

**Saint Louis Christian College**  
**PMN 331 Student Ministry**  
**Professor Jon-Michael David Brown I**  
**3 Credit Hours**

Fall Semester 2014  
Prerequisites: none

Wednesday and Friday  
12:00-1:15 pm

**MISSION STATEMENT**

*Saint Louis Christian College pursues excellence in the Word and develops servant leaders for urban, suburban, rural, and global ministry.*

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Students acquire basic training in the student ministries field through the study of the major components of student ministries. Students will investigate multiple methodologies pertaining to the varied activities used when working with youth. Lectures will address a wide variety of topics pertaining to student ministry. Assignments will focus on the practical aspects of student ministry. Step-by-step and how-to information are provided.

**COURSE RATIONALE**

Student ministry is vital to the Church. Studies suggest that the