CHURCH PLANTING & DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE
AT CANTERBURY RETREAT CENTER (2 MILES FROM RTS CAMPUSS)
Doctor of Ministry Elective 2DM853 or Growth Core 2DM804
Co-Sponsored by RTS & Global Church Advancement
Team-Taught: Steve Childers, Team Leader
January 27-31, 2014

Experience New Blended (Information & Transformation) Learning

This course is an inter-denominational training event (workshops & seminar) designed to equip church planters, pastors, missionaries, and lay leaders to start, grow and multiply healthy, gospel-centered churches that result in the spiritual, social and cultural transformation of towns, cities, regions, and nations. Church leaders from more than 300 denominations, representing over 50 countries in 7 languages on 5 continents, have taken this training to date.

This year’s training event will be held at the beautiful Canterbury Conference and Retreat Center, located on 48 acres surrounding the serene Lake Gem in the greater Orlando area—only 2 miles from RTS-Orlando, 25 minutes from the Orlando International Airport (shuttles available), and 45 minutes from world-famous beaches and amusement parks.

Besides the normal required hours of classroom learning & interaction (New schedule: Mon: 1:00pm-4:30pm, 7:00pm-8:30pm, Tues: 8:30am-Noon, 1:00pm-4:30pm, 7:00pm-8:30pm, Wed & Thurs: 8:30am-3:30pm, Fri: 8:30am-12:00pm) the focus of this training event will be on providing meaningful blended (focus on both information and transformation) learning experiences in a community of your peers. This will include:

• Building and deepening relationships with your fellow D.Min. students and trainers over daily meals (the food is excellent—not typical retreat food). Full breakfast, lunch, and dinner will be provided for an extra charge (not included in registration fee.)
• Informal, small group meetings (late afternoons, evenings, and during meals) with individual trainers to ask those questions you didn’t have time to ask in the larger training sessions.
• Individual, one-on-one mentoring & coaching sessions led by seasoned mentors and certified coaches during late afternoons, evenings, and meals. No extra charge.
• If you bring your church leadership team, private meeting rooms are available in late afternoons and evenings for you to debrief, cast vision, pray, and apply what you’re learning with your leaders.
• Experience daily corporate prayer led by an RTS alum. This brief morning and evening prayer time will be held in a small prayer chapel using an historic prayer liturgy.
• **Live in a learning community for a week.** Limited retreat center lodging (25 rooms, 2 beds per room, full baths, free WiFi) available for a reasonable price (not included in conference fee.) Consider sharing a room with a fellow student.
• Be replenished and enjoy your peers! Canterbury provides a peaceful setting for groups or individuals. Outdoor recreational opportunities include a ropes course (extra charge) and a one-mile nature trail with 10 exercise stations. Canoes, paddle boats and kayaks are available (free) to be used on beautiful lake Gem.

### Learn from Seasoned Theological Practitioners (RTS Alumni)

Plenary presentations, peer group discussions, practical exercises and forums will allow students to formulate their own **culturally contextualized** values, mission, and church development strategy. This course is designed for those who are preparing to plant a church and for those already on the field who want to strengthen all the crucial foundations for a more vital, missional church ministry. It is designed to help you develop (or revise) an in-depth *Church Development Plan* (including an *Action Plan* for the next 12 months) drawn from the completion of these (and other) training modules:

- **Vision:** Why does the church exist? (Vision Statement)
- **Focus:** How well do I know my ministry focus group? (Mission Statement)
- **Prayer:** Who will pray with and for me? (Prayer Plan)
- **Philosophy:** How can I contextualize without compromise? (Philosophy Statement)
- **Purpose:** What are the church’s priorities in ministry? (Purpose Statement)
- **Values:** What are the church’s core motivations for ministry? (Values Statement)
- **Styles:** How does the church minister well in this culture? (Styles Statement)
- **Models:** How will the church’s ministries work together? (Ministry Model)
- **Finances:** How will I raise and manage the finances? (Financial Plan)
- **Launching:** How do I publicly launch the new church ministries? (Ministry Plan)
- **Main Thing:** How do I survive and thrive personally in all this? (Personal Plan)

### Course Instructor(s)

This training event is lead by Steve Childers and other veteran church planters/pastors (mostly RTS alumni) representing decades of collective, in-the-trenches church planting and renewal experience. Steve is an experienced church planter and pastor, seminary professor at RTS-Orlando, and president of Global Church Advancement (GCA). He has planted and pastored two churches, urban and suburban, in North America and written church planting, renewal and multiplication training curriculum (7 languages)—including all the training curriculum for this course. He has helped train thousands of church leaders from many denominations worldwide. Steve has earned masters degrees from Covenant Seminary and Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, and a doctorate from Reformed Seminary. He has also done doctoral studies at Fuller Seminary’s School of World Mission. At RTS-Orlando, he regularly teaches church
planting, church growth, evangelism, missions, and spiritual formation. As this course’s professor of record, he will be debriefing and applying the concepts learned in this training to the student’s lives and ministries—as well as evaluating and grading their church development proposals.

