



CM508 Church Planting and Church Development

Short 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*. Scottsdale, 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.

Student learning outcomes

Students will be able to:

1. Articulate the role of church planting within the framework of Trinitarian theology and the church's participation in Jesus' mission to the world. This outcome will be addressed in Lecture 1 and Chapters 1-3 of Stetzer's book. This outcome will be verified in the student's "Church Planting and Jesus' Mission" paper.
2. Evaluate their personal characteristics and competencies related to planting a church. This outcome will be addressed in Lecture 2 and Chapter 5 of Stetzer's book. This outcome will be verified in the student's "Church Planter Characteristics" paper.
3. Describe various types of models for church planting and explain which model best suits their personal characteristics and context. This outcome will be addressed in Lecture 2 and Chapter 4 of Stetzer's book. This outcome will be verified in the student's "Church Planting Models" paper.
4. Develop a New Church Proposal – a strategic plan for starting a new church – that includes:
 1. A Mission Statement for a new church.
 2. A description of a focus group or community
 3. A description of a launch team including specific ministries necessary for launch.
 4. A general plan and timeline leading up to a church plant launch.
 5. A Discipleship Pathway including key ministries needed to start a new church.
 6. An estimated budget for a starting a new church.

This outcome will be addressed in Lectures 3-5 and 10; Chapters 11, 24 and 18 of Stetzer's book. This outcome will be verified in the

student's "Focus Group" paper and final project.

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

		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 Groups	Lecture notes <i>Planting Missional Churches</i> , Chapter 17 <i>Planting Growing Churches</i> , , Appendix E and pp. 165-176 <i>Tradecraft</i> , Chapter 8 & 9 <i>Apostolic Church Planting</i> , pages 100-122 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 <i>Planting Missional Churches</i> , Chapter 22 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-nybh8&list=UUHOjeZih7mxr2ZuJwqJVstA</p> <p>watch, “Fundraising.”</p> <p>At https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g8nlCjuZcak&list=UUHOjeZih7mxr2ZuJwqJVstA</p> <p>watch, “Fundraising for Ministry.”</p> <p>Read: “Budget Items”</p> <p>Review: “Risk Factors”</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>At https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d_0nDajlvTE&list=UUHOjeZih7mxr2ZuJwqJVstA</p> <p>watch, “The value of coaching for church planters.”</p>

		Read: “New Church Proposal Components” Participate in online discussion. Answer lecture questions and interact with other students.
Week 11		Work on Final Project – <i>requirements for this project are listed above in this syllabus.</i>
Week 12	Final project must be completed and submitted to the instructor by Sunday, August 7, 2022	