

Planting and Growing Reproducing Churches Syllabus

Multi-Site Churches: Genius of the "AND"



Wheaton College

This course is a study of the principles for planting reproducing churches. It is focused on starting new churches in North America that have an apostolic ethos of continual reproduction. The course will survey biblical materials pertaining to church planting with an emphasis on practical theology. Students will be equipped to plant reproducing churches in their ministry context and in the process learn about various approaches to planting reproducing churches and the resources that are currently available. Students will be asked to read from a variety of church planting resources and will be encouraged to partner with church planting organizations and churches to develop their own strategic reproducing church planting project.

Pre-Work

Please read the following books:

Church Planting from the Ground Up, Tom Jones, editor
Planting Missional Churches, Ed Stetzer
Confessions of a Reformation REV, Mark Driscoll
The Big Idea, Dave Ferguson, Jon Ferguson & Eric Bramlett
Multi-Site Church Revolution, Geoff Surratt & Greg Ligon

Interview 2 church planters:

Name of Church
Location
Denominational Affiliation (if any)
Age of church (must be less than five years old)
Average weekend celebration service attendance

Questions:

1. What circumstances led you to believe that God was calling you to plant a church?
2. What is the vision and/or mission for the church you have planted?
3. How did you develop your launch team (paid staff and volunteers)?
4. How did you choose a site or location – both geographically (city, region) and specifically (theater, school)?
5. What did it cost to plant the church prior to your public launch? How much of that were you responsible for raising? What is your strategy for becoming self-supporting?
6. What is your strategy for leadership development? Artist development?
7. What resources would you recommend to someone considering church-planting?
8. What is your plan to reproduce new locations/campuses/churches?

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Day One

9:00am Ice Breaker
7 Moves (from RCE)
11:00am Interview Troy McMahon
Chapters 1, 12, 13 & 15
12:00pm Lunch
1:00pm Book Discussion *Church Planting from the Ground Up*
2:00pm Reproducing Leaders
3:00pm Reproducing Artists
4:00pm Interview Hank Wilson 617.960.7576
5:00pm Book Discussion *Confessions of a Reformission Rev*
Chapters 1-4

Day Two

9:00 am Interview Dave Dummitt 810-231-0190
Reproducing from Day 1
10:00am Multiplying Small Groups
11:00am Genius of the AND
12:00pm Lunch
1:00 pm Multi-Site Models
2:00 pm Interview Eli Orozco
3:00 pm Book Discussion *Multi-Site Church Revolution*
Chapters 3, 6 & 8
4:00 pm The Big Idea
5:00 pm Book Discussion – *The Big Idea*

Day Three

9:00 am 5 Lessons to Save You 5 Years
Present Case Studies & Critique

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Final Assignment - CHURCH PLANTING PROPOSAL

ASSIGNMENT

Choose a community in which you will plant a growing and reproducing church and create an effective church planting proposal for starting a new church in that community. This church planting proposal will communicate the vision of a growing and reproducing new church to potential team members and financial supporters. Begin with the assumptions that the goal of your project will be to plant a self-sustaining, self-governing, and self-propagating church that reproduces.

SPECIFIC QUESTIONS YOUR CHURCH PLANTING PROPOSAL SHOULD ANSWER:

- *What do you feel called to do?* This should answer the questions of mission, vision, values and a clear theological foundation for church planting.
- *Where are you called to do it?* Explain about the context in which this new church will be planted. Give an overview of the demographics of the community and the target population of this new church.
- *Why are you uniquely qualified to plant in this location?* This should answer the question of why you are a good fit for planting a new church in this community. Who will be the team leader? What role will each team member play? This should also explain why each team member has their particular role on the church planting team. How will the team members each be supported and supervised?
- *When are you going to do plant this church?* Show a timeline that includes activities of each phase in the life of the church plant: pre-launch, launch date and post-launch.
- *How will you do this?* Give an understanding of your philosophy of ministry and strategy for this new church.
- *Who is partnering with you?* This responds to the question of credibility. Tell what individuals, churches and organizations are supporting this new church.
- *How much money will it take?* Create a budget and a financial plan that will get you to be self-supporting.
- *How can others partner with you?* Explain how others can be a part of this new mission.
- *Show how your vision will change people?* Tell how planting a new church in this community will impact individual people by helping them find their way back to God.

PONTS OF EVALUATION:

- Demonstration of a clear understanding of what it will take to plant a growing and reproducing new church. (45)
- The ability of the church planting proposal to enroll new team members and raise financial support. (45)
- The creativity used in the church planting proposal. (10)