

## PRELIMINARY SYLLABUS

### NORTH PARK THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY MNST 6266 – INTRODUCTION TO CHURCH PLANTING

Winter J-term, 2012

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#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

Upon completion of the course the Student:

1. Is introduced to the basics of church planting in the twenty-first century.
2. Develops an awareness of the social realities and the process of cultural exegesis aiding in church planting.
3. Develops a pastoral identity and a focus on spiritual formation necessary for church planting.
4. Develops a plan of action and course of preparation for planting a local church in a specific geographic and cultural setting.

This course works towards the fulfillment of the following learning objectives:

1. Developing a mature and theological and ethical perspective to reflect and act.
2. The ability to provide effective pastoral care.
3. Understanding of cultures in order to live and present the Gospel effectively.
4. Developing understanding of the vocation and practice of ministry, including its joys, challenges and breadth.

#### **COURSE EXPECTATIONS:**

1. Attendance in all class sessions, mind, body, and soul
2. Personal integration and reflection of the reading, lecture, discussion material
3. Critical analysis and reflection papers on select texts  
Write two 500 word interactive reflections (2 pages)
  - (a) Olson
  - (b) Book of your choosing from the recommended reading list
4. Participate and present as a group to the whole class, a project that outlines the formation of church planting values
5. Write a 1,500 word (approximately 6-7 pages) analysis paper on a target demographic, people group, or locale
6. Final Paper/Project: Write a fully researched and documented 2,500 word paper (approximately 10-12 pages) that outlines your plans for a church plant
7. Completion of required readings and a reading report of required texts

#### **REQUIRED READING:**

Pew Foundation on Religion and Public Life, *U.S. Religious Landscape Survey* (June, 2008), available at: <http://religions.pewforum.org/reports>

Olson, Dave. *The American Church in Crisis* (Zondervan, 2008).

Henderson, Jim and Matt Casper. *Jim and Casper Go to Church* (Tyndale House, 2008)

Book of your choosing as you consider relevant for your church planting project.

Updated October 15, 2011