



Flourish Courses Developed by Gordon-Conwell.

## MC/EV665 – Church Planting in a Post-Christian Context

Course Developer: Rev. Dr. Matthew Lee

Course Instructor: Rev. Dr. Dana Allin

Summer 2021 (May 25<sup>th</sup> – August 30<sup>th</sup>)

### Required Web Meetings:

Tuesday, May 25<sup>th</sup> (9-10 PM ET/8-9 PM CST/6-7 PM PT)

Tuesday, July 6<sup>th</sup> (9-10 PM ET/8-9 PM CST/6-7 PM PT)

Tuesday, August 24<sup>th</sup> (8-10 PM ET/7-9 PM CST/5-7 PM PT)

## Contacts

Course Instructor: Rev. Dr. Dana Allin at [dana@eco-pres.org](mailto:dana@eco-pres.org)

Flourish: [registrar@flourishmovement.org](mailto:registrar@flourishmovement.org)

## Course Description

MC/EV665 is a practical course designed to provide students with a grasp of the issues and dynamics involved in planting churches in a post-Christian context. Students will learn how to develop a strategy for starting and multiplying churches that is applicable to their context and community. This course will address current church planting models, methods, and processes.

## Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Analyze and report on the context and community of their church plant.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the key issues and dynamics involved in planting churches.

## Course Modality

This course is offered online at [flourishmovement.org](http://flourishmovement.org). This online course has a fixed start and end date with scheduled weekly Lessons and associated Assignments and Activities. Although this course is primarily asynchronous (meaning that students usually do not have to be online at certain times to complete course requirements), students will need to adhere to weekly due dates. In addition, students will have to be present for three (3) web meetings scheduled by the Instructor.

Those taking the course for personal enrichment are strongly encouraged to stay on track with the schedule for credit-seeking students. Access to course content is not guaranteed after the course end date.

## Course Schedule

The course is organized into eleven content weeks called “Lessons,” one holiday week, and two additional weeks focused on completing major summative assignments. Weeks begin on a Tuesday and end on a Monday.

Week(s)	Dates	Lesson Title
1	May 25-31	Lesson 1   Foundations – Pt. 1
2	June 1-7	Lesson 2   Foundations – Pt. 2
3	June 8-14	Lesson 3   The Planter
4	June 15-21	Lesson 4   Models and Methods – Pt. 1
5	June 22-28	Lesson 5   Models and Methods – Pt. 2
6	June 29-July 5	<b>Week of July 4 – Break; No Coursework Due</b>
7	July 6-12	Lesson 6   Models and Methods – Pt. 3
8	July 13-19	Lesson 7   The Four Stages of Church Planting
9	July 20-26	Lesson 8   The Context
10	July 27-Aug. 2	Lesson 9   Emotional Health of the Planter
11	Aug. 3-9	Lesson 10   The Church Planting Plan
12-14	Aug. 10-30	Final Coursework

## Course Requirements

### I. Readings

Students are required to obtain and read several books for this course. Books can be obtained through any online retailer. Weekly reading assignments are posted in the course site. Students are required to complete the readings to pass the course and will submit a course report at the end of the course attesting that they have completed this requirement (and others).

#### Required Books

Students should purchase the following books:

- Fuder, John. *Neighborhood Mapping: How to Make Your Church Invaluable to the Community*. Moody Publishers, 2014. ISBN-13: 978-0802411341
- Logan, Robert. *The Missional Journey*. ChurchSmart Resources, 2013. ISBN: 978-1936812011
- Scazzero, Peter. *The Emotionally Healthy Church: A Strategy for Discipleship that Actually Changes Lives*. Zondervan, 2015. ISBN-13: 978-031-0520757
- Stetzer, Ed & Im, Daniel. *Planting Missional Churches: Your Guide to Starting Churches that Multiply*. B & H Academic, 2016. ISBN-13: 978-1433692161

#### Recommended Books

The following books are recommended by the Course Developer, but are not required for purchase:

- Bergquist, Linda & Karr, Allan. *Church Turned Inside Out: A Guide for Designers, Refiners, and Re-Aligners*. Jossey-Bass, 2009. ISBN-13: 978-0470383179
- Cole, Neil. *Church 3.0: Upgrades for the Future of the Church*. Jossey-Bass, 2010. ISBN-13: 978-0470529454
- Everts, Don & Schaupp, Doug. *I Once Was Lost: What Postmodern Skeptics Taught Us About Their Path to Jesus*. Intervarsity Press, 2008. ISBN-13: 978-0830836086
- Hirsch, Alan. *The Forgotten Ways*. Brazos Press, 2016. ISBN-13: 978-1587433863
- Keller, Tim. *Center Church: Doing Balanced, Gospel-Centered Ministry in Your City*. Zondervan, 2012. ISBN-13: 978-0310494188
- Rah, Soong-Chan. *Many Colors: Cultural Intelligence for a Changing Church*. Moody Publishers, 2010. ISBN-13: 978-0802450487
- Scazzero, Peter. *The Emotionally Healthy Leader*. Zondervan, 2015. ISBN-13: 978-0310494577

## II. Lectures

Students are required to watch weekly lecture videos. These videos are posted in the course site. Students are required to watch all of the lecture videos to pass the course and will submit a course report at the end of the course attesting that they have completed this requirement (and others).

## III. Small Groups, Lessons Activities, and Lesson Assignments

In select lessons, students will meet in small groups for discussion. There will also be other activities and assignments associated with the content of the lessons. Instructions and due dates for all the activities and assignments can be found within the course site.

