

CED 650 Ministry with Adults
Nazarene Theological Seminary
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CED650
Fall Semester 2008
Ministry with Adults
Nazarene Theological Seminary

Course Description

Refer to the Current NTS Catalog

Course Rationale

1. Understanding the adult portion of a person's lifecycle will provide new insights, tools, and understandings to enable the ministerial students to more effectively enjoy satisfying lives as adults and be more effective as facilitators of adult ministries in the church.

2. As emerging professionals in the adult world many of the students in seminary need a theoretical basis to underpin their concepts of ministry to and with adults. The questions of: "Why am I like I am?" "Why do those in my cohort live, act, and feel as they do?" are vital issues in adult life. "Why I react to learning situations; my family; and feel as I do about life?" are all questions begging for an answer. Considering way to field these and other pertinent questions in the church setting become vitally important as one nears graduation and the contemplation of a professional career.

3. As the church works with persons at an emotional, social, and intellectual level the need to recognize adults as dynamic, changing individuals, is vital to the health of educational and ministerial endeavors. No longer can the adult segment of life be viewed as static and unchanging. The breakdown of the family, the increase in longevity of the older population, the influx of singles to the urban scene, the mobility in the professional and vocational marketplace, alternate lifestyles, are all indicators of change in the way adults are functioning in society.

4. As future leaders of and workers with the adults of church congregations around the world, the students will be better equipped to develop meaningful ministry and relationships as a result of exposure to understandings of adulthood. The better one understands the persons one works, lives, and worships with the more effectively one will impact his/her world.

5. Finally, the way that the Church presents opportunities for participation in worship, learning, and relationship with others is diversifying at a rapid pace.

with adults.

Ministry to Adults

This course provides opportunity to study specific ministry to and through adults in the church community. The students will explore concepts of ministry as evidenced in Sunday school, evangelism, discipling, small group ministries, marriage enrichment, family ministries, and service projects. In some ways this class will resemble a seminar more than a traditional course. The class will involve some lectures, discussion, input from resource persons and films. We will attempt to utilize some of the concepts of andragogy in this class; thus much of the time will be committed to student research and discussion.

Purchase and Read

McKenzie, L. & Harton, R. (2002). The religious education of adults. Macon: Smyth & Helwys. (Required)

Borrow and Read

Foltz, N. T. (Ed.). (1986). Handbook of adult religious education. Birmingham: Religious Education Press, Inc.

Knowles, M. S. (1980). The modern practice of adult education. New York: Cambridge, The Adult Education Company. (Recommended)

Intended Learning Outcomes

As a result of participation in this course the student should:

1. Be better acquainted with the educational, fellowship, service, and spiritual dimensions of ministry to and with adults.
2. Be more appreciative of the variety of ministry opportunities available to and with the adult segment of our church community.
3. Develop and utilize existing ministry forms such as worship and Bible teaching, specialized ministry, family nurture and formation by which individuals, families, and congregations may be formed into Christlikeness
3. Be able to recognize the variety of ministry opportunities available to and with adults in the secular communities where we live.
4. Be better equipped to formulate a well-balanced ministry to and with adults in the church community and in ministry beyond the boundaries of the physical plant.

Ministry With Adults Topics to Probe:

I. Foundations of Adult Ministries

- Theories of Adult Education
- Relationships
- Theological considerations
- Denominational Trends

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II. Needs to Address

- Age needs

- Learning needs
- Status needs
- Cohort needs

III. Approaching the Task of Adult Ministry

- theories of program/ curriculum development.
- denominational philosophy and program structure
 - traditional ministries and programs
 - specialized ministries and programs
 - innovative ministries and programs

IV. Potential Problems in Ministry

- Nonparticipation of persons
- Need meeting qualities of ministries
- Teaching styles and quality
- Curriculum relevance

V. Ministry Outside the Building

- inter church ministries
- para church ministries
- community service ministry

V. A Paradigm for the Local Church

- rationale
- local examples
- possibility thinking and planning vs traditionalism
- testing a paradigm

Student Requirements:

1. Lesson Preparation:

Selected topics in the Tentative Schedule will be assigned for individual students to lead the class discussion. Prepare a 50-minute class session based on the material in related books, journals, and other professional publications.

Note: Audio and video material may be substituted for part of this preparation.

No paper will be required. The grade will be assessed on the actual presentation. (For tentative dates of presentation refer to the semester calendar.)

2. Focused Study:

Study is primarily focused on the development of a potential ministry for/in a local church.

the seminar, and evaluate the seminar. Your report should be a careful analysis of the whole project's effectiveness. Possible topics:

- Learning styles and the Sunday School class.
- The Christian and the Environment.
- Discipleship in the new millenium.
- The use of media in the church
- The emergent church and ministry to adults.

Individual Study -- Community Service Ministry:

Investigate a community service ministry for adults in the Kansas City area. A verbal report will be given to the class about the ministry explored. This report should include a description of the ministry, and your response to such questions as:

- (1) Is this a unique ministry, if so, how?
- (2) Is this ministry a model of something a typical Nazarene church could do?
- (3) Would an understanding of this community ministry help the local church where you will take your seminar?

3. Periodical Reviews:

Spend time reading in the education journals and periodicals. During the semester review three different articles which deal with the topic "Ministry to / with Adults.". Prepare a one page review of each of these articles composed of a bibliographic statement, a paragraph of summary of the authors intent, and a paragraph or two of reaction, critique, or evaluation of the article's impact on adult education in the church. Attach a photocopy of the article to the review prior to submission for grading. Be prepared to share your articles in class.

4. Outside Enrichment

Expand on class discussions by reading in ancillary books, journals and other professional publications. Note: Audio, video, and public broadcasting specials related to the study will also provide valuable input.

5. Final Evaluation: Reflection on Local Church Ministries.

Prepare a paper which describes all the adult ministries in the local church you attend (not just Sunday School). Evaluate the program for balance, and effectiveness, and make recommendations for strengthening the program. The written and oral presentation of your report will be due/presented during the time scheduled for final exams

Regarding Course Work

All assignments must be submitted on time, typed, and in proper style; endnotes will be accepted.

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Six of the assignments will be scored with a letter grade. The averaged score of these letter grades (using a 12 point scale) and a Pass/ Fail grade on the other assignment will constitute your course grade. Failure to submit or

complete any of the seven evaluation points listed below will result in a failing grade for the course. In any case, an "F" scored on any one assignment will automatically drop the course grade two letter grades. For example, if you have four "A's" and a passing grade on one assignment and an "F" (Fail) on one assignment -- your course grade will be a "C". (Also check the note regarding participation as stated below.)

1. Lesson Preparation Pass/Fail See Calendar
2. Periodical Reviews Letter Grades
First article _____
Second article _____
Third article _____
3. Local Church Seminar Letter Grade _____
4. Community Service Min. Letter Grade _____
5. Reflection on Local Ch. Min. Letter Grade _____
6. Participation: Attendance, class participation, and attention to class assignments are all vital for a class like this to succeed. Therefore, a significant portion of your grade will depend upon your faithfulness to the class.
Note: The due dates will be determined during the first week of the semester.

Grading Scale for Computational Purposes:

12 A+, 11 A, 10 A- 9 B+, 8 B, 7 B- 6 C+, 5 C, 4 C-
3 D+, 2 D, 1 D- 0 F

IN-CLASS DISCUSSION DATES AND OUT OF CLASS ASSIGNMENTS

SEPTEMBER

Knowles - Andragogy Don Whitlock
Houle Adult Learners Don Whitlock
McKenzie (1) A Perspective _____

OCTOBER

Individual Study
McKenzie (5 &6) Approaches

OCTOBER

McKenzie (4) Contemporary Adults _____
Visit-contemporary adults (Steve S, Lynn H **)

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Class discussion of contemporary adults

OCTOBER R&R

OCTOBER

Foltz (3) Young Adults _____
Foltz (4) Middle Adults _____
Foltz (5) Senior Adults _____
Foltz (7) Single Parents _____
Foltz (8) Divorce _____

NOVEMBER

Individual Study
McKenzie (7) Learning ;(8) Teaching _____

NOVEMBER 9

General Church - Adult Depart. (**)
Concerns of Women in Ministry (**)
Senior Adult Ministries (Hdgrtrs)

NOVEMBER 16

Foltz (9) Death and Dying (**)
Recovery Ministry (**)

NOVEMBER THANKSGIVING

NOVEMBER

Individual Study
McKenzie (3) Problems _____

DECEMBER

From Nominal To Committed Discipleship
A visit with Dave Robertson at COR.

DECEMBER 14 – EXAM WEEK

Knowles (5) Climate and Structure (Don Whitlock)
Report on Local Church Seminar held
and Community Service Ministries. explored.