

Birmingham Theological Seminary
2200 Briarwood Way
Birmingham, Alabama 35243
205-776-5650

FALL SEMESTER 2010 PT5739
Principles of Church Growth
Tuesday 5:30 pm. - 7:30 pm.
Professor: Rev. Willie Wells, Jr.
Class Hours: 2

Cell Phone: 205-901-6608
Home Phone: 205-977-5788
Fax: 205-969-5798
[E-Mail: well1811@bellsouth.net](mailto:well1811@bellsouth.net)

COURSE PURPOSE

This course is designed to provide the student with a Christ-centered approach to Church Growth. This course will also help the student to function effectively as a team member with lay and professional church workers. The student will develop competency in evangelism and church assimilation skills, through programs both inside and outside the church.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The following list contains the terminal objectives for the course. Each lesson will contain the more specific educational objectives that relate to these terminal objectives. The student will be able to understand and appreciate:

1. The importance and role of strategic contagious plan for outreach.
2. The change process
3. Outreach diversity.
4. Communicating the Gospel without compromise.
5. Church Growth models.
6. To clearly identify Biblical principles of church growth.
7. To identify cultural barriers to church growth in America and discuss how to overcome them.
8. To develop a personal action plan to apply things learned in the course

COURSE TEXTS

Required Texts:

Terry, John Mark. 1997. *Church Evangelism*. Broadman & Holman, Nashville, Tennessee. ISBN: 0-8054-1065-1

McGavran, Donald. 1990. *Understanding Church Growth*, . Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co. Grand Rapids, Mich. 49503. ISBN-0-8028-0463-2

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. *Class attendance.*
2. *Completion of reading assignment on time.*
3. *There will be five quizzes given throughout the term.*
4. *There will be a midterm.*
5. *Write a 10-15 page research paper that provides an overview of 10 church growth issues, selected from the course, providing a summary description of each followed by creative and critical reflections derived from class presentations and discussions coupled with your required reading. Paper should contain the following constituent parts: title page, table of contents, introduction, and research question (what are you investigating?), discussion and conclusion, bibliography.*

GRADING

1. *Class attendance: more than two unexcused absences drops final grade one letter grade.*
2. *Completion of reading and ability to participate in discussion 10%.*
3. *Five quiz are worth 10% each for a total of 50% of grade.*
4. *Midterm paper (six to eight pages double spaced) worth 20%.*
5. *Final paper worth 20%.*

BTS FORMAT AND STYLE STANDARDS

NOTE: All papers must be formatted in accordance with Turabian Chicago standards including the title page. Any paper not conforming to these standards will automatically dropped one letter grade.

All course materials must be submitted to the professor at the end of the semester (last day of class). Thereafter, course materials may be submitted for up to six weeks after the end of the semester directly to the office of the registrar with the permission of the professor. If a student submits course materials after the end of the semester but within the six week grace period, the student's grade will be lowered by one letter grade. The course materials will not be accepted after the six week grace period and a failing grade will be posted to the student's transcript.

Class Schedule: Tuesday 5:30 pm. - 7:30 pm. to September 13,2010 - December 17,2010

Reading in the Textbook

<i>Accept the Biblical Mandate / Lead the church to Pray:</i>	<i>09/14/10</i>
<i>Learn the Principles of Church Growth:</i>	<i>09/21/10</i>
<i>Facilitate Change in the Church:</i>	<i>09/28/10</i>
<i>Plan for Evangelism:</i>	<i>10/05/10</i>
<i>Mobilize the Congregation:</i>	<i>10/12/10</i>
<i>Grow through Groups:</i>	<i>10/12/10</i>

FALL BREAK IS THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 18-22, 2010-NO CLASSES THIS WEEK!

<i>Discover Your Prospects:</i>	10/26/10
<i>Visit Your Prospects:</i>	11/02/10
<i>Develop Weekday Ministries / Reach People through Worship:</i>	11/02/10
<i>Reach the Community through the Media /</i>	11/02/10
<i>Schedule Special Events:</i>	11/06/10
<i>Retain and Assimilate the Converts:</i>	11/23/10
<i>Plant New Churches:</i>	12/07/10

PRINCIPLES OF CHURCH GROWTH BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Anderson, Justice C., "The Nature of Churches," The Birth of Churches . edited by Talmedge Amberson .*
- Anderson, Leith. Leadership that Works. Minneapolis, MI: Bethany House Publishers, 1999*
- Nashville : Broadman Press, 1979 pp. 48-72.*
- Anderson, Justo C., La Iglesia Bautista: Ensayos Eclesiologicos . Buenos Aires : Junta Bautista de Publicaciones, 1974.*
- Crawford, Dan R. Church Growth Words From The Risen Lord. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1990.*
- Eims , Leroy. The Lost Art of Making Disciples. Zonderman Publishing House, 1978.*
- Ellis, E. E. Pauline Theology: Ministry and Society. Lanham, MD : University Press of America, 1996.*
- Hemphill, Kenneth S. The Official Rule Book for the New Church Game . Nashville : Broadman Press, 1990.*
- Hull, Bill. The Disciple-Making Pastor. 2 nd ed. Fleming H. Revell, 2000.*
- Hunt, Josh and Dr. Larry Mays. Disciple-Making Teachers. Group Publishing, 1998.*
- Hurston, Karen. Growing the World's Largest Church. Springfield, MO: Chrism Books, 1994*
- Miller, Calvin. The Empowered Communicator. Nashville: Broadman -Holman, 1994.*
- Mims, Gene. The Kingdom Focused Church. Broadman and Holman Publishers, 2003.*
- Music, David W. "What Happened to the ?Hymns' in Colossians 3:16 ?" The Church Musician. (February 1989), 18-20.*

Sanchez, Daniel. Doctrina del Fina. [Doctrine of the Last Things] Nashville : Convention Press, 1993.

Smith, Ebbie. Growing Healthy Churches: New Directions for Church Growth in the 21st Century, IICM.net Press.

Stetzer, Ed. Planting New Testament Churches in a Post-Modern Age. Nashville : Broadman & Holman, 2003.

Walter, Jim. "Using Growth Principles in Adult Outreach," in Reaching Adults Through the Sunday School. Compiled by Larry Shotwell. Nashville : Convention Press, 1979.

Warren, Rick. The Purpose Driven Church. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1995