

Class Information		Instructor Information		First day of classes:	Wed., Jan. 6, 2016
Days:	Wednesdays	Instructor:	Alice Kung, MALM	Last day to add/ drop/change to audit:	Sun., Jan. 17, 2016
Time:	5:30-8:30	Email:	akung@ambrose.edu	Last day to request revised exam:	Mon., Feb. 29, 2016
Room:	L2084	Phone:	403-560-6231	Last day to withdraw from course:	Fri., Mar 18, 2016
		Office:	L2078	Last day to apply for time extension for coursework:	Mon., Mar. 28, 2016
Final Exam: No final		Office Hrs:	Fridays 9:15-12:30	Last day of classes:	Wed., April 13, 2016

Textbook:

Barna, George, Transforming Children into Spiritual Champions. Ventura, CA: Gospel Light, 2003.

Scazzero, Peter, Emotional Health Spirituality: unleash a revolution in your life in Christ. Nashville, Tn: Thomas Nelson, 2006

Course Description:

In order to develop a good foundation for children's ministry this course will explore biblical, theological, sociological and educational principles that shape our approach to ministering to children. Various models (traditional and contemporary) of children's education will be discussed. The goal is to look at not only the "what" or "how" of children's ministries, but ultimately to understand WHY we do what we do. Special attention will be paid to the life of the Children's Pastor and the vital importance of nurturing one's relationship with Christ.

Expected Learning Outcomes:

1. Review biblical, theological and historical approaches that influence why we do children's ministry.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of children's development physically, socially and spiritually.
3. Reflect on role as leader and begin to uncover a personal ministry philosophy as it relates to ministry to children and families.
4. Articulate a vision, mission and values for children's ministry in order to create an effective ministry plan.
5. Understand the vital importance of nurturing one's relationship with Christ in order to be an effective minister to children and families.

Course Schedule:

	Topic	Due
1 Jan. 6	Why do we do Children's Ministry? Understanding the Children's Pastor's role in ministering to children	
2 Jan. 20	Preparing the Site	Due: PART A personal philosophy of CM
3 Feb. 3	Laying the Foundation	Due: Barna book reflection
4. Feb. 17	Designing Ministry Plans	
5. Mar. 9	Volunteer Recruiting, training, and retention and plan to protect policies	Due: Scazzero book reflection
6. March 30	Class Presentations	Due: Written Ministry Plan
11 April 13	Current Trends in children's ministries & Philosophy	

Requirements:1. Philosophy of Children's Ministry 15%**Part A (5%) due: Jan. 20, 2016**

Articulate your *current* personal philosophy as it relates to ministering to children. Reflecting on scripture, reading and personal experience the student will prepare a personal philosophy of children's ministry. Consider the following: Who are you and how has God gifted you? What do you hold as high values (non-negotiables) in ministry? This philosophy should be 3-5 pages.

Part B (10%) due: April 6, 2016

Based on your reading and class discussion, you will now build on the philosophy statement you started at the beginning of the semester. You have the opportunity now to add to or subtract from your philosophy statement from a couple months ago. This paper will be 3-5 pages in length. You may rewrite the initial philosophy OR you may add 2-3 pages to the end of your initial paper to articulate what you might add to what you already believe. Along with discussing this in class, we will be reflecting on this philosophy at the end of the semester.

2. Required Reading & Response (40% total)a.) *Transforming Children Into Spiritual Champions* (George Barna)**Due: Feb 3, 2016 - 15%**b.) *Emotionally Healthy Spirituality* (Peter Scazzero) **Due: Mar 9, 2016 - 15%**c.) Book choice of the student approved by the professor. **Due: April 13, 2016 - 10%**

These 5-7 page responses will include:

*A 1-2 page overview of the author's key points and explorations

*A 4-5 page discussion of implications for ministry. Essentially, you are asking yourself how this reading might influence you as a leader which ultimately impacts the ministry you lead.

3. Ministry Plan: Paper and Presentation 30%

Written Ministry Plan Due: March 30, 2016 (20%)

Presentation Date: March 30, 2016 (10%)

You are the Children's Pastor whose responsibility it is to ensure you have properly thought through and articulated your mission/vision/values as well as how you would cast that vision to your elders and congregation. Your mandate is to create a year plan for an effective Christ-centered ministry to children and families.

A thorough written ministry plan will include:

- Well defined mission/vision/values
- 3-5 Goals (these are general) and Objectives (steps you will take to realize your goals and should be measurable)
- Staffing – what will you require in terms of volunteers to make this happen?
- Training – how will you train your volunteers and how often will this take place?
- Screening – what will you have in place to ensure the safety of children and volunteers?
- Budget
- Outcomes

Presentation of ministry plan:

Be creative, feel free to use visuals or whatever multimedia you feel will enhance the presentation. Presentations will take place in class and each student has 15-20 minutes to present.

