July 16, 2012.

**Integration paper** – Each student will also submit a 15-20 page integration paper describing how he will seek to implement what has been learned, interacting with as many of the reading assignments, lectures, and discussions as possible. This paper is to be submitted to the D.Min. office by October 31, 2012.

**Required reading** – Each student should read the required books (if not already read) and at least one book from each of the four categories for a total 2000 pages of *new* reading.

**Required Books**

**I. Being a Healthy Leader**
ISBN: 9780875847474


**II. Knowing Our People**
ISBN: 9780195314847

**III. Leading a Healthy Church**


**IV. Leading a Growing Church**

**Additional Book Choices**

**I. Being a Healthy Leader**

### II. Knowing Our People


III. Leading a Healthy Church


IV. Leading a Growing Church


Hunter, III, George G. *Church for the Unchurched*. Abingdon, 1996.


**Course Objectives Related to D.Min. Student Learning Outcomes**

**Course:** Leading the Healthy and Growing Church, **Professor:** Dr. Sandy Willson  
**Campus:** Orlando, **Date:** July 16-20, 2012

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.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>DMin Student Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Rubric</th>
<th>Mini-Justification</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Articulation (oral &amp; written)</strong></td>
<td>Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Scripture</strong></td>
<td>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.)</td>
<td>Strong</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Reformed Theology</strong></td>
<td>Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
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<td><strong>Sanctification</strong></td>
<td>Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student’s sanctification.</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
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<td><strong>Desire for Worldview</strong></td>
<td>Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.</td>
<td>Minimal</td>
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<td><strong>Winsomely Reformed</strong></td>
<td>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.)</td>
<td>Strong</td>
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<td><strong>Preach</strong></td>
<td>Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
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<td><strong>Worship</strong></td>
<td>Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service.</td>
<td>Minimal</td>
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<td><strong>Shepherd</strong></td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Church/World</strong></td>
<td>Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.</td>
<td>Minimal</td>
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Reading Report for *Leading the Healthy and Growing Church*

*Even if you do the Journal please complete the Summary Page*

Your Name & Contact Info.
For Sandy Willson
Date Completed

Reading Summary Report

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Author</th>
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I, __________________ have read a total of _______ pages

*Insert Page Break and begin your one-page reports on each book or article over 50 pages. Save this report as one (1) Word document which include your summary and each book review. Save as YourLastname.LeadingHealthyChurch.S12RR Email By the first day of class to dmin.orlando@rts.edu.*
Reading Report Guideline

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.

Insert a “page-break” and continue document with each report
INTEGRATION PAPER (OR TITLE OF PAPER)

For
(Insert Title of Course and Number)
Sample: Theology of Ministry, 2DM801

Presented to
(Insert Professor’s Name)

By
(Insert Your Name)
(Insert Your Contact Information)

In Partial Fulfillment of the
Requirements for the Degree
Doctor of Ministry

Completed _____ (Insert Date) (1” from bottom)

Save your paper as a Microsoft Word document and email to dmin.orlando@rts.edu
Sample: Smith.TheologyOfMinistry.W11 IP