SYLLABUS

TEAMS AND TEAM BUILDING

MC 617, SPRING 2012

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Much has been written and discussed about how life in the 21st century is less traditional and structured. This has often translated into more horizontal and less hierarchal organizations. A natural outgrowth of this has been the development of teams (learning teams in particular), and the transition of the leader from director to coach/facilitator.

The church has not been immune from these trends. Seekers entering churches come with this mind set and are looking for ministries that will allow them to fully use their gifts in a team setting. But in reality these trends really go back to Biblical basics.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course will present a Biblical rationale for a team an systems approach to ministry. It will give the stages in the development of a team, the skills necessary for effective team membership, the role of the leader, and the view of a church/ministry as a whole, rather than as separate units that may not relate to each other in a meaningful way. There will also be the opportunity to apply learning in the students’ ministry setting and gain feedback from the professor and other students.

Specific objectives include helping students gain:

1. Self-awareness of themselves and how they operate as a team and organizational member
2. Skills in being a team and organizational member
3. Ability to analyze and understand their own teams and organizations
4. The opportunity for real life practice of the above

COURSE FORMAT

1. The course will meet on three weekends in February, March and April
2. The teaching style will include mini-lecture and small/large group discussion
TEXTBOOK


COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Participation/Attendance - 10 points - Students are expected to attend each session and be on time.

2. Team Paper - 25 points - Discuss a sample case from a church/ministry and how teams worked or failed and why. (3 pages)

3. Individual Paper - 25 points - What does my ministry team need to do next in order to develop? (5 pages)

4. Team Presentations - 30 points - A presentation of an aspect of learning teams (i.e., leadership, Biblical basis)

5. Peer Evaluations - 10 points