Ministry of Youth (RE 321)
Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary Fall 2009
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Course Description
The course consists of a study of the position of youth minister, i.e., qualifications, job
description, staff relations, and administration, relationship to parents and youth, and the
problems encountered by the Youth Minister. Emphasis is given to resources for
personal and professional growth.

Course Objective
The purpose of the course is to enable students to:
1. Understand, develop and implement a ministry plan for teaching youth how to
determine right from wrong (per McDowell)
2. Understand and implement “a clear process for strategic youth discipleship” (per
Geiger)
3. Understand threats to and opportunities for ministerial longevity (per Kageler)
4. Understand how to address disciplinary issues appropriately (per Christie)
5. Enhance awareness of current trends in youth culture (per research).

Grading: Students will demonstrate achievement of this goal by:
1. Responding correctly to a minimum of 70% of test items
2. Completion and presentation of course assignments along with class
   attendance, participation and demonstration of having completed
   assignments.
3. Grades will be determined by an average of assignment scores

Texts
1. McDowell, Josh and Bob Hostetler. Right From Wrong. Dallas: Word
2. Geiger, Eric and Jeff Burton. Simple Student Ministry. Nashville: B&H
   0-310-27663-0)

Course Requirements
1. Students are expected to attend class, complete assignments and take course
   exams. Read assigned pages of required texts and, if designated, prepare outlines
   of assigned reading.
2. Prepare an annotated bibliography with a minimum of 15 resources related to
   youth ministry. Due October 1, 2009
3. Prepare a report on 5 areas of electronic communication utilized by youth. The report should summarize the program, device, etc. (one-page each). Due October 15, 2009

4. Prepare a ten-page research paper dealing with a current youth ministry issue (parents, substance abuse, morality, music, media, peer pressure, pornography, school, self-image, divorce, violence, etc.) Be prepared to present your paper to the class. Due one week before class presentation. Due October 29, 2009

Miscellaneous
Contents of this syllabus may change if necessary and will be announced at least one-week prior. Attendance will be used in determining grades. Students are expected to comply with regulations given in the Student Handbook and Catalog. Special attention should be given to pages 44-45 of the Catalog. Four absences will result in a failing grade. Tardies will also result in the equivalent of absences. Students in this course are expected to avoid the use of cell phones during class sessions. This includes text messaging. Use of personal electronic devices such as computers is prohibited unless being used strictly for purposes of taking notes related to the course. The professor maintains the prerogative of eliminating the use of electronic devices in the class if deemed necessary.

Hints for Writing
Avoid plagiarism (cf. policy in Student Handbook)
Be consistent with subject/verb agreement (“churches are” rather than “churches is”)
Maintain the same verb tense throughout (for example, stay in the present tense)
Avoid use of first and second person pronouns (“someone” rather than “you”).
Paragraphs should be approximately 6 sentences in length
Avoid the use of apostrophes when possible (“is not” rather than “isn’t”).
Follow Turabian style

Please be prayerful and diligent in study!