

## **Foundations of Church Planting (EV635E)**

**Instructor:** Dr. Ron Bonar

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**Dates:** May 2005

**Location:** AUC Calgary

### **COURSE SYLLABUS**

#### **Course Description**

This course explores the foundations of a healthy multiplying church. It will cover the scriptural foundations of multiplication, foundational behaviours of different staff profiles, strategies involved, foundations of research (demographic research, community exegesis, and matching the shape of the emerging church to the community), and the foundations of an overall church multiplying strategy. During the course, students will develop a comprehensive, personal philosophy of healthy church development and multiplication.

#### **Course Objectives**

This course will equip the student to:

- Survey potential planting sites for best location, best model, best target group, best marketing image
- Understand, what kinds of personalities provide the best church planting candidates, how to test for those personalities and behavioral traits and how to match the planter to a locale.
- Assess the health of potential parent churches and define what life stage churches are at.
- Acquaint the student with a comprehensive framework for multiplying churches ensuring healthy growth along the way.
- Develop strategic plans using a variety of planting tools
- Understand the idiosyncrasies of generational influences on the planting and health issues of church development
- Develop a rationale for multiplication with accompanying Biblical support and statistical evidence
- Develop a plan for a potential church plant

- Develop a job description related to a vision, mission and values derived from investigative study of a ministry environment.

## Class Schedule

Class will meet Monday through Friday May 2-5.

## Textbooks

Students will be required to purchase one book only, Christian Schwarz's Natural Church Development (see below). All the rest of the readings are available and can be downloaded from the website for the Central Canadian District of the Christian & Missionary Alliance in Canada. Go to: [www.cmaccd.com](http://www.cmaccd.com) (hit "Resource" tab) – In the list below, the "Website" notation after a citation means these pages are available on this website.

### Required Textbooks & Readings:

Christian A. Schwarz, Natural Church Development (A Guide to Eight Essential Qualities of Healthy Churches), ChurchSmart Resources, St. Charles, IL. ISBN:1-889638-00-5 (128 pages). To purchase this book, phone 1-800-804-0777 or email [office@growingleadership.com](mailto:office@growingleadership.com). Website for the Leadership Centre is [www.growingleadership.com](http://www.growingleadership.com).

1. Church Planting, The Next Generation, Century 21 – 15 pages (Website)
2. Church for the Unchurched – 13 pages (Website)
3. How to Start a Second Service – 11 pages (Website)
4. Surprising Insights From the Unchurched -- (Website)
5. Soul Tsunami – 23 pages (Website)
6. The Church of Irresistible Influence – 3 pages (Website)
7. Seeing Beyond Church Walls – 11 pages (Website)
8. Death of the Church -- 10 pages (Website)
9. Developing a Vision for Ministry in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century – 10 pages (Website)
10. Master Planning – 3 pages (Website)
11. Paradigm Shift in the Church – 13 pages (Website)
12. Planting & Growing Urban churches – 10 pages (Website)
13. From Dream to Reality -- (Website)
14. Reinventing Your Church – 12 pages (Website)
15. Sacred Cows Make Gourmet Burgers – 5 pages (Website)
16. The Bridge Generation – 17 pages (Website)
17. The Change Agent – 10 pages (Website)
18. The New Thing – 22 pages (Website)
19. The Second Coming of the Church – 17 pages (Website)
20. The Small Church is Different – 22 pages (Website)
21. Unlocking Church Doors – 10 Keys to Positive Change -- 19 pages (Website)
22. Beyond the Box – 4 pages (Website)
23. Parent Church Network (Website)
  - a. Chapter I -- PART I – 51 pages
  - b. Chapter I -- PART II – 13 pages
  - c. Section 1 -- Leaders – Getting Ready for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century – 5 pages
  - d. Section 2 -- Leaders – Century 21 – 5 pages
  - e. Section 3 -- Leaders – Church Within a Church Network – 5 pages
  - f. Section 4 -- Leaders – Getting Started – 31 pages
  - g. Section 5 – Leaders – Selecting a Target – 6 pages
  - h. Section 8 – Leaders – Checking Your Atmosphere – 31 pages

- i. Section 9 – Leaders – After the First Sunday – 11 pages
  - j. Section 7 – Leaders – Advertising – 18 pages
  - k. Section 10 – Leaders – Conclusions – 4 pages
24. Christian A. Schwarz, Natural Church Development (A Guide to Eight Essential Qualities of Healthy Churches), ChurchSmart Resources, St. Charles, IL. ISBN:1-889638-00-5 (128 pages). To purchase this book, phone 1-800-804-0777 or email [office@growingleadership.com](mailto:office@growingleadership.com). Website for the Leadership Centre is [www.growingleadership.com](http://www.growingleadership.com).

**Supplementary (Optional) Texts for purchase:**

1. Ron Gladden, So Many Churches! Why Plant More, Pacific press Publishing Associated
2. Randy Frazee, The Connecting Church, Zondervan Publishing House (Grand Rapids, Michigan)
3. Thom S. Rainer, High Expectations, Broadman & Holman Publishers

**Course Requirements**

Grading Allocation		Suggested Hours of Involvement for Purposes of Receiving Credit for the Course
Classroom time		22.5
Quizzes 4	20%	17.5
Major Assignment 25 pages	40%	34.5
Research Preparation for Major Assignment	20%	17.5
Reading Assignments	20%	28.0
Total	100%	Hours 120.0

**Reading Assignments (20%)** – All Readings on the REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND READINGS list must be carefully read. A statement of completion of reading (a form will be provided) will be submitted by each student.

