Christian Education of Various Groups: Ministry of Youth (RE 515)  
Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary Fall 2009  
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Course Description  
This is a study of the characteristics, nature, and needs physically, intellectually, emotionally, socially and spiritually of youth. The course also 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).  
1. Understand current trends in technology common to youth (per research).  
2. Understand normal stages of psychological development of youth to adulthood (per research).  
3. Understand and implement safety strategies to protect youth, leaders, and church (per Crabtree).

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  
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

5. Prepare a ten-page research paper covering the normal stages of psychological development in youth. Due December 3, 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!