04MS625 PLANTING BIBLICALLY HEALTHY CHURCHES
RTS Atlanta
January 21-24, 2013

COURSE SYLLABUS

Tuesday, January 21
Setting the Context: The Passion of Christ

Why Plant Churches: The Biblical Understanding for Planting Churches
- “Why Plant Churches” by Tim Keller
- “Advancing the Gospel into the 21st Century” by Tim Keller

What Kinds of Churches are We Seeking to Plant?
- “What Kinds of Churches are We Planting?”

Getting the Big Picture: An overview of the key dynamics and general process of planting a biblically healthy church

Wednesday, January 22
Who is a Church Planter: The Qualities and Characteristics of a Church Planter
- Part II, “The Personnel of Church Planting” in Malphurs
- “What is the Assessment Center?”
- “The Church Planter Spectrum”
- “Twenty Question Self-Assessment”
- “Church Planting Apprenticeships”
- “The Critical Events Path”

Planting a Church: The Preparation Stage
- “Integrity and the Sequence of New Testament Church Planting” by John Smed
- “Contextualization: Wisdom or Compromise?” by Tim Keller
- “Missionary Methods: St. Paul’s or Ours?” by Roland Allen
- Part III, “The Principles of Church Planting” by Malphurs

Thursday, January 23
What God is Doing in Church Planting in the PCA
- “MNA Vision Statement”
- “Essential Functions in Church Planting”
The Joys and Struggles of Church Planting

Planting a Church: The Gathering Stage
- “Implement Network Strategies” by Steven Childers
- “Working with Core Groups” by Ted Powers
- Part IV, “The Process of Church Planting” by Malphurs

**Friday, January 24**
“Building a Healthy Multi-Ethnic Church” by Mark DeYmaz
“Five Keys to Planting Healthily Reproducing Indigenous Multi-Ethnic or Cross Cultural PCA Churches” by Tim McKeown
“Ministering Among the Changing Cultures of North America” by Fred Marsh

**Assessment**
A succinct (not longer than 5 pages) response to questions provided that will require interaction with the topics presented and discussed in class as well as in the readings. You will also be required to provide a page count of the required reading you completed. This will be due no later than Friday, February 7, sent electronically to apowers@pcanet.org.

**Extension Policy**
All assignments and exams are to be completed by the deadlines announced in this syllabus or in class.

Extensions for assignments and exams due within the normal duration of the course must be approved beforehand by the Professor. Extensions of two weeks or less beyond the date of the last deadline for the course must be approved beforehand by the Professor. A grade penalty may be assessed.

Extensions of greater than two weeks but not more than six weeks beyond the last deadline for the course may be granted in extenuating circumstances (i.e. illness, family emergency). For an extension of more than two weeks the student must request an Extension Request Form from the Student Services Office. The request must be approved by the Professor and the Academic Dean. A grade penalty may be assessed. (RTS Catalog p. 42 and RTS Atlanta Student Handbook p. 14)

Any incompletes not cleared six weeks after the last published due date for course work will be converted to a failing grade. Professors may have the failing grade changed to a passing grade by request. (RTS Catalog p. 42)
Reading List

Texts


“Planting Missional Churches” by Ed Stetzer (Broadman & Holman, 2006).

“Building a Healthy Multi-Ethnic Church” by Mark DeYmaz (Jossey-Bass, 2007)

Articles


Manuals
“Church Planter Manual” by Tim Keller and J. Allen Thompson (Redeemer Presbyterian Church, 2002).

“Church Planter Training Seminar” by Steve Childers (Global Church Advancement, Inc., 2005).