**Major Assignment (60%)**

Note: There are nine areas below that provide the outline of the Church Planting survey materials. The Student may focus on one area and choose that to be their 40% (major) paper. The student may also break down that 40% paper into a maximum 3 (or only 2) of the 9 topical areas equally dividing the 25 pages by 3 or 2. If the student chooses 3 areas, 3 papers will be submitted of approximately 8 pages each and if 2 areas are chosen, two papers of approximately 12 pages each will be submitted.

Research includes field work which will make up 20% of the mark. This would require the student to take the knowledge learned in the classroom and apply it in the field.

Each Major Assignment topic with its accompanying research plan must be pre-approved by the professor. The research paper must be submitted in the form of a plan with its parts highlighted and its specific goal(s) stated. The parameters of research must be outlined. For example, how many people will be interviewed, what elements of the strategic plan you will include, etc. The goals might be:

“As a result of this research paper I will complete a thesis of the biblical foundations for church multiplication”

or

“As a result of this research paper, I will map out a complete program to help a selected church gain health in the most critically weak area.”

**4 Quizzes (20%)** -- will review materials covered in the class. The first quiz will be conducted on day 2 and will cover materials covered on day 1, etc.

**Attendance Policy:** As each day’s material will build on the previous day’s material, the expectation is that students doing the course for credit will attend all classes. The instructor should be notified in advance of any absence from class.

**Evaluation:** The final grade will be determined (i.e., percentage of each component and how it will affect the final grade) as outlined above. At AUC, the grading scale is as follows:

<b>Canadian Theological Seminary</b>	
Grade	Grade Pt
A+	90+
A	85-90
A-	80-84
B+	77-79
B	73-76
B-	70-72
C+	67-69
C	63-66
C-	60-62
D+	55-59
D	50-54

**Course Outline:** The following topics will form the core of the course:

**1. Survey potential planting sites for best location, best model, best target group, best marketing image**

*The student will be resourced with several materials that would help make strategic decisions to determine a base case scenario for a church multiplication unit.*

**2. Understand what kinds of personality provides the best planting candidates, how to test for those personalities and behavioral traits and how to match the planter to a locale.**

*The student will be instructed in the first day of the Profile Assessment system as outlined in the Church Planting Canada resource...to be provided during the week of instruction*

**3. Assess the health of potential parent churches and define what life stage churches are at.**

*An analysis of several churches who have taken the Natural Church Development survey will be discussed as well as a comprehensive view of the Natural Church Development book.*

**4. Acquaint the student with a comprehensive framework for multiplying churches insuring healthy growth along the way.**

*The students will go through the whole Century 21 system as outlined by Kevin Mannoia and Ron Bonar.*

**5. Develop strategic plans using a variety of planting tools**

*Several tools from the Church Planters Summit will be provided and discussed during class. Materials will be made available during class.*

**6. Understand the idiosyncrasies of generational influences on the planting and health issues of church development**

*Several books will be discussed that indicate generational differences with a particular emphasis on post modern approaches to church governance, packaging, and personality.*

**7. Develop a rationale for multiplication with accompanying Biblical support and statistical evidence**

*A view of church health and multiplication will be examined from a biblical and theological perspective.*

**8. Develop a plan for a potential church plant**

*Reference to the Church Planters Tool Kit (available on line at CoachNet; Bob Logan) will be used to assemble the several pieces needed to plant a church.*

**9. Develop a job description related to a vision, mission and values derived from investigative study of a ministry environment.**

*A comprehensive plan to marry the vision to the job description will be explained. The materials for this Job Description Performance Appraisal System (JDPAS) will be provided the students during the class.*

**Assignment Due Dates: July 15, 2005**

**Submission of Assignment:** Students must **submit completed assignments to Dr. Bonar directly.** If submission is by mail, send assignments to:

Dr. Ron Bonar  
Central Canadian District  
155 Panin Road  
Burlington, ON L7P 5A6

Or

Emailing assignments as attachments directly to Ron Bonar at: [office@cmaccd.com](mailto:office@cmaccd.com) (clearly mark every email with your name and with the header: Name – Assignment for Church Development Course). All emailed documents should be sent with the understanding that a hard copy will be printed and returned to the student with any notations and evaluations. Students are strongly encouraged to retain a computer backup and a hard copy of any paper that is sent to the instructor.

**Returning Assignments to Students:** The procedure for returning assignments to students is as follows:

- 1) Dr. Bonar will return graded assignments to the Administrative Assistant for AUC
- 2) AUC will contact students to make arrangements for return of graded papers.
- 3) Papers, which are unclaimed and/or undeliverable, will be held for one year from the due date, and then destroyed.
- 4) Once grades have been submitted by Dr. Bonar to the AUC office, they will be submitted to the Registrar in Calgary. Grades will be sent to students by mail (in the form of an unofficial transcript from the Registrar's office in Calgary) within several months.

**Term Paper Format:** For written work, two of the guides commonly used are: *A Manual for Writers of Term papers, Theses and Dissertations*, by Kate L. Turabian (5<sup>th</sup> Edition); and/or *The Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (Fourth Edition).

Students are asked to identify, on the first or cover page of all assignments, the course name, the instructor's name and their own name (student ID numbers are optional).