CM 101 Foundations of Church Ministry

Course Instructor: David Ernst, DMin
Email: dernst@briercrest.ca
Phone: 306-756-3282

Class Location: TBA
Class Time: M/W 10:40-11:55
Course Dates: Winter 201602

3 Credit Hours

Course Description

An introduction to the total ministry of the church in all its functions: worship, equipping, fellowship and evangelism. The course will include a study of the structure, leadership and objectives of the various ministries of the church with special attention given to the role of laity in all aspects of church ministry.

Texts


For all written assignments, the student must use the Chicago style format. The guide can be found here: http://www.briercrest.ca/current/college/academics/important-documents/

These texts are available at the Briercrest Bookstore: http://briercrest.ca/bookstore.

Students are responsible for course materials and communication on Canvas (https://briercrest.instructure.com; cf. http://briercrest.ca/online/canvas) and their myBriercrest.ca email account.

Learning Objectives

1. To know and understand the nature and purpose of the Church, and to appreciate your own role and responsibility in fulfilling the purpose of the Church.
2. To understand the Biblical characteristics & responsibilities of Christian leadership.
3. To know and value the responsibilities of belonging to a Christian community.

4. To value church history with a commitment to the future of the Church in Canada and around the world.

5. To confidently understand and apply a specific biblical topic related to church life and ministry.

6. Explore ways in which you can integrate your learning into your involvement in your local church while studying here at Briercrest, and beyond.

Course Requirements and Weighting

All assignments are to be delivered electronically as MSWord document attachments in Canvas by the due date and time listed below. If you have any questions regarding any of the following assignments, please feel free to contact me through Canvas messaging.

All submitted assignments should follow the Chicago-Style Format Guide unless otherwise stated.

1. Yancey Text:

Read the text by Yancey. Read only one chapter per day. Keep a journal of the day you read the chapter and notes you took as you progressed throughout. Include such things as questions, comments, agreements, disagreements, new insights, etc. Interact with specific quotes. Invest time attempting to answer your own questions. Type these notes out in point, paragraph, or bullet form and hand them in on the due date below. Err on the side of “thorough”. Typically, a half page of single spaced journaling would be considered average (C work). At the conclusion of your submission, on a separate page, but in the same document, write a 3-4 sentence review of the book regarding what you liked or disliked about the book. Also, in the same document, include a separate 1/2 to 1 page conclusion regarding how this book has changed you, and how you view others within and outside the church. The purpose of this assignment is to give you a solid perspective and foundation regarding the role that grace plays in the life of the local church. At the end of your paper, indicate the percentage of the book that was carefully read. “I have carefully read ____% of the assigned text.”

Due Date: April 3 @ 10:40 am Total Value: 20%

2. Research and Analysis Major Paper:

Research a controversial topic as it relates to the church, with the goal of arriving at a biblical / theological position (thesis) on that topic. Write a 1,500 word paper (approximately 5 pages) which supports your thesis statement (conclusion). You will also provide specific examples of characters/situations in Scripture that can add to your thesis argument. In addition, write an additional 500-750 words (2-3 pages) analyzing your home church, or the church you know best, as to how its practice is consistent with the conclusions of the paper, as well as how you specifically contribute or could contribute in this area (an interview with a local church leader may prove helpful). Provide specific examples that illustrate your analysis. You are encouraged to use biblical research tools (concordances, Bible dictionaries, theological encyclopedias, commentaries, etc.). You may not use topical sources in your research (if unsure, ask). More information will be provided as the due date draws closer. Like all research papers, this paper must include a thesis, outline, and bibliography. Citing of sources using footnotes is also required. A sign-up sheet will

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be distributed in late January in order for you to sign up for one of the following topics, as it relates to the Church. A limited number of students may sign up for each of the following topics:

- **Spiritual gifts** (source, use, misuse, scope, etc.)
- **Women in leadership in the Church** (primarily as pastors, elders and deacons)
- **Social justice** (ministry to the poor, ministry to victims of injustice, etc.)
- **Giving to the local church** (primarily as it relates to money)
- **Church discipline** (including the “have nothing to do with them...” passages)
- **Homosexuals in the church** (membership, leadership, marriage, etc.)

