



Nazarene Theological Seminary

1700 E Meyer Blvd • Kansas City, MO 64131 • 816/333-6254

CED660 – Family Ministry
June 8-18, 2009

Essential Information

Please refer to the following resources for information essential for the successful completion of courses and degree programs at Nazarene Theological Seminary. Links to these resources are available under the Syllabus link in the Blackboard course. Additional information can be found at <http://bbwiki.nts.edu>.

- NTS Mission Statement & Purpose and Master of Divinity Objectives
- Tips for online learning success
- NTS library services
- NTS bookstore procedures
- Online technical requirements and Blackboard support information
- NTS Student Handbook including statements on quality of work, plagiarism, and academic probation
- *A Handbook for Inclusive Language*

Instructor Information

Professor: Mark Maddix, PhD, Professor of Christian Education, Northwest Nazarene University

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Course Description: An exploration of the principles and practices of educational ministries to families. Attention will be given to the range of contemporary definitions and structures of family-types (including the congregation as a family system) and the subsequent ministry strategies. The course is conducted in a seminar format with substantive student leadership and participation (*NTS Catalogue*, pg. 86)

Course Objectives:

- Develop a Biblical/Theological understanding of the family for ministry.
- Gain a working knowledge of theories, research, and theories related to the family and family life education.
- Articulate the impact of congregational family experiences in an approach to family life education.
- Develop resources for being a family life educator.
- Demonstrate a cultivation of practices and/or approaches for family spiritual wholeness in home and congregational setting.
- Evaluate and assess current approaches of congregational family ministry.

Required Course Textbooks:

- Elkind, David. 1995. *Ties That Stress: The New Family Imbalance*. Harvard University Press. ISBN# 0978067489150.
- Garland, Diana S. Richmond. 1999. *Family Ministry: A Comprehensive Guide*. Grand Rapids: InterVarsity Press. ISBN# 0830815856
- Garland, Diana R. 2003. *Scared Stories of Ordinary Families*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass. ISBN# 0787962570.
- Schweitzer, Friedrich L. 2005. *The Postmodern Life Cycle: Challenges for Church and Theology*. Chalice Press. ISBN# 0827229984.
- Thompson, Marjorie. 1997. *Family the Forming Center, 2nd Ed.* Nashville: Upper Room. ISBN# 0835807983.

Course Requirements:

- 1. Class Participation/Attendance (100 pts): Attendance Requirements:** Because learning is a cooperative activity, class sessions are important to the learning process. Missing class diminishes your opportunity for gaining and sharing insights, skills, knowledge and understanding. **Absences:** If you must be absent, send an email to me at mamaddix@nnu.edu Put your name and "Absence" in the subject line. Give the date(s) and explain the reason for your absence(s) in the email. Attach any documentation (doctor's verification, etc.).
- 2. Book Review (150 points).** Read Marjorie Thompson's *Family: The Forming Center* and write a 1500 word critical book review. The book review should reflect how the family provides a context for spiritual formation. As you write the book review think of your own spiritual journey and the role the family played, or didn't play in your spiritual formation. If you are married and/or have children, you can reflect on your role as providing spiritual formation to your family. **Due Monday, June 8.**
- 3. Books in Conversation (250 points).** Read Elkind's, *Ties that Stress; The New Family Imbalance* and Diana R. Garland's, *Sacred Stories of Ordinary Families* and write a 2000 word essay. The essay should reflect a critical analysis of the key points learned from each text and the areas that are in agreement and disagreement. Think of the two books as informing a conversation regarding the context of families.
- 4. Research/Reflection Paper (350 points).** Write a 3000-3500 word research-reflection paper describing your theology/philosophy of family ministry. The paper should include at least 6-8 bibliographic references. The paper should be written from your current or future ministry role (ie. Youth, children, adult, pastor, etc.). The following paper examples are given as suggestive research paper ideas: Ministry to families in a Postmodern Context; A Socio-historical study of key family issues (marriage, children, parenting, etc.) and its relationship to contemporary ministry; Developing practical approaches to spiritual formation practices for the family.
- 5. Case/Proposal (150 points).** Evaluate a current educational ministry in your local church that focuses on one aspect of family ministry. Make sure you pick a specific ministry that you know well. Write a case study of this current ministry and provide possible changes and implementation based on theories learned from the course. Present the strengths and weaknesses of the family ministry and the possible implications of these changes. The case/proposal should be 1000-1250 words in length and should include 4-6 bibliographic references (see Case/Proposal Guidelines below).

Grading Policies: Late Work: All work is due on the date assigned. Late work will be marked down five percent if turned in by midnight on the date due; thereafter, it will be marked down ten percent each *calendar* day.

Grading Criteria:

Attendance/Participation	100
Book Review	150
Books in Conversation	250
Research Paper	350
Case/Proposal	150
Total	1000

Course Grading Scale:

A	1000-930	C	769-730
A-	929-900	C-	729-700
B+	899-870	D+	699-670
B	869-830	D	669-630
B-	829-800	D-	629-600
C+	799-770	F	599 and below

Pre-Course Assignment and Due Dates:

1. Read Garland, "Family Ministry: A Comprehensive Guide", sections 1-2, pages 19-230.
2. **Book Review (150 points).** Read Marjorie Thompson's *Family: The Forming Center* and write 1500 word critical review. **Due Monday, June 8.**

Course Assignments and Due Dates during Two-Week Module:

1. Read Garland, "Family Ministry: A Comprehensive Guide," sections 3-4, pages 249-366.
2. Read Schweitzer, Fredrich L. *The Postmodern Life Cycle: Challenges for Church and Theology*.
3. **Books in Conversation (250 points).** Read Elkind's, *Ties that Stress*; The New Family Imbalance and Diana R. Garland's, *Sacred Stories of Ordinary Families* and write a 2000 word essay. **Due Monday, June 22.**
4. **Case/Proposal (150 points).** Evaluate a current educational ministry in your local church that focuses on one aspect of family ministry. The case/proposal should be 1000-1250 words in length and should include 4-6 bibliographic references. **Due Friday, June 26.**

Post-Course Assignments and Due Dates:

1. **Research/Reflection Paper (350 points).** Write a 3000-3500 word research-reflection paper describing your theology/philosophy of family ministry. **Due, Friday, July 3.** Email to mamaddix@nnu.edu

Case and Proposal Guidelines

Part I-The Case: In 250 words describe an actual educational ministry aspect. The case you select should be familiar to you or one about which you have done substantial reading. The description should provide an overview of the educational ministry situation in its present condition.

Part II-The Critique: In 250 words identify the strengths and weaknesses of the program in the case above.

Part III-Educational Ministry Alternative: In 250-500 words describe reasonable alternatives or improvements. Use the educational philosophies, theories, and models learned from this course. (If this is not feasible to do, your case was not wisely selected; start over!). Remember to support changes with bibliographic sources.

Part IV-Evaluation Plan: Write 250 words identifying the matters which need to be evaluated by your alternatives---Give consideration to learning outcomes, intended and unintended, as well as their impact on the relationship to the ministry which may be involved.

Family Ministry Selected Bibliography & Websites

Anderson, Herbert, Evison, Ian S., & Mary S. Van Leeuwen. 1998. *The Family Handbook: Family, Religion, Culture*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press.

Balswick, Jack O. and Judith K. Balswick. 1989. *The Family: A Christian Perspective on the Contemporary Home*. Grand Rapids: Baker.

Beckwith, Ivy. 2004. *Postmodern Children's Ministry*. Zondervan/Youth Specialties.

Carter, Betty, ed. 1989. *The Changing Family Life Cycle: A Framework for Family Therapy*. 2nd ed. Boston: Allyn and Bacon.

Clapp, Rodney. 1993. *Families at the Crossroads*. Downers Grove, IL: Inter Varsity Press.

Claussen, Janet & Marilyn Kielbasa. 2005. *Ministry Ideas for Celebrating Advent and Christmas with Teens, Families, and Parishes*. St. Mary's Press.

Clark, Chap. 1997. *The Youthworker's Handbook of Family Ministry*. Zondervan.

De Vries, Mark & Earl F. Palmer 2004. *Family-based Youth Ministry*, Revised ed. Downers Grove, IL: Inter Varsity Press.

Elkind, David. 1995. *Ties that Stress: The New Family Imbalance*. Harvard University Press.

Friedman, Edwin H. 1985. *Generation to Generation: Family Process in Church and Synagogue*. New York: Guilford Press.

