I. Course Description

This course introduces students to ministry as community practice. Moving beyond the rampant individualism in our society, the aim will be to explicate and illustrate how faithful ministry is grounded and nurtured in the life of the triune God and centered in the church. Consideration will also be given to such themes as worship, order, service, sacraments, and mission.

II. Seminary Mission Statement

Multnomah University’s mission is to equip Christian students through higher education to become biblically competent, academically proficient, spiritually formed, and culturally engaged servant leaders, shaped to be a transforming force in the church, community, and world.

III. Course Learning Outcomes

A. For the Masters of Divinity Program
   1. Practice a deeper commitment to and participate in Christian community (Affective)
   2. Articulate a biblical/Trinitarian understanding of the nature of the Church and the proper functioning of the local church. (Cognitive)
   3. Develop a biblical/Trinitarian theology of the universal and local church in mission that includes the ministries of worship, discipleship, and care. (Cognitive)
   4. Acquire leadership perspectives and skills needed to: 1) gather and build Christian community, 2) establish missional vision and focus, 3) develop a caring congregation, and 4) empower and equip new leaders for ministry. (Syntectic/skill development)

B. For the Master of Arts in Christian Leadership
   1. Practice a deeper commitment to and participate in Christian community (Affective)
   2. Articulate a biblical/Trinitarian understanding of the nature of the Church and the proper functioning of the local church. (Cognitive)
   3. Develop a biblical/Trinitarian theology of the universal and local church in mission that includes the ministries of worship, discipleship, and care. (Cognitive)
   4. Acquire leadership perspectives and skills needed to: 1) gather and build Christian community, 2) establish missional vision and focus, 3) develop a caring congregation, and 4) empower and equip new leaders for ministry. (Syntectic/skill development)
IV. Required Resources:
Ed Stetzer & Thom S. Rainer, Transformational Church. BH Publishing Group, 2010 ISBN: 978143369309

V. Course Requirement Summary

A. Participation: Regular attendance, timeliness, attentiveness, and active participation in the classroom discussion are expected.

B. Attend Two Local Churches: Spend a Sunday morning at two local churches, one that is connected to a traditional-historical denomination and one that is an evangelical church. Write a four page summary of your two visits and what you observed.

C. Class Presentation: Read a book related to one of the topics covered in class and prepare a 25 minute presentation that will be given during the semester. Students are expected to prepare a two page summary of the books key “take-aways” for their fellow students in class. Books will be assigned the second week of class.

D. Class Reading: Complete all required texts by the end of the semester.

E. Interview: Spend some time with a local church pastor and ask him/her questions related to their church’s history, generational make-up, strengths, missional focus, and challenges they are facing or changes they are making. Offer to pray for them before you leave the interview.

VI. Grading Summary:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Church Observation Paper</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class Presentation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class Reading</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interview</td>
<td>15%</td>
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TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

August 31  Course Introduction and Orientation
           Practical Ecclesiology
           Introduction

September 7  A Practical Theology of Community and Ministry, Part 1
             Community as Participation in the Life and Mission of the Triune God
             Gathered Community
             Scattered Community
             EE Chapters 1 & 2; TC Chapter 1

September 14  A Practical Theology of Community and Ministry, Part 2
              Church as Incarnational Community
              The Functions of Community
              LT Chapter 1; TC Chapter 2

September 21  A Practical Theology of Community and Ministry, Part 3
              Church as Kingdom Community
              Servant Community
              Witnessing Community
              EE Chapters 3 & 4

September 28  Church and Prayer
              The Local Church
              Prayer Ministries
              TC Chapter 6

October 5  Gathering, Building, and Sending Community, Part 1
           Developing Vision and Mission
           Understanding the Context
           TC Chapter 3

October 12  Gathering, Building, and Sending Community, Part 2
            Evangelism as a Function of Community
            TC Chapter 9

October 19  Mid-Semester Break

October 26  Gathering, Building, and Sending Community, Part 3
           Relational Intentionality
           TC Chapter 5

November 2  Gathering, Building, and Sending Community, Part 4
           Faith, Science and the Local Church
November 9  Quality Characteristics of Community, Part 1
      Empowering Leadership
      Gift-Oriented Ministry
      TC Chapter 4

November 16  Quality Characteristics of Community, Part 2
      Passionate Spirituality
      Functional Structures
      LT Chapter 3; TC Chapter 7

November 23  Quality Characteristics of Community, Part 3
      Inspiring worship
      Holistic small groups
      EE Chapters 5 & 6; TC Chapter 8

November 30  Issues in Community and Ministry
      Race
      Class
      Disability
      EE Chapters 15-16

December 7   Issues in Community and Ministry
      Gender
      Generations
      EE Chapter 12

December 14  Final at Flying Pie Pizza

TC  Transformational Church, Ed Stetzer & Thom S. Rainer
LT  Life Together, Dietrich Bonhoeffer
EE  Exploring Ecclesiology, Brad Harper & Paul Metzger