Course Requirements

Pre-Class Reading Assignments & Reports: Due January 27, 2014
There will be 2000 pages of new reading (not having been previously read by the student) assigned for the course from the Required Reading list below. If required reading texts cannot be found, or have previously been read, the student may substitute books from the Recommended Reading list below. All readings for the course must be taken directly from these two lists unless otherwise approved by the professor.

Doctor of Ministry credit students are required to submit a Reading Report (RR), giving evidence of their reading and interaction with the concepts in the assigned books/articles. This Word document must begin with a Summary Sheet and is followed by a one-page standard report for each book (see Course Reading Report Forms below). Please separate the summary and each one-page book report with a page break.

The Reading Report (RR) must be received electronically (by email as an attachment) by the first day (and meeting) of class. Students will receive a grade reduction for late reading reports. Reading Reports not submitted by the first day/meeting of class are to be submitted with the course integration paper on April 30, 2014. Please submit to dmin.orlando@rts.edu and name your Reading Report document as Yourlastname.ChurchPlanting.W14.RR.

Conference Attendance and Participation
This training event follows the lecture, discussion and small group sharing methods requiring attendance and participation at all sessions*. Tardiness and absences will affect the course grade. Training sessions and group discussions will be based on the assumption that the student has completed the assigned readings.

*IMPORTANT: No Training Monday Morning!
The course training schedule will begin Monday 1:00pm-8:30pm (new Monday schedule for one of two workshops from which students may choose), and then will follow the normal morning & afternoon schedule from Tuesday to Friday. Please note that there will be no training sessions on Monday morning, January 27, 2014, and the new Monday evening training (in one of the two Mon 1:00pm-Tues Noon workshops) is required for credit students. Note: The Foundations Seminar begins Tues 1:00pm and concludes Friday 12:00 noon.

Post-Seminar Integration Paper: Due April 30, 2014
Students are required to write a 15-20 page (double–spaced, 12 point font) course integration paper. This paper must also reflect new work done by the student as a result of this course. This paper must demonstrate how the course readings, lectures, and discussions can be integrated/applied to the student’s life and ministry. This paper should reflect good scholarship, including accurately quoted credible sources (8 minimum references/footnotes) and a References Cited section at the end of the paper. This is good preparation for writing a dissertation.
The integration paper will be a real or hypothetical *Church Planting* and/or *Development Proposal* (including an *Action Plan* for the next 12 months). This paper must include the **statements** and **plans** that correspond with the seminar training sessions (Vision Statement, Mission Statement, Prayer Plan, etc.) See the second page of this syllabus for the list of all the required statements and plans.

The integration paper is due (electronic copy in RTS inbox) April 30, 2014. Please include a cover sheet with the name and number of the course, professor, your name and email address. If your work is not received by the due date, you may have an additional month to complete your paper (May 30, 2014) and you will be assessed a $120 late fee. Please save your Microsoft Word document as Yourlastname.ChurchPlanting.W14.IP and submit it electronically to dmin.orlando@rts.edu. Your work will be forwarded to the professor of record for evaluation and grading.

**Course Grading**
Your final course grade will be based on the following:
1. Reading Reports (25%)
2. Conference & Learning Activities Participation (50%)
3. Integration Paper (25%)

**Course Registration with RTS & GCA**

- **Students must register with RTS-O during the four-week period of November 1, 2013, to December 1, 2013.** Enrolled credit students must register with RTS online at https://selfservice.rts.edu/Home.aspx.

- **Enrolled credit students must also register with GCA by clicking here** http://bit.ly/16MgkEr, entering Promotion Code: RTSDMIN14 when asked, and paying a $100.00 GCA registration fee online (this is above the RTS tuition fee). This fee covers administrative expenses and the cost of the training manual (course notes). Students must choose one of the two Mon 1:00pm-Tues 12:00pm Workshops, and the Foundations Seminar (Tues 1:00pm-Friday 12:00pm).

**D.Min. Student Spouses Discount.** To encourage student spouses to attend this training, they can register through GCA at a special reduced rate. Spouses are required to register and pay (the early-bird or regular spouse rate) for the workshop and/or Foundations Seminar they are planning to attend. Many students have used this time (including before or after the conference) to have a getaway to Florida in January! For spouses to register click here http://bit.ly/16MgkEr and enter Spouse when prompted.

