Course Syllabus

WINTER 2016

FOUNDATIONS OF MINISTRY WITH YOUTH
YMIN 0592

WEDNESDAY MORNINGS, 8:15 – 11:05 AM

INSTRUCTOR: REV. DR. DAVE OVERHOLT
Telephone number: 905 385 9286
Email: doverholt@tyndale.ca

Office Hours: Wednesday afternoons

To access your course material, please go to http://classes.tyndale.ca. Course emails will be sent to your @MyTyndale.ca e-mail account. For information how to access and forward emails to your personal account, see http://www.tyndale.ca/it/live-at-edu.

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

In the context of an ever-changing culture, youth workers must be ready to assess and develop ways of reaching and discipling today’s adolescent. This course is designed to present a theological, sociological, and philosophical foundation for youth ministry. One third of the course is focused on understanding adolescents, one third on building youth programs, and the last third on skills needed in youth ministry. Designed for both a foundation for professional youth workers, for lead pastors in small churches, and those counseling adolescents.

Students will develop the tools necessary to develop programs to meet the needs of contemporary adolescents. An overview of concepts in traditional youth ministry, history of adolescences and youth ministry, current research in adolescent development, family and contemporary youth ministry models are presented.
II. LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of the course, students should be able to:

1. Discuss the inner world of adolescents as subjects in transition: searching for identity, expanding in thinking and questions in faith.
2. Explain the unique culture of the Canadian teens’ outer world.
3. Evaluate specific teenage ministry models from around the world.
4. Describe basic group ministry skills in the areas of youth including outreach, spiritual growth, and leadership training.
5. Identify basic personal ministry skills in the area of youth communications, counseling, community building and volunteer empowerment.

III. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A. REQUIRED TEXTS


B. ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

**Interaction paper**: 2 pages in length [10%], due March 2nd

a) Create a model of ministry. P/F.

This paper will complete the evaluation of teenage ministry models.

**Test over Soul Searching Book** [30%], due Feb. 24th

This test is not an evaluation of the content, but a test of the retention and understanding of the unique cultural facts of the Canadian teenager.

**Book report: Youth Ministry Nuts and Bolts** [30%], due March 23rd

Chose five chapters of Duffy Robin’s book and write two pages for each chapter. In each of the five chapters, shortly summarize the main points, list what questions you still have in this area, and specifically, creatively, apply this point to your ministry.

**Research paper** over a specialized topic fifteen to twenty pages. Must have at least five research articles used in bibliography research. [30%], due April 15th

This assignment allows the student to explore a personal ministry skill or a group ministry skill in a deeper fashion.
C. GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR THE SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN WORK

Your work will be graded for first, completion of instructions (If you do not do what I ask you will receive a “C” or lower). Secondly, understanding of the topic (If you demonstrate a clear understanding you will receive a “B”). Thirdly, application of theory to practice (If you apply theory to practice you will receive a B+). Fourthly, creativity and freshness of ideas (“A” and “A-” will be reserved for creative solutions).

Academic Integrity

Integrity in academic work is required of all our students. Academic dishonesty is any breach of this integrity, and includes such practices as cheating (the use of unauthorized material on tests and examinations), submitting the same work for different classes without permission of the instructors; using false information (including false references to secondary sources) in an assignment; improper or unacknowledged collaboration with other students, and plagiarism. Tyndale University College & Seminary takes seriously its responsibility to uphold academic integrity, and to penalize academic dishonesty.

Students should consult the current Academic Calendar for academic polices on Academic Honesty, Gender Inclusive Language in Written Assignments, Late Papers and Extensions, Return of Assignments, and Grading System. The Academic Calendar is posted at www.tyndale.ca/seminary/calendar.

D. SUMMARY OF ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Evaluation is based upon the completion of the following assignments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Interaction Paper</td>
<td>10 %</td>
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<td>Test</td>
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<td>Book Report</td>
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<td>Research Paper</td>
<td>30 %</td>
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<td>Total Grade</td>
<td>100 %</td>
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IV. COURSE SCHEDULE, CONTENT AND REQUIRED READINGS

1. **Canadian Adolescents**
   
   
   Jan. 20  Adolescent development: Hemorrhaging Faith
   
   Jan. 27  Adolescent Culture: Soul Searching
   
   Feb. 3   Guest Speaker

2. **Group Ministry with Adolescents**
   
   Feb. 10  Models of Ministry – basis for second interaction paper
   
   Feb. 17  Models of Ministry (continued)
   
   Feb. 24  [Soul Searching Test]
   Creative Programming: whys and how of programming
   
   March 2  Guest Speaker: Spiritual growth in group settings, Small group community Mentoring – Evangelism
   
   March 9  Guest Speaker: Leadership training with adolescents
   Adult or Student leadership
   [Interaction paper due]
   
   March 16 No class – Reading Week

3. **Personal Ministry Skills with the Adolescent**
   
   March 23 Communication with Adolescents
   Contacting and Storytelling – lesson plans – leading discussions
   [book report due]
   
   March 30 Counseling teenagers;
   Retreats; Spiritual Life of YP – spiritual disciplines Volunteers – value, recruit, keep, problems – situational leadership
   Worship – Why we do what we do (Bobb Beihl)
   
   April 6  Getting a job, (article) Keeping Vision Alive, Personal Leadership
   Change Agents in an organization, church politics
V. SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY


