

Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.

COURSE SYLLABUS

EVAN 505

INTRODUCTION TO CHURCH PLANTING

COURSE DESCRIPTION

An introduction to the skills and knowledge needed to plant a New Testament church “in culture.” A survey is given of the various schools of church planting with an evaluation of their strengths and weaknesses. (Formerly EVAN 550)

RATIONALE

The Great Commission requires followers of Christ to make disciples. There are many occasions in which there are not local churches to begin and continue the disciple-making process. Therefore, church planting is an essential activity requiring called and equipped leadership. This course will expose students to the biblical foundation of the local church, the need for new churches, current church models, and the practical aspects of a contextualized ministry. All assignments will deal with principles, practices, and processes involved in providing church planting leadership.

I. PREREQUISITE

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the [Academic Course Catalog](#).

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE

Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm>

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING

- A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Blackboard [recommended browsers](#)
- D. Microsoft Office

IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Demonstrate the theological foundations and necessity of church planting.
- B. Identify the six major church planting strategies.
- C. Analyze the church planting field.
- D. Evaluate the major church planting strategies.
- E. Construct a church planning strategy proposal for a specific community.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations/notes

B. Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Syllabus and [Student Expectations](#), the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.

C. Discussion Board Forums (3)

The student is required to provide a thread in response to the provided topic for each forum. Each thread must be at least 400 words, have assertions supported with 3 citations in parenthetical format, and demonstrate course-related knowledge. In addition to the thread, the student is required to reply to 2 other classmates' threads. Each reply must be at least 250 words with assertions supported with at least 1 source. (Outcomes: A, B, D)

D. Initial Essay

The student will write a 2–3-page essay describing his/her experience in secular employment, experience in ministry, exposure to and experience in church planting, and long term ministry goals. (Outcomes: A, B, D, E)

E. Book Critiques (3)

The student will complete 3 book critiques based on assigned readings for the course. The paper must comply with current Turabian writing style and be 6–8 pages in length. Each Book Critique must be submitted through SafeAssign. (Outcomes: A, B, C, E)

F. Church Planting Project: Community Exegesis

The student will submit a 4–6-page paper exegeting a community in which the student intends to plant a church. The student will use course readings, census materials, and other resources to present the church planting context. This assignment will build toward the Church Planting Project: Final Submission. (Outcomes: C, E)

G. Church Planting Project: Model Development

The student will write a 4–6-page paper articulating the major church models, or elements thereof, to which the student proposes. The Community Exegesis assignment will contextualize the corporate service and the resources to facilitate those services to be covered. This assignment will build toward the Church Planting Project: Final Submission. (Outcomes: C, E)

H. Church Planting Project: Final Submission

The student will submit a 4–6-page paper presenting the strategy and the associated landmarks for the Church Planting Project. This paper will be the culmination of the Church Planting Project: Community Exegesis and the Church Planting Project: Model Development. (Outcomes: B, C, D, E)

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Course Requirement Checklist | 10 |
| Discussion Board Forum | |
| Threads (3 at 50 pts ea) | 150 |
| Replies (3 at 50 pts ea) | 150 |
| Initial Essay | 100 |
| Book Critiques (3 at 100 pts ea) | 300 |
| Church Planting Project: Community Exegesis | 100 |
| Church Planting Project: Model Development | 100 |
| Church Planting Project: Final Submission | 100 |
| Total | 1010 |

B. Scale

A = 940–1010 A- = 920–939 B+ = 900–919 B = 860–899 B- = 840–859
 C+ = 820–839 C = 780–819 C- = 760–779 D+ = 740–759 D = 700–739
 D- = 680–699 F = 0–679

C. Style Guidelines

All assignments for this course are to be formatted in accordance with the [LBTS Writing Guide](#) and the latest edition of the Turabian style manual (*A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*). Discussion assignments and essay examinations may use the parenthetical citation style. All other written assignments should use the footnote citation style. Supplemental writing aids are available via the [Online Writing Center](#).

D. Extra Credit

No additional “for credit” assignments will be permitted beyond those given in the course requirements stated above.

E. Course Changes

Course requirements are subject to change by the administration of the University at any time with appropriate notice.

F. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online’s Office of Disability Accommodation Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport.

If you have a complaint related to disability discrimination or an accommodation that was not provided, you may contact ODAS or the Office of Equity and Compliance by phone at (434) 592-4999 or by email at equityandcompliance@liberty.edu. Click to see a full copy of Liberty’s [Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct Policy](#) or the [Student Disability Grievance Policy and Procedures](#).

COURSE SCHEDULE

EVAN 505

Textbooks: Brown, *At Home in A Strange Land* (2012).

Hesselgrave, *Planting Churches Cross-Culturally* (2000).

Searcy and Thomas, *Launch: Starting a New Church from Scratch* (2017).

Stetzer and Im, *Planting Missional Churches* (2016).

| MODULE/ WEEK | READING & STUDY | ASSIGNMENTS | POINTS |
|-------------------------|---|--|---------------------|
| 1 | Brown: ch. 1 Hesselgrave: chs. 1–8 4 presentations | Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions Church Planter Test Initial Essay | 10 0 0 100 |
| 2 | Brown: ch. 11 Hesselgrave: chs. 9–17 1 presentation | DB Forum 1 Thread Book Critique 1 | 50 100 |
| 3 | Brown: chs. 2–10, 12 1 presentation | DB Forum 1 Replies | 50 |
| 4 | Searcy and Thomas: chs. 1–4 1 presentation | DB Forum 2 Thread CPP: Community Exegesis | 50 100 |
| 5 | Searcy and Thomas: chs. 5–10 1 presentation | DB Forum 2 Replies Book Critique 2 | 50 100 |
| 6 | Stetzer and Im: Select Sections 1 presentation | DB Forum 3 Thread CPP: Model Development | 50 100 |
| 7 | Stetzer and Im: Select Sections 1 presentation | DB Forum 3 Replies Book Critique 3 | 50 100 |
| 8 | 1 presentation | CPP: Final Submission | 100 |
| TOTAL | | | 1010 |

DB = Discussion Board

CPP = Church Planting Project

NOTE: Each course week begins on Monday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Sunday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday.