

PT 645

Starting Strong New Churches (Seminary)

Number of credits: 3

Prerequisite:

None

Semester: Spring, 2015

Dates: May 11-15, 2015

Days:

Room:

Lab – day: NA

Lab–Room: NA

Instructor: David Skidmore; Doug Balzer

Phone/ D. Skidmore -587-435-2400/
Email dcs@echurch.ca

D. Balzer -

Course Description:

This course provides an overview of New Church Development. The course will explore briefly through lecture and small group interaction the biblical and theological foundations for starting new churches and will include completion of *Church Planting Essentials* certified training developed by Dynamic Church Planting International (www.dcp.org).

Each student will complete one workbook provided by the instructor and develop a “*Vision Plan TimeLine*” practical application focusing on four phases of new church development: hearing from God, preparing to launch, launching and mission-to-the-world.

Each student will also explore their relationship with the Holy Spirit in communal and missional contexts. Emphasis will be given to hearing and discerning the will of God in one’s own context.

Important Dates:

First day of classes: May 11, 2015

Last day of classes: May 15, 2015

ALL REMAINING HOMEWORK IS DUE: JULY 24TH, 2015

Further Course Information:

This course will explore through lecture and small group interaction: biblical principles of church planting, why plant a church, prayerful planning, leadership development, a process of discipleship, building a launch team, potential landmines, culturally relevant outreach, reproducing, balancing family and ministry, and seasons of church planting. The Kingdom of God in Canada needs missionaries to start all kinds of new ministries and churches. Will you be one of them?

Expected Learning Outcomes:

It is the aim of the course that students acquire the following skills:

With the help of the Lord students will be equipped to:

1. Articulate self-knowledge of personality characteristics, strengths and weaknesses as related to the identified characteristics of a church planter.
 2. Appropriate Scripture to personal and corporate life both in and beyond the church.
 3. Facilitate the formation of a community of faith as the called and gathered, centered in Christ, and sent people of God.
 4. Model and facilitate Christian witness and spiritual transformation.
 5. Communicate effectively in written, spoken, artistic, and other forms.
 6. Engage the holistic nature of the church in redemptive ministries of restoration.
 7. Lead in such a way as to develop the leadership potential in others.
 8. Articulate the missional nature of the church.
 9. Exegete aspects of society including ethnicity and culture.
 10. Draw from core doctrines to shape both personal
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- journey and vocational ministry.
11. Display a sense of spiritual self-understanding and personal vocation consistent with the student's ministry interests and emphases.
 12. Recognize ways in which the missio Dei requires the church to consider the various cultural contexts.
 13. Adapt ethnographic research tools as a means to exegete specific contexts for ministry practice.
 14. Students will demonstrate the ability to use the theological disciplines to reflect on and engage the world as informed, thinking, Christian persons.

Course Assignments & Requirements

1. Assignments and Requirements
 - a. Read *Viral Churches* by Ed Stetzer and Warren Bird. Submit a three page draft paper using *Viral Churches* (other sources may be used if desired, but are not required) that describes how the student might become a "Movement Maker." I am not looking for a summary of the book, but an application as it relates to the student's God given vision for the future. This paper will be submitted post module.
 - b. Read Matthew 10 and Luke 10. Submit a three page reflection paper on 'missional habits and behaviors' commanded by Jesus to His disciples. How does His teaching impact and shape your future ministry? Please supply the rationale of Jesus in regards to 'why' He commanded such habits and behaviors. Explain His wisdom.
 - c. Read *Principles and Practice of Indigenous Church Planting* by Charles Brock. This book may be ordered on line from www.churchgrowthinternational.com. The price is \$3.00. Submit a one page reflection paper on Brock's "principles of church planting."
 - d. Complete the Church Planter Candidate Assessment found at <http://churchplanter.lifeway.com/organization/186/>. You may click the upper right hand button "Purchase Passcode" or you may first select one of the regional organizations and purchase the passcode on one of the district sites. **Cost to take this online assessment is \$29. This will require a credit card. If that is a problem, please contact the instructor (dcs@echurch.ca or 587-435-2400) for an alternate method to obtain a passcode.**
 - e. Spend 3 hours online researching church planting. (Include the New Church Web-site <http://www.usacanadaregion.org/church-planting/>.) Pay particular attention to the various ways that God is moving in His Kingdom. Prepare an annotated resource list entitled "Helpful On-line Church Planting Resources."