Attendance:

Attendance & Class Participation 15%

Due: n/a

Students are expected to attend class and participate in the discussion.

Grade Summary:

The available letters for course grades are as follows:

<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Description</u>
A+	
A	Excellent
A-	
B+	
B	Good
B-	
C+	
C	Satisfactory
C-	

D+	
D	Minimal Pass
F	Failure

Because of the nature of the Alpha 4.00 system, there can be no uniform College-wide conversion scale. The relationship between raw scores (e.g. percentages) and the resultant letter grade will depend on the nature of the course and the instructor's assessment of the level of each class, compared to similar classes taught previously.

Please note that final grades will be available on student registration system. Printed grade sheets are not mailed out.

Policies:

Communication

All students have received an Ambrose e-mail account upon registration. It is the student's responsibility to check this account regularly as the Ambrose email system will be the professor's instrument for notifying students of important matters (cancelled class sessions, extensions, requested appointments, etc.) between class sessions. If students do not wish to use their Ambrose accounts, they will need to forward all messages from the Ambrose account to another personal account.

Registration

During the **Registration Revision Period** students may enter a course without permission, change the designation of any class from credit to audit and /or voluntary withdraw from a course without financial or academic penalty or record. Courses should be added or dropped on the student portal by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. After that date, the original status remains and the student is responsible for related fees.

Students intending to withdraw from a course after the Registration Revision Period must apply to the Office of the Registrar by submitting a "Request to Withdraw from a Course" form or by sending an email to the Registrar's Office by the **Withdrawal Deadline**; please consult the List of Important Dates on the my.ambrose.edu website. Students will not receive a tuition

refund for courses from which they withdraw after the Registration Revision period. A grade of "W" will appear on their transcript.

Exam Scheduling

Students wishing to withdraw from a course, but who fail to do so by the applicable date, will receive the grade earned in accordance with the course syllabus. A student obliged to withdraw from a course after the Withdrawal Deadline because of health or other reasons may apply to the Registrar for special consideration.

Students, who find a conflict in their exam schedule must submit a Revised Examination Request form to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Requests will be considered for the following reasons only: 1) the scheduled final examination slot conflicts with another exam; 2) the student has three final exams within three consecutive exam time blocks; 3) the scheduled final exam slot conflicts with an exam at another institution; 4) extenuating circumstances. Travel is not considered a valid excuse for re-scheduling or missing a final exam.

Electronic Etiquette

Students are expected to treat their instructor, guest speakers, and fellow students with respect. It is disruptive to the learning goals of a course or seminar and

disrespectful to fellow students and the instructor to use electronics for purposes unrelated to the course during a class session. Turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices during class. Laptops should be used for class-related purposes only. Do not use iPods, MP3 players, or headphones. Do not text, read, or send personal emails, go on Facebook or other social networks, search the internet, or play computer games during class. Some professors will not allow the use of any electronic devices in class. The professor has the right to disallow the student to use a laptop in future lectures and/or to ask a student to withdraw from the session if s/he does not comply with this policy. Repeat offenders will be directed to the Dean. If you are expecting communication due to an emergency, please speak with the professor before the class begins.

Academic Policies

It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies as stated in the Academic Calendar. Personal information (information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual) may be required as part of taking this class. Any information collected will only be used and disclosed for the purpose for which the collection was intended. For further information contact the Privacy Compliance Officer at privacy@ambrose.edu.

Extensions

Although extensions to coursework in the semester are at the discretion of the instructor, students may not turn in coursework for evaluation after the last day of the scheduled final examination period unless they have received permission for a course Extension from the Registrar's Office. Requests for course extensions or alternative examination time must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please

consult the List of Important Dates. Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise "due to circumstances beyond the student's control."

Appeal of Grade

An appeal for change of grade on any course work must be made to the course instructor within one week of receiving notification of the grade. An appeal for change of final grade must be submitted to the Registrar's Office in writing and providing the basis for appeal within 30 days of receiving notification of the final grade, providing the basis for appeal. A review fee of \$50.00 must accompany the appeal. If the appeal is sustained, the fee will be refunded.

Academic Integrity

We are committed to fostering personal integrity and will not overlook breaches of integrity such as plagiarism and cheating. Academic dishonesty is taken seriously at Ambrose University as it undermines our academic standards and affects the integrity of each member of our learning community. Any attempt to obtain credit for academic work through fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest means is academic dishonesty. Plagiarism involves presenting someone else's ideas, words, or work as one's own. Plagiarism is fraud and theft, but plagiarism can also occur by accident when a student fails or forgets to acknowledge to another person's ideas or words. Plagiarism and cheating can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the university college. Students are expected to be familiar with the policies in the current Academic Calendar that deal with plagiarism, cheating, and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic

Dean and become part of the student's permanent record.

Note: Students are strongly advised to retain this syllabus for their records.