

PMCP8304 Developing a Strategy for Church Multiplication New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Church Ministry Division June 30-July 2, 2025

George Ross, DMin.

Assistant Professor of Church Planting and Evangelism, Occupying the Cecil B. Day Chair of Church Planting, NAMB Church Planting Center.

Phone: (504) 343-1697 Email: gross@nobts.edu

Mission Statement

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College prepare servants to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.

We are here not merely to get an education or to give one. We are here to change the world by fulfilling the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

Course Description

This course aims to help the student develop a strategy for church multiplication, with a particular focus on preparing and facilitating church planting from a local church context. Students will develop a vision and plan for leading churches to multiply. They will identify the next steps for discovering, developing, and deploying church planters and missionaries from a local church context. Students will learn key missiological components necessary to facilitating church planting multiplication and movements.

Course Teaching Methodology

The course will involve the following methodologies:

A variety of teaching methods will be utilized, such as class presentations by the professor using PowerPoint and handouts. Other teaching methods include small and large group discussions, group projects, multi-media presentations, utilization of mission-related websites, and other communication mediums. A Canvas shell for the class will be utilized extensively as a resource for students. Students will be expected to be thoroughly prepared for the seminar discussions.

Student Learning Outcomes

To help fulfill the Great Commission, the students, by the end of the course, should:

- 1. Define and describe a multiplying church.
- 2. Examine the sending theme and language in the Old and New Testaments.
- 3. Formulate a missiology of church multiplication for his or her ministry context.
- 4. Develop a vision and plan for leading churches to multiply.
- 5. Implement a missional hermeneutic in leadership.
- 6. Develop a strategy for discovering, developing, and deploying missional leaders in a local church context.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

- Greear, JD. Gaining By Losing: Why the Future Belongs to Churches that Send. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2015.
- Payne, Jervis David. *Theology of Mission: A Concise Biblical Theology*. Bellingham: Lexham Press, 2021.
- Clifton, Clint. *How to Start a Residency: Turning Members into Missional Leaders*. Alpharetta, GA: New Churches powered by Send Network, 2023.

For a free version of Clint's book, follow this link: https://www.newchurches.com/resource/how-to-start-a-residency/

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- 1. Participation and Attendance. Because this course will include lectures, small group discussions, team activities, and presentations, students are expected to participate actively in each class. Punctual attendance and full participation are expected. Unexcused absences will affect the student's grade. The seminary's attendance policy is followed for this class.
- 2. Reading reports.

 Pre-class Reading. Students are expect
 - **Pre-class Reading**. Students are expected to read all the books **BEFORE** class. To participate in meaningful class discussion, students must have read all the material before class.
- 3. Teaching/Preaching Assignment: Students must use "Theology of Mission" and create an 8-week teaching/preaching series. Students should be able to implement this assignment in a local church context. Utilizing a "Missional Hermeneutic" presented in the book lesson should focus on the sending theme in Scripture. Lessons must be from the Old and New Testaments. Each lesson must have: 1. Lesson Title, 2. Biblical Supporting Text, 3. Lesson Summary, 4. Lesson Outcome, 5. Lesson Outline, 6. Lesson Application. This assignment should be between 10-15 pages. Students will present assignments in class. Due on the first day of class, June 24, 2025.
- **4. Post-class Reading**. Students are to prepare a 2–3-page critical review of "Gaining by Losing" in the following format: 1. Book Summary, 2. Strengths, 3. Weaknesses, 4. Conclusion/Implementation. This assignment is due on July 24, 2025.
- 5. Post-Class Residency Assignment. Using "How to Start a Residency" by Clifton, students are expected to present a 5–8-page plan of action to implement a ministry residency at their local church, in which they outline how they will discover, develop, and deploy leaders from within their congregation. Additional information will be given in class. This assignment is due on July 24, 2025.

EVALUATION/GRADING:

Participation/Attendance	25%
Reading assignments	20%
Teaching/Preaching assignment	30%
Residency Assignment	25%

Students should follow the seminary's manual of style and form for all written assignments.

Letter grades will be in accordance with the NOBTS course catalog. Should a student's final numerical grade come within a fraction of the next higher letter grade, the professor may—at his discretion—consider promoting the student to the next higher grade based on his or her attitude, positive contributions to the field, and preparedness for classroom discussions. The professor reserves the right to employ a bell curve on grade distribution.

LATE WORK:

All assignments are due **in class** on the assigned dates. Late work will be penalized one quality point per day it is late (this includes weekends). Assignments turned in after class, yet on the same day that they are due, will still be considered late work.

NOTE:

In order to ensure full class participation, any student with a disabling condition requiring accommodations (e.g., tape recorders, special adaptive equipment, special notetaking, or test-taking needs) is strongly encouraged to contact the instructor at the beginning of the course.

DISCLAIMER:

This syllabus is intended to accurately reflect the course description, course objectives, general content, grading criteria, course requirements, attendance requirements, and other information necessary for students to appraise the course. The instructor, however, reserves the right to modify to adjust the syllabus when he reasonably thinks that doing so will enhance the learning experience of his students. The professor will not add assignments or change the course grading standards.

Learning Management System (Canvas)

Note to All Students: Canvas instructions will be reviewed during the workshop presentations. You will be enrolled in the Canvas class before the program overview workshop. Pre-assignments should be submitted on or before the first day of class. Post-assignments should be submitted through Canvas on or before the assignment due date.

Student Canvas Resources:

Student Guide to Canvas:

https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Student-Guide/tkb-p/student Canvas Tutorial Videos: https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Video-Guide/tkb-p/videos#student-videos

Technical Assistance

For assistance regarding technology, consult ITC (504-816-8180) or the following websites:

- 1. <u>Selfserve@nobts.edu</u> Email for technical questions/support requests with the <u>Selfserve.nobts.edu</u> site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)
- 2. <u>Canvas.NOBTS.com</u> Click on the "Help" button for technical questions/support requests regarding the NOBTS Canvas System. You can also email questions to <u>Canvas@nobts.edu</u>.
- 3. ITCSupport@nobts.edu Email for general technical questions/support requests.
- 4. www.NOBTS.edu/itc/ General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

Help for Writing Papers at "The Write Stuff"

One written assignment in each NOBTS maintains a Writing Center designed to improve English writing at the graduate level. Students can receive writing guides, tips, and valuable information to help them become better writers.

Plagiarism on Written Assignments

NOBTS has a no tolerance policy for plagiarism. Plagiarism in certain cases may result in expulsion from the seminary. See the NOBTS Student Handbook for definition, penalties, and policies associated with plagiarism.

HONOR CODE:

All students are required to affirm their academic integrity when submitting all coursework with the following statement, signed by the student and attached to each written assignment:

"On my honor, I have neither given nor taken improper assistance in completing this assignment."

PROJECTED COURSE SCHEDULE

Monday, June 30, 2025: 11AM-7:30PM (Lunch and Dinner Provided)

Tuesday, July 1, 2025: 8:30AM-5:30PM (Lunch Provided) Wednesday, July 2, 2025: 8:30AM-4:00PM (Lunch Provided)