*Due: March 8 @ 10:40 am  Total Value: 30%*

**MID-TERM EXAM (First half of the semester):**  February 22  Value: 25%

Note: This exam will **not** be rescheduled, so please do not schedule anything. Exceptions will be granted in the case of sports/music teams, sudden family emergencies, and illness, upon the recommendation of the student’s RD or Coach (or equivalent).

**FINAL EXAM (Second half of the semester):**  As per posted final exam schedule  Value: 25%

Course Outline

<table>
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<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>CONTENT</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan 9</td>
<td>Syllabus / Introductory Material</td>
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<td>Jan 11</td>
<td><strong>What is the Church?</strong></td>
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<td>Jan 16</td>
<td>Definitions &amp; Descriptions</td>
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<td>Jan 18</td>
<td><strong>What is the purpose of the Church?</strong></td>
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<td>Jan 23</td>
<td>Evangelize, Exalt, Encourage, Edify, Equip</td>
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<td>Jan 25</td>
<td><strong>Who leads the Church?</strong></td>
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<td>Jan 30</td>
<td>Principles of Christian Leadership (Ps. 23)</td>
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<td>Feb 1</td>
<td>Qualifications of Christian Leaders (1 Ti. 3 &amp; Titus 1)</td>
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<td>Feb 6</td>
<td>Role and Responsibility of a Christian Leader (1 Pe. 5:1-4)</td>
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<td>Feb 8</td>
<td>How to treat a Christian Leader (1 Ti. 5:17-22)</td>
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<td>Feb 13</td>
<td>Administrative Leadership</td>
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<td>Feb 15</td>
<td><strong>What is my contribution to the Church?</strong></td>
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<td>Feb 20</td>
<td><strong>Family Day (No Class)</strong></td>
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<td>Feb 22</td>
<td><strong>Mid-Term Exam</strong></td>
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<td>Feb 27/March 1</td>
<td><strong>MODULAR READING WEEK (No Classes)</strong></td>
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<td>March 6</td>
<td>Membership/Denominations</td>
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<td>March 8</td>
<td><strong>Stewardship</strong></td>
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<td>March 13</td>
<td><strong>Giving</strong></td>
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<td>March 15</td>
<td><strong>Women in Local Church Leadership</strong></td>
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<td>March 20</td>
<td><strong>Spiritual Gifts</strong></td>
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<td>March 22</td>
<td><strong>Homosexuals in the Church</strong></td>
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<td>March 27</td>
<td><strong>What if there are problems in my Church?</strong></td>
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<td>March 29</td>
<td><strong>Church Discipline</strong></td>
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<td>Apr 3</td>
<td>Yancey Book Discussion</td>
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**BRIERCREST**
College Calendar

Students are expected to be aware of the policies that govern course work at Briercrest College. Please refer to the College Calendar: [http://www.briercrest.ca/current/college/academics/college-calendar/](http://www.briercrest.ca/current/college/academics/college-calendar/).

**Attendance (Semester Course)**
All students missing more than two full weeks of a particular course from registration to the last day of classes will receive an automatic fail (0%).

**Attendance (Modular Course)**
All students missing more than four hours of a modular class will receive an automatic fail, “F” (0%).

**Final Exams**
Students are allowed 3 hours to write their final exams. Students must write their final exams as scheduled. ALL final exams are mandatory. Failure to write a final exam will result in an “F” (0%) for the course.

**Late Assignments**
Though individual faculty members may disallow late assignments at their discretion, the following is a statement of policy concerning late assignments:

- All assignments are due at the beginning of the class period on the assigned day.
- Typically, late assignments will receive a penalty of five per cent per weekday to a maximum of 25 per cent deducted from the total assignment mark. After five weekdays, no late assignments will be accepted, and the grade for that assignment will be zero.
- Individual faculty members may articulate a modification of this policy, provided it is both approved by the dean of the faculty in which the course is located and stated clearly in the course syllabus.

**Assignment Extension Policy**

- Individual faculty members may grant extensions, but rarely and only in unusually extenuating circumstances. They will not grant extensions due to other assignments or co-curricular involvement.
- Faculty members do not have the authority to grant extensions beyond 5:00 p.m. of the last day of classes in the semester.

**Academic Honesty**
Please refer to pages 18-19 in the College Calendar.

**Academic Accommodations**
Any student with a disability who may need accommodations should discuss them with the course instructor after registering with the Student Success Centre, in person (room #215), by telephone (306) 756-3230, or by email at studentsuccesscentre@briercrest.ca.