

THE CONTENT OF THIS DESCRIPTION IS NOT A LEARNING CONTRACT AND THE INSTRUCTOR IS NOT BOUND TO IT. IT IS OFFERED IN GOOD FAITH AND INTENDED AS A HELPFUL GUIDE TO THE STUDENT.

TITLE: Planting and Leading New Faith Communities

TERM: Fall 2024-2025

PROFESSOR: Scott Hagley

CREDIT HOURS: 3

REGISTRATION: LIMITED TO: _____
AUDITORS: unlimited

UNLIMITED X
NO AUDITORS _____

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course represents a biblically-theologically rooted approach to planting mission-shaped churches. The course focuses on the formation of church planting leaders able to cultivate new mission-shaped Christian communities in specific contexts. Students will develop the capacity to be theologically reflective church planting leaders from within concrete personal and communal postures, habits, and skills of initiating and leading the formation of new Christian communities.

CLASS OBJECTIVES:

1. Demonstrate capacity for interpreting and imagining particular contexts as a site for God's mission
2. Reflect biblically-theologically on the task and vocation of cultivating mission-shaped Christian communities;
3. Develop leadership capacity for cultivating postures, attitudes, and behavior related to initiating and forming Christian community in specific contexts;
4. Develop spiritual habits of discernment for participation in the mission of God

PREREQUISITES: None

READING ASSIGNMENTS/BIBLIOGRAPHY:

- Bantum, Brian. *The Death of Race: Building a New Christianity in a Racial World*. Fortress Press, 2016, ISBN: 978-1506408880, \$18.28.
- Block, Peter and John McKnight, *The Abundant Community: Awakening the Power of Families and Neighborhoods*, Berrett-Koehler Publishers, 2012, ISBN: 978-1609940812, \$20.23.
- Hagley, Scott, Karen Rohrer, and Michael Gehrling, eds. *Sustaining Grace: Innovative Ecosystems for New Faith Communities*. Wipf & Stock, 2020, ISBN: 978-1532687594, \$21.00.
- Walker, Alice. *The Color Purple*. Penguin Books, 2019, ISBN: 978-0143135692, \$11.89.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS:

1. Weekly reflections based on readings of the week (more detail in syllabus).
2. Final project: Proposal for a New Faith Community due at the end of the course and constructed through bi-weekly assignments
 - a. Rule of Life (10%)
 - b. Neighborhood Report (10%)
 - c. Verbatim (10%)
 - d. Plunging into the Neighborhood (10%)
 - e. Final Report (60%)

CLASSROOM PROCEDURES: More detail in syllabus.

GRADING PROCEDURES:

Weekly reflections (see #1 under Written Assignments) – 20%

Final project (see #2 under Written Assignments) – 80%

ATTENDANCE: Required.