Fosarelli, Patricia D. 2003. *Family Ministry Desk Reference*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox.

Gangel, Kenneth & James Wilhoit. 1996. *The Christian Educator's Handbook on Family Life Education*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books.

Garland, Diana R. 2003. *Sacred Stories of Ordinary Families*. San Fran.: Jossey Bass.

Garland, Diana R. 1999. *Family Ministry: A Comprehensive Guide*. Grand Rapids: IVP.

Harkness, Allan G. 1998. *Intergenerational Education For An Intergenerational Church?* Religious Education, Vol. 93, No. 4.

Leman, Kevin. 1992. *Keeping Your Family Together When the World is falling apart*. New York: Delacarte Press.

- Lyon, K. Brynolf & Archie Smith, ed. 1998. *Tending the Flock: Congregations and Family Ministry*. Westminster John Knox Press.
- Neff, Blake J. and Donald Ratcliff. 1995. *Handbook of Family Religious Education*. Birmingham, Al: Religion Education Press.
- Marquardt, Elizabeth. 2005. *The Inner Lives of Children of Divorce: Between Two Worlds*. New York: Crown Publishers.
- Miller-McLemore, Bonnie J. 2003. *Let the Children Come*. Jossey Bass.
- Roehlkepartian, Jolene L. 2002. *Nurturing Families in Faith: 425 Creative Ideas for Family Ministry*. Nashville: Abingdon.
- Schweitzer, Friedrich L. 2004. *The Postmodern Life Cycle: Challenges for Church and Theology*. St. Louis: Chalice Press.
- Sell, Charles M. 1995. *Family Ministry, 2nd ed.*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan.
- Smith, Christian & Melinda Lundquist Denton. 2005. *Soul Searching: The Religious and Spiritual Lives of American Teenagers*. Oxford Press.
- Stanley, Scott. 1998. *A Lasting Promise*. Jossey Bass.
- Stromenn, Merton P. & Dick Hardel. 2000. *Passing on the Faith: A Radical New Model for Youth and Family Ministry*. St. Mary's Press.
- Thompson, Marjorie. 1997. *Family the Forming Center, 2nd ed.* Nashville: Upper Room.
- Ward, Ted W. 1989. *Values Begin at Home*. Revised edition. Wheaton, Ill.: Victor.
- White, James W. 1988. *Intergenerational Religious Education*. Birmingham: Religious Education Press.
- Wigger, J. Bradley. 2003. *The Power of God at Home: Nurturing our Children in Love and Grace*. Jossey Bass.
- Wright, Christopher J.H. 1990. *God's People in God's Land: Family, Land, and Prosperity in the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans.
- Wright, Wendy M. 2003. *The Seasons of a Families Life: Cultivating the Contemplative Spirit at Home*. Jossey Bass.
- Yust, Karen Marie. 2004. *Real Kids Real Faith: Practices of Nurturing Children's Spiritual Lives*. Jossey Bass.
- Zimmerman, Martha. 1994. *Celebrating the Christian Year: Building Family Traditions Around all the major Christian holidays*. Minneapolis: Bethany House.

Family Websites:

Center for Family and Community Ministries	http://cfcfcm.baylor.edu/
The Marriage Toolbox	http://www.marriagetools.com/
Heritage Builders	http://www.heritagebuilders.com/
National Center for Health Statistics	http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/
Naz. Family Life Ministries	http://www.nazarene.org/ssm/f_intro.html
Center for Relationship Development	http://www.realrelationships.com/
American Family Association Journal	http://www.afajournal.org/
Family Life	http://www.familylife.com/
Family Builder	http://www.familybuilders.net/
Family Trust Institute	http://www.faithtrustinstitute.org/
Search Institute	http://www.search-institute.org/
Faith at Home	http://www.faith-at-home.com/
Family Ministry: Empowering Through Faith	http://www.fmef.org/
UM General Board of Discipleship-Family Min	http://www.gbod.org/family/
Center for Family Ministry (Baylor University)	http://www3.baylor.edu/CFCM/
Center for Single Parent Family Ministry	http://www.spfm.org/
National Clearinghouse on Family & Youth	http://www.ncfy.com/
Smart Marriages	http://www.smartmarriages.com/
Service and Faith Project	http://www3.baylor.edu/CFCM/ServiceFaith/ServiceFaith.html