## IV. Papers and Presentation

Students will prepare two papers and will present the second one at the last web meeting.

- A **Contextualization Paper** where you will analyze the context and community where your potential church plant will take place. (6-8 Pages Double Spaced). Due by August 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- A **Church Planting Plan** outlining a feasible strategy for starting a new church in your community (10-12 Pages Double Spaced). Due by August 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- A **Presentation** of your Church Planting Plan. Presenting in the class web meeting on August 24<sup>th</sup>.

Full instructions for the papers and the presentation can be found in the course site.

## V. Web-Meetings with Course Instructor

Students will meet **three times** with the Course Instructor as a class to discuss course content and student insights. Dates and times are specified at the top of this syllabus. Information on how to connect will be available in the course site.

## VI. Course Reports

At the end of the course, students will complete a Course Report verifying completion of all non-graded activities including reading, lecture viewing, and class video session attendance.

## Assignment Formatting and Submission

Writing assignments should be submitted as either a Microsoft Word document or PDF file in the course site (email submissions are not accepted).

All assignment file names should follow this convention:

FirstinitialLastname\_AssignmentName\_MMDDYY

example: JSmith\_ResearchPaper\_123119

All written assignments should be double-spaced with one-inch margins and a 12-point standard font and **should follow the most recent edition of Turabian (Chicago Style for Students and Researchers) for paper formatting and citations.**

## Course Grading

All course grading will be completed by the Course Instructor. **All assignments and activities must be completed to pass the course.**

## Assignments and Weighting

Assignment	Weighting
Contextualization Paper	25%
Church Planting Plan & Presentation	50%
Weekly Lesson Assignments	25%
Course Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Verifies completion of Readings, Lecture Viewing, and Web Meeting Attendance</li></ul>	P/F
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Grading Scale

A	93-100%	B+	87-89%	C+	77-79%	D+	67-69%		
		B	83-86%	C	73-76%	D	63-66%	F	

A-	90-92%	B-	80-82%	C-	70-72%	D-	60-62%		Below 60
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## Academic Standards

All submitted materials should be of graduate level academic quality and edited to reflect the student's best effort. Students should ensure that their submitted work is free from spelling, grammatical, and formatting errors. Students who are not confident that their writing meets graduate level standards or who are looking to improve their writing abilities are encouraged to enroll in one or both of the following courses through Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary:

- CT490 – Writing Skills Workshop. CT490 is a one-credit-hour online refresher course that introduces seminary students to essential grammar and composition skills necessary for pursuit of graduate-level writing.
- CT500 – Introduction to Theological Research and Writing. CT500 introduces students to graduate-level research and writing skills with specific attention to academic writing, theological research, integrating sources, understanding and avoiding plagiarism, and the proper citation of sources following the Turabian style manual.

To enroll in one of these courses, please contact [charlotteadmissions@gordonconwell.edu](mailto:charlotteadmissions@gordonconwell.edu).

Cheating and plagiarism are considered serious breaches of personal and academic integrity. Cheating involves, but is not necessarily limited to, the use of unauthorized sources of information during an examination or the submission of the same (or substantially same) work for credit in two or more courses without the knowledge and consent of the instructors. Plagiarism involves the use of another person's distinctive ideas or words, whether published or unpublished, and representing them as one's own instead of giving proper credit to the source. Plagiarism can also involve over-dependence on other source material for the scope and substance of one's writing. Such breaches in academic standards often result in a failing grade as well as other corrective measures.

## Accommodations, Dropping the Course, and Extensions

If you are a student in need of accommodation due to disability, please contact [registrar@flourishmovement.org](mailto:registrar@flourishmovement.org) for guidelines and next steps. It is the responsibility of the

student to notify the Instructor of the documented accommodations at the beginning of the semester.

If you would like to drop the course, you are able to do so. The deadlines and amount you will be refunded or asked to pay depends on the type of student you are.

If you are a CLP2 student, you have until the start of the 7<sup>th</sup> week to drop the course for no additional charge. If you drop after the start of the 7<sup>th</sup> week, you will be asked to pay a \$150 drop fee. For the spring semester, the date to drop by, with no extra fee, would be July 13<sup>th</sup>.

If you are a Flourish or CLP1 student, the deadlines and refund percentages are below:

- June 4<sup>th</sup> – Last day to drop Spring course(s) for 100% refund
- June 18<sup>th</sup> – Last day to drop Spring course(s) for 80% refund
- July 2<sup>nd</sup> – Last day to drop Spring course(s) for 50% refund
- August 20<sup>th</sup> – Last day to drop Spring course(s) with no refund

*Once August 20<sup>th</sup> passes, and you have not completed the coursework, you will be asked to take an “incomplete” for the course.*

When you request to drop a class, you will be asked to fill out a form for our records with the name of the course, the reason you are dropping the course, and confirmation that you have paid the additional fee (if applicable) and notified your professor.

Arrangements for submission of late work at a date on or before the end date for the semester are made between the student and Instructor. However, course work to be submitted after the publicized end date for the semester or term must be approved by Taylor Woods. ***An Extension Petition must be submitted to [registrar@flourishmovement.org](mailto:registrar@flourishmovement.org) no later than the Friday before the last day of the course.*** Extensions are only available for those with exigent and unforeseen circumstances and are generally not granted for work, ministry, or educational overload. There will be a fee for extensions of \$40 that will need to be paid when the student submits their Extension Petition. To request an Extension Petition, please email Taylor Woods at [registrar@flourishmovement.org](mailto:registrar@flourishmovement.org) with the name of the course and the deadline you and your instructor agreed upon.