PM 512: Principles of Church Health and Revitalization course syllabus
Masters Level Credit
Dr. Mark C. Livingston; BMATS
Winter Term: January 6-8, 2015
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Course Description:

The course is designed to explore the various dynamics that contribute to church size and growth. Exploration is given on the topic, “why some churches succeed in various areas and others fail.” Information presented will allow the student to formulate a critical understanding of the Church Growth movement that has dominated the evangelical landscape since the 1970’s. Leading adherents and opponents to the movement will be examined. The concept of Church Health and Revitalization will be evaluated in light of the current trends in Church Growth.

Course Objectives:

1. Categorize the various church sizes, and summarize their respective roles in kingdom work.
2. Evaluate the discipline of church growth, and appraise the value of its methodology.
3. Distinguish between church growth and church health, and compare both concepts.
4. Defend and support the concept of Church Health.
5. Illustrate church revitalization through qualitative research methodology.
6. Generate a clear methodology for supporting church health and revitalization.

Required Reading:


Course Evaluation:

Before the one-week class begins:

- The student will read both required reading texts. An 7-10 page paper will be presented the first day of class showing mastery of the following questions related to both required reading texts:
  - How do Warren and MacArthur differ in styles, design, and theory of Church growth/health?
How do Warren and MacArthur agree in styles, design and theory of Church growth/health?

What compilation of methodology can be retained and applied from both authors?

What methodology needs to be held in suspect from either (or both) author(s)?

Please bring the completed paper with you on the first day of class.

**During the Class:**

A Final Exam will be given over class notes

**After the class:**

**Ministry Project:**

1. **Guidelines:** Students will do a ten-page project on church revitalization. The student can choose any real church that is either stagnant or declining in one or all three areas: Numerical growth, biological growth, or spiritual growth. The student will need to locate a church, and seek to make contact with someone in the church.

2. **Goals:** The student should evaluate the church condition, and then write a paper describing how he or she would seek to implement change and guidance to the stagnant or declining church (but please do not give advice to the church). The student should demonstrate learned principles from class.

3. **Design of the project:** This is a qualitative research project. Qualitative research centers on observation (think of education students who observe a classroom). Students will observe a church that is either stagnant or in decline. The student can make these observations in the following ways:
   - Conduct an interview with a pastor, ministry leader, or church member to determine the church history and current situation.
   - Evaluate church documents or church historical records.
   - Attend a church service.
   - Visit the church and assess its current situation.

4. **Implementation:** Once you have gathered your observational data, then you may then begin writing your paper. Your paper should clearly show the following:

   1. Give a historical overview of the church you chose (who are they, and how did they get to the point of stagnation/decline).
   2. What event or process led to the stagnation/decline?
   3. What methods, procedures, programs, or ministry philosophy would you implement if you were in a consulting position with this church? (This specific point is where you should demonstrate you have mastered the class material by providing methods and means in your paper).
5. Due date: This project will be due one month after class. Therefore, you can email the paper to me (mark@keltys.org) by midnight of Monday, February 9, 2015.

6. Purpose: The purpose of the project is to engage the student in the critical thinking process.

**Course Schedule**

This is a one-week intensive course therefore class will meet Tuesday-Thursday. Class begins at 9:00 am and ends approximately at 5:00 pm.

**Misc**

Attendance is required for all scheduled class times. Please see the student handbook for complete details. Tardiness is not appreciated.

All work must be turned in on time. Late work will not be accepted, unless approved by the instructor ahead of time. Please plan ahead.

Working on other class notes, projects, internet surfing, etc. will not be tolerated. It will result in action that could lead to failure of the course. Computers should be used for course work only.

Writing and project assignments must meet handbook standards. Please refer to your student handbook.
Works Cited


