Professional Development
Professional Doctoral Seminar – PDPD 8200.4
(Mission Trip)
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

Fall, Winter, Spring Trimester

Dr. Randy Stone, Professor of Christian Education
Director of D.Ed.Min Program
Chair, Discipleship and Ministry Leadership Division
Occupying the John T. Sisemore Chair of Christian Education
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Perry R. Sanders Center for Ministry Excellence
3939 Gentilly Blvd. New Orleans, LA 70126
rstone@nobts.edu (504) 282-4455 Ext. 3726

Mission Statement
The mission of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is to equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

NOBTS Core Values and Core Value Focus

Doctrinal Integrity – Knowing that the Bible is the Word of God, we believe it, teach it, proclaim it, and submit to it. The doctrinal statements used in our evaluations are our Articles of Religious Belief and the Baptist Faith and Message Statement.

Spiritual Vitality – We are a worshiping community, with both personal spirituality and gathering together as a Seminary for the praise and adoration of God and instruction in His Word.

Mission Focus – We are not here 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.

Characteristic Excellence – What we do, we do to the utmost of our abilities and resources as a testimony to the glory of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Servant Leadership – We follow the model of Jesus and exert leadership and influence through the nurture and encouragement of those around us.

Annually, the President will designate a core value that will become the focus of pedagogy for the year. For 201x-201x academic year that Core Value is TBA
Course Description
This course provides a structured approach for D.Ed.Min. students to use when fulfilling their degree program requirement for 2 hours of professional development. Four options are provided in the course for professional development. This syllabus is for Option 4, participation in or leadership of an authorized mission trip and related assignments.

Student Learning Outcomes
By the completion of the course, each student will:
1. Report expanded knowledge and understanding of a particular subject.
2. Reflect new experiences in spiritual formation and ministry practice.
3. Demonstrate ability to assess the strength and weaknesses of a church/ministry and its potential for development and growth associated with the researched topic.
4. Synthesize key ideas and principles in the field of study and determine how they can be applied in a church/ministry setting.

Textbook
This course will have only one assigned book which will be determined after consultation with the Director of D.Ed.Min. program. The book must be related to the proposed mission trip and must be useful for ministry in the local context. A suggested book should be submitted for approval prior to participating in the professional development exercise.

Course Requirements
An International or North American mission trip may be considered for this course. Assignments in this syllabus reflect intentional plan for professional development. All papers should be double-spaced, written according to the most recent Turabian edition regarding footnotes, headings/subheadings, margins, pagination, cover page, etc.

1. Book Report: Student will complete a 4 page summary and review of a book (approved by the course supervisor) pertaining to the mission trip. The report should summarize the content of the book, key ideas and principles, strengths and weaknesses of the author’s position, points of agreement and disagreement. Additionally, at least one page of the report should address three to five points of application related to the student’s personal development experience.

2. People Group Report. The student will write a 4 or 5 page paper comprised of three components: introduction, people group profile and context. After preliminary research include a profile of the population targeted for the mission effort. Special attention should be given to socioeconomic and spiritual conditions as well as Christian education opportunities. The context should include such elements as mission partners, local congregations and composition of the mission team.

3. Mission Trip Report. The student will write a 5-7 page paper detailing the mission experience after the trip has been completed. Specific points of personal and professional growth should be included. Be prepared to discuss the paper with the course supervisor.
4. **Ministry Action Plan.** The student will write a ministry action plan 3-5 pages in length. Consider how the lessons learned from your experience can be communicated in your personal ministry setting. Propose actions steps to incorporate some of the principles and ideas learned. Offer perceived benefits to the local church or ministry.

**Grading**
- Book Report 15%
- People Group Report 30%
- Mission Trip Report 35%
- Organizational Assessment and Improvement 20%