



# AMBROSE SEMINARY

**ED645 Designing Discipleship for Your Church**  
**May 9-13 2011**  
**Dr. Eric Geiger**  
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## **Course Description**

This course is designed to teach students to design a discipleship process for a local church. Students will develop a personal theology of spiritual transformation and will look at how to lead a church to develop disciples whose lives are being transformed by the gospel resulting in transformed communities and cities.

## **Learning Objectives**

Through the readings, discussion, and lectures each student will:

1. Harmonize his/her personal theology of spiritual growth with local church practice
2. Comprehend different models of discipleship
3. Design a process for discipleship in a local church where the programs of the church match the vision for disciple-making
4. Be able to passionately articulate a vision for making disciples in the context of a local church

## **Textbooks**

The following textbooks are required reading for the course:

- Boa, Kenneth. *Conformed to His Image: Biblical and practical approaches to spiritual formation.*
- Coleman, Robert. *The Master Plan of Evangelism.*
- Rainer, Thom and Eric Geiger. *Simple Church: Returning to God's process for making disciples.*
- Sanders, Oswald. *Spiritual Leadership.*
- Stetzer, Ed and Thom Rainer. *Transformational Church: Creating a new scorecard for congregations*

## **Class Schedule**

Monday 05/9/11: 9am-4pm

\*Tuesday 05/10/11: 9am-4pm (with hour lunch break)

Wednesday 05/11/11: 9am-4pm (with hour lunch break)

Thursday 05/12/11: 9am-4pm (with hour lunch break)

Friday 05/13/11: 9am – 12:00pm

\*The class will meet with the Western Canadian District of the Christian Missionary Alliance for class on Tuesday. The meeting will be at Westside Chinese Alliance church. Each student is asked to check-in with the professor at the beginning of the seminar. Rides will be arranged on the Monday class.

## **Course Requirements**

### **A. Course reading and Book Reviews (40% of final grade)**

Each student must prepare five 3-page book reviews of the five course textbooks. The books should be read prior to class. The reviews must be emailed in PDF format to the professor by July 15<sup>th</sup>.

1. Synopsis of the book's contents including critical reflection through your theological lens
2. Implications for discipleship in a local church

### **B. Discipleship Plan for a Local Church (60% of final grade)**

By July 15, each student must submit a 15-page paper articulating a process for discipleship for a local church or a ministry within a church that is responsible for the spiritual development of a particular life-stage (children, students, collegiate, etc). The paper should begin with the student's personal theology of discipleship and the church's role in discipleship. The process for discipleship should be informed by the student's convictions. Each student should move from the theological to the practical, thus the bulk of the paper should be a clearly articulated strategy for discipleship in a local church. The paper should include 8-10 sources including, but not limited to, the course textbooks. The paper must be emailed in PDF format to the professor by July 15<sup>th</sup>.

## **Grading**

The grading scale for the course is as follows:

<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Description</u>
A+	
A	Excellent
A-	
B+	
B	Good
B-	
C+	
C	Satisfactory
C-	
D+	
D	Minimal Pass
F	Failure

## **Important Notes/Dates:**

Registration and payment in full is open up to noon (12:00pm) of the first day of class.

Students may drop this class and receive a full refund up till noon on the first day of class. No tuition refund will be issued after this deadline.

Students may voluntarily withdraw or change their registration from credit to audit, without academic penalty, up till noon (12:00pm) on the first day of class. Withdrawal from courses after the Registration Revision period will not be eligible for tuition refund. 'W' grades are not included in grade point average calculations. A limit on the number of courses from which a student is permitted to withdraw may be imposed. Students wishing to withdraw from a course, but who fail to do so by the applicable date, will receive the grade earned in accordance with the course syllabus. A student obliged to withdraw from a course after the Withdrawal Deadline because of health or other reasons may apply to the Registrar for special consideration.

All registration changes must be made through the Registrar's Office if an Unclassified or Visiting student and through the Student Portal if a current student of Ambrose.

## **Electronic Etiquette**

Students are expected to treat their instructor, guest speakers, and fellow students with respect. It is disruptive to the learning goals of a course or seminar and disrespectful to fellow students and the instructor to engage in electronically-enabled activities unrelated to the class during a class session. Please turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices during class. Laptops should be used for class-related purposes only. Please do not use iPods, MP3 players, or headphones. Do not text, read or send personal emails, go on Facebook or other social networks, search the internet, or play computer games during class. The professor has the right to disallow the student to use a laptop in future lectures and/or to ask a student to withdraw from the session if s/he does not comply with this policy. Repeat offenders will be directed to the Dean. If you are expecting communication due to an emergency, please speak with the professor before the class begins.

## **Academic Policies**

It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies as stated in the Student Handbook and Academic Calendar. Personal information, that is information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual, may be collected as a requirement as part of taking this class. Any information collected will only be used and disclosed for the purpose for which the collection was intended. For further information contact the Privacy Compliance Officer at [privacy@ambrose.edu](mailto:privacy@ambrose.edu).

**Extensions**

Although extensions to coursework up until the final assignment deadline are at the discretion of the instructor, students may not turn in coursework for evaluation after July 15, 2011 unless they have received permission for a "Course Extension" from the Registrar's Office. Requests for course extensions must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by June 30. Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise "due to circumstances beyond the student's control."

**Academic Integrity**

We are committed to fostering personal integrity and will not overlook breaches of integrity such as plagiarism and cheating. Academic dishonesty is taken seriously at Ambrose University College as it undermines our academic standards and affects the integrity of each member of our learning community. Any attempt to obtain credit for academic work through fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest means is academic dishonesty. Plagiarism involves presenting someone else's ideas, words, or work as one's own. Plagiarism is fraud and theft, but plagiarism can also occur by accident when a student fails or forgets to give credit to another person's ideas or words. Plagiarism and cheating can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the university college. Students are expected to be familiar with the policies in the current Academic Calendar and the Student Handbook that deal with plagiarism, cheating, and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean and become part of the student's permanent record.

Students are advised to retain this syllabus for their records.