EM 502: The Educational Ministry of the Church
Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary
Fall 2009: Tuesday & Thursday 8:00-9:30AM
S. Steve Kang: sskang@gcts.edu or 978-646-4082
Office Hours: W 8:00-9:30AM & 10:45AM-12:15PM; T & R 12:30-2:00PM & 2-3PM till 10/30
To sign up, go to: http://docs.google.com/Doc?docid=0AenxFmO48HO9ZGRnaGtweHpfMmd2bTdtZ2Q4&hl=en

Course Description:
This course provides a broad overview of the critical issues concerning the teaching ministry of the church. Students will be challenged to develop a philosophy of educational ministry with a focus on Christian formation. (From the GCTS 2005-07 catalog)

This course will introduce students to the theory and practice of educational ministry, particularly as it is practiced within a Christian formational education framework. This course will proceed in a twofold process: First, the introduction to and analysis of the foundational issues in educational ministry. Second, the exploration of the issues related to conceptualizing, planning, and executing educational ministry where the whole church is considered as the curriculum for the formation of the people of God.

This course aims to encourage students to engage in meaningful praxis by providing ample opportunities for students to (1) explore and design educational experiences based on the theories explored in class, (2) engage in various experiential teaching-learning opportunities, and (3) facilitate meaningful educational experiences and reflect on those experiences. The class is intended to foster a sense of the “learning community” so as to simulate the possible vocational ministry settings faced by students upon graduation.

Course Texts:
Required:
Parrett, Gary and Steve Kang. *Teaching the Faith, Forming the Faithful* (IVP, due to be released in early October)

Selected Bibliography:


Course Expectations:

- **Classroom Attendance and Participation (10%)**
  Students should be ready during each class period to (1) recall the major tenets of the readings and be able to reflect the readings theologically and ethically; (2) raise questions pertaining to the readings and brainstorm educational/ministerial implications on the readings; and (3) actively participate in classroom activities and promote and maintaining the learning community in class.

- **Clues to Intergenerational Educational Ministries Group Paper (10%)**
  In groups of three, students are to research two unique life issues facing one of generations (Builders, Boomers, Busters, or Millennials). Each group is then to: (1) describe two life issues that the generation faces (200 words); (2) postulate how those issues may become avenues through which the church can appropriately create teaching-learning opportunities for that generation (300 words); (3) discuss how that generation can uniquely contribute toward creating an intergenerationally appropriate teaching-learning atmosphere for all the generations in the church and beyond (300 words); and (4) prepare a one page handout for the classmates. **Due: October 22.**

- **Integrative Essay Examination Exercise (40%)**
  Students will take an active and participatory essay examination experience by: (1) submitting four substantial essay questions; (2) studying a list of edited essay questions with classmates; and (3) individually writing the essay examination in class. **December 3.**
- Students are to carefully interact with Teaching the Faith, Forming the Faith and classroom materials/experiences by designing a detailed curriculum of four three-hour EM leaders training sessions, using the categories of the purpose, proclamation, people, and practices as the topics of each of the four sessions, respectively. The instruction to the project will be discussed in class. Students may send the paper electronically (Microsoft Word format only; the instructor will send a reply to your email confirming the receipt of your paper within the two days of receiving the paper.). The paper will be returned electronically with the instructor’s comments later. You may also hand in your paper as a hard copy to the instructor. If you wish your commented paper to be returned to the address other than your campus mailbox, submit the paper in hard copy with a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Due: December 14 by 4PM.

- Late Papers will be docked a letter grade for each day they are late.
- All papers should be in Turabian* format.

### Course Outline:

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading &amp; Assignment</th>
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<tr>
<td>September 15 &amp; 16</td>
<td>- Introduction to the Course</td>
<td>Foundational Issues, Introduction, chs.1-2</td>
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<td>- Purpose in Educational Ministry I</td>
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<td>September 22 &amp; 24</td>
<td>- Purpose in Educational Ministry II</td>
<td>Foundational Issues, Introduction, ch.3-4</td>
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<td>September 29 &amp; October 1</td>
<td>Purpose in Educational Ministry III</td>
<td>Journey to Jesus, Introduction &amp; chs.1-11</td>
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<td>October 6 &amp; 8</td>
<td>- Proclamation in Educational Ministry I</td>
<td>Journey to Jesus, chs.10-16</td>
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<td>October 13 &amp; 15</td>
<td>NO CLASSES</td>
<td>READING WEEK</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 20 &amp; 22</td>
<td>- Proclamation in Educational Ministry III</td>
<td>Clues to Intergenerational Educational Ministries Paper (10/22)</td>
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<td>- People in Educational Ministry I</td>
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<td>October 27 &amp; 29</td>
<td>- People in Educational Ministry II</td>
<td>Is It a Lost Cause? Part I</td>
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<td>- NO CLASS on 10/29</td>
<td>Foundational Issues, ch.5</td>
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<td>November 3 &amp; 5</td>
<td>- People in Educational Ministry III</td>
<td>Is It a Lost Cause? Part II</td>
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<td>November 10 &amp; 12</td>
<td>NO CLASSES</td>
<td>READING WEEK</td>
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<td>November 24 &amp; 26</td>
<td>- Process in Educational Ministry II</td>
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<td>- NO CLASS ON 11/26</td>
<td>THANKSGIVING</td>
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<td>December 1 &amp; 3</td>
<td>- Process in Educational Ministry III</td>
<td>TFFF, pts. I &amp; II</td>
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<td>- Integrative Essay Exam Exercise on 12/3</td>
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<td>December 8 &amp; 10</td>
<td>- Process in Educational Ministry IV</td>
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<td>- Closure</td>
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<td>December 14 Monday</td>
<td>Curriculum Designing for Educational Ministry Leaders Project due at 4pm</td>
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