2. Assignments and Requirements

- a. Complete the *Church Planting Essentials Student Workbook* in class. This workbook will be provided at no charge by the instructor at the first class.
- b. Develop and present to the class and receive feedback on a three to four page **rough draft** of a *Vision-Plan-Timeline* for a new church based upon the *Church Planting Essentials* guidelines which will be taught in class. The in-class presentation may include power point and written outline and must include the following items:
 - i. Prayerful Planning and timeline
 - ii. Leadership Development
 - iii. Discipleship Process
 - iv. Building a launch team
 - v. Potential Landmines
 - vi. Culturally Relevant Outreach
 - vii. Reproduction
 - viii. Mission-to-the-world
- c. Meet with the instructors for a 30 minute conference to discuss leadership and calling as outlined in the material to be taught in class. A sign-up sheet will be available at the first class. Topics in context of Church Planting will include :
 - i. The results of the pre-assessment
 - ii. Maturity – Spiritual Disciplines
 - iii. Ability- Experience and training in area of Church Planting
 - iv. Personality- Gifts and graces for church planting
 - v. Compatibility- Willingness to reteach the materials to other leaders

3. Post-module Assignments and Requirements

- a. Read Church Planting Landmines by Nebel and Rohrmayer. Submit a one page interaction. Utilizing the training received in the class discuss which landmine might be most likely to occur in your ministry context. Include how you would avoid stepping on this landmine and “blowing-up” your new church.
 - b. Read Organic Church by Neil Cole. Submit a 2 page interaction concerning the book’s central thesis within the context of Canadian culture.
 - c. Read Untamed by Alan and Debra Hirsch. Submit personal reflection paper which honestly answers the question, “To what degree have I embraced the status quo in mission and ministry?” Write as many pages needed to answer truthfully.
 - d. Plan and go on a personal prayer retreat as discussed in class. This retreat requires that you spend six hours of uninterrupted time. The class will discuss various options. However, the preferred option is to spend 2 hours in the evening, then get a good night of rest and complete the retreat the next morning. Depending upon your context you may need to plan to be away from home and work to finish this assignment. Indicate by email when you have completed this assignment.
 - e. Develop an eight to nine page final draft of the *Vision-Plan-Timeline* that you began during the class time.
 - f. Review the paper that you submitted pre-module on Viral Churches by Ed Stetzer and Warren Bird. Submit a three page **final** paper that describes how the student might become a “Movement Maker.” **Indicate how the class may have changed you.**
 - g. Develop a two page interaction and reflection paper on the Holy Spirit Encounter. How would you make the material ‘your own’ and how you might reteach it in your ministry
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context?

Distribution of Student Learning Hours

	pre-module hours	module hours	post-module hours
Face-to-face Class Sessions		32	
Online Participation in forums, groups, etc.	0		0
Reading	0	0	30
Writing	0	6	32
Other Assignments and Learning Activities	0	7	28
Exams & Quizzes	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	45	90

Submission of Assignments:

All assignments should be submitted via email to both instructors. If no submittal is required, you must still indicate by email when you have completed that assignment.

Form and Style Expectations

It is expected that writing assignments will be submitted in good style and format, and will be free from grammatical, spelling, and typographical errors. The quality of your written work will have an impact on the grade you receive. You may format your essays in accordance with the conventions of Kate Turabian's A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations, or the Chicago Manual of Style. All written assignments should be double spaced and use a standard 12 point font.

Policy Regarding Late Work

We will assign a letter grade penalty to all written assignments turned in after the time they are due. When an assignment is more than one week late, we will assign a two letter grade penalty to it.

Additional Costs

Students are required to take the on-line Church Planter Pre-assessment. Cost is \$29. This pre-assessment is available on line at <http://churchplanter.lifeway.com/organization/186/>.

Course Grading

Evaluation in this kind of course involves an element of subjectivity. The primary factors taken into account in assessing —good solid graduate work, for a —B|| are (1) ability to demonstrate a breadth and depth of understanding of the material engaged; (2) ability to engage this material in a critical way; (3) ability to exhibit how the material is related to a larger context. If you demonstrate a consistent ability to do these things in all your coursework, you can expect to receive a B.

If you demonstrate consistent ability to do them incisively and with excellence, you can expect to receive an A.

If you demonstrate an ability to do these things often, but not consistently, you can expect to receive a C. (Hence, a C means —average, or —satisfactory|| work. It does not mean —bad|| or —unsatisfactory.||)

If you seldom demonstrate an ability to do these things, you can expect to receive a D.

The final grade will be computed using the following point scale. There are 1,000 possible points.

50 points Viral Churches, “Movement Maker” rough draft

50 points Matthew/ Luke 10 Reflection Paper

50 points ‘Organic Church’ Reflection Paper

50 points ‘Untamed’ Reflection paper

50 points Read Brock and submit one page interaction paper.

50 points Complete the Church Planter pre-assessment (on-line)

50 points Spend a total of 3 hours over the 10 weeks on church planting web-sites

100 points Vision Plan Timeline preparation and in-class presentation

100 points Class attendance and participation

50 points Read Nebel and Rohrmayer and submit one page interaction paper

50 points Plan and go on a personal prayer retreat

250 points Prepare and submit Final Draft Vision Plan Timeline

The following point scale will determine letter grades:

- A 1,000-900
- B 899-800
- C 799-700
- D 699-600
- F 599-0

Attendance:

Attendance at classes is essential for realizing the maximum benefit of your education. Since the professor in each course is best acquainted with the importance of consistent attendance, he or she will determine the rules for attendance. If you must be absent because of extenuating circumstances, contact the professor as soon as possible to discuss the situation.

Textbooks:

Title <u>Organic Church</u>		Author Cole, Neil.			Publisher Jossey-Bass		
Required	BN 978-37981297	Edition	Previous Ed Acceptable?	New or readopted?	Bundle or Package?	Access Codes Required?	
Semester/Date/Week	Course ID	Course Name Church Planting in 21 st Century Canada		Professor Dave Skidmore & Doug Balzer,			

Notes:

Title Viral Churches: Helping Church Planters Become Movement Makers	Author Ed Stetzer and Warren Bird	Publisher Jossey-Bass (Leadership Networks)
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Required	ISBN 978-0-470-55045-8	Edition	Previous Ed Acceptable?	New or readopted?	Bundle or Package?	Access Codes Required?
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Semester/Date/Week	Course ID	Course Name Church Planting in 21 st Century Canada	Professor Dave Skidmore & Doug Balzer
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Title Principles and Practices of Indigenous Church Planting	Author Charles Brock	Publisher Buy through www.ChurchGrowthInternational.com
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Required/Recommended	ISBN 978-188504454	Edition	Previous Ed Acceptable?	New or readopted?	Bundle or Package?	Access Codes Required?
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Notes: Buy through www.ChurchGrowthInternational.com

Available for \$3.00

Title Church Planting Landmines	Author Tom Nebel and Gary Rohrmayer	Publisher Church Smart Resources
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Required	ISBN 1-889638-50-	Edition	Previous Ed Acceptable?	New or readopted?	Bundle or Package?	Access Codes Required?
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Semester/Date/Week	Course ID	Course Name Church Planting in 21 st Century Canada	Professor Dave Skidmore & Doug Balzer,
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Notes:

Title <u>Untamed.</u>		Author Hirsch, Alan and Hirsch, Debra		Publisher Baker Books.		
Required	ISBN 978-0801013430	Edition	Previous Ed Acceptable?	New or readopted?	Bundle or Package?	Access Codes Required?
Semester/Date/Week	Course ID	Course Name Church Planting in 21 st Century Canada		Professor Dave Skidmore & Doug Balzer		
Notes:						

Policies:

All students have received an Ambrose e-mail account upon registration. It is the student's responsibility to check this account regularly as the Ambrose email system will be the professor's instrument for notifying students of important matters (Cancelled class sessions, extensions, requested appointments, etc.) between class sessions. If students do not wish to use their Ambrose accounts, it is highly recommended that they forward all messages from the Ambrose account to the other account.

During the **Registration Revision Period** students may to enter a course without permission, change the designation of any class from credit to audit and /or voluntary withdraw from a course without financial or academic penalty. These courses will not appear on the student's transcript. Courses should be added or dropped on the student portal by the deadline date, please consult the List of Important Dates. After that date, the original status remains and the student is responsible for related fees.

Students intending to withdraw from a course after the Registration Revision Period must apply to the Office of the Registrar by submitting a Request to Withdraw from a Course by the **Withdrawal Deadline**, please consult the List of Important Dates. Withdrawal from courses after the Registration Revision period will not be eligible for tuition refund. A grade of "W" will appear on the student's transcript.

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.

Students, who find a conflict in their exam schedule must submit a **Revised Examination** Request form to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date, please consult the List of Important Dates. Requests will be considered for the following reasons only: 1) the scheduled final examination slot conflicts with another exam; 2) three final exams within three consecutive exam time blocks; 3) the scheduled final exam slot conflicts with an exam at another institution; 4) extenuating circumstances. Travel is not considered a valid excuse for re-scheduling or missing a final exam.

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 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.

Extensions

Although extensions to coursework in the semester are at the discretion of the instructor, students may not turn in coursework for evaluation after the last day of the scheduled final examination period unless they have received permission for a "**Course Extension**" from the Registrar's Office. Requests for course extensions or alternative examination time must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date, please consult the List of Important Dates. Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise "due to circumstances beyond the student's control".

Appeal of Grade

An appeal for change of grade on any course work must be made to the course instructor within one week of receiving notification of the grade. An appeal for change of final grade must be submitted to the Office of the Registrar in writing within 30 days of receiving notification of the final grade, providing the basis for appeal. A review fee of \$50.00 must accompany the appeal to review final grades. If the appeal is sustained, the fee will be refunded.

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 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 strongly advised to retain this syllabus for their records.

Other

Any added features in the syllabus are optional. You may or may not wish to include elements such as a bibliography, reading list, schedule of lectures/topics, or reporting form.