**Note:** Registration for the **Foundations Seminar** (Tues 1:00pm to Friday noon) includes free admission to an optional specialized **Women’s Workshop/Forum** (6 sessions) for the wives of church planters and leaders—being offered simultaneously with the Foundations Seminar, from Wednesday 10:30am to Friday, 10:00am (with late afternoons and evenings free.)

- **Lodging & Meals Registration Required.** In order to learn more about on-site lodging availability and make meal reservations, click here: http://bit.ly/19Nmlnv Students are strongly encouraged to stay on-site and share meals. Students lodging off-campus are still strongly encouraged to maximize their community learning experience by sharing
most of their meal times with others (“breaking bread together”) at the conference center.

- **No D.Min Student Auditors:** D.Min. students may not attend this training conference as RTS auditors. Students considering “auditing” the course should register with GCA online (not RTS) and pay the normal GCA seminar fee (& take advantage of special Early-Bird and Group rates): [http://www.gca.cc/gca-conference/pricing/](http://www.gca.cc/gca-conference/pricing/)

**Course Readings**

**A. Required Reading: 2000 pages from the following list**


**Recommended Reading: Substitutes if required books have been read**


1979 *Discipling the City.* Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House.
Griffith, Jim and Bill Easum  
2008 *Ten Most Common Mistakes Made by Church Starts.* Chalice Press

Guder, Darrell L., et. al. (eds.)  

Hesselgrave, David J.  
2000 *Planting Churches Cross-Culturally: North America and Beyond, 2nd ed.*  

Hunter, George  

Hughes, Kent and Barbara  
1997 *Liberating Ministry from the Success Syndrome.*  
Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, Inc.

Logan, Robert E.  
1989 *Beyond Church Growth.* Old Tappan, NJ: Revell  
2006 *Be Fruitful and Multiply.* ChurchSmart Resources.

Macchia, Stephan A.  

Miller, Darrow  

Murray, Stuart  

Nebel, Tom  
2002 *Big Dreams in Small Places: Church Planting in Smaller Communities.* St Charles, IL: ChurchSmart Resources.  
2005 *Church Planting Landmines.* ChurchSmart Resources.

Newbigin, Lesslie  

Pope, Randy  
2002 *The Prevailing Church.* Chicago, IL: Moody.

Roberts, Jr. Bob  

Sande, Ken  
Schaller, Lyle E.  
1989  

Wagner, C. Peter  
1990  

Warren, Rick  
1995  
*The Purpose Driven Church: Growth Without Compromising Your Message And Mission.* Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan
Course Reading Report Forms

### Summary Reading Guide

**READING REPORT**

Your Name  
Course Title & Number  
Professor/s  
Date Completed

List books read  
Author  
Title  
#Pages Read

Total Number Pages Read: ________

*Insert page break and follow with one-page report per book.*

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### Guide for one-page reading reports

**Title of Book**  
Complete Bibliographic Reference

**Overview**—Give a brief overview of the book, including its theme, perspective and approach.

**Critique**—Offer a brief critique of the book, including elements of strength and weakness.

**Application**—Offer some specific application to your own ministry—demonstrating the value and relevance of the material in this book.

**Best Quote**—Be sure to include the page number where the quote can be found. *Insert page break and follow with each report.*

2 (and following)
# Course Objectives Related to D.Min Student Learning Outcomes

Course: Church Planting & Development: 2DM853 or 2DM804  
Professor: Steven L. Childers  
Campus: Orlando

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>D.Min Student Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Rubric</th>
<th>Mini-Justification</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Articulation</strong> (oral &amp; written)</td>
<td>Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Scripture</strong></td>
<td>Significant knowledge of the original meaning of Scripture, and the concepts for and skill to research further into the original meaning of Scripture and to apply Scripture to a variety of modern circumstances. (Includes appropriate use of original languages and hermeneutics; and integrates theological, historical, and cultural/global perspectives.)</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Reformed Theology</strong></td>
<td>Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
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<td><strong>Sanctification</strong></td>
<td>Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student’s sanctification.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
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<td><strong>Desire for Worldview</strong></td>
<td>Strong desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Winsomely Reformed</strong></td>
<td>Embraces a winsomely Reformed ethos. (Includes an appropriate ecumenical spirit with other Christians, especially Evangelicals; a concern to present the Gospel in a God-honoring manner to non-Christians; and a truth-in-love attitude in disagreements.)</td>
<td>Strong</td>
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<td><strong>Preach</strong></td>
<td>Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
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<td><strong>Worship</strong></td>
<td>Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and the skill to lead a worship service.</td>
<td>Minimal</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Shepherd</strong></td>
<td>Ability to shepherd the local congregation: aiding in spiritual maturity; promoting use of gifts and callings; and encouraging a concern for non-Christians, both in America and worldwide.</td>
<td><strong>Moderate</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Church/World</strong></td>
<td>Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.</td>
<td><strong>Strong</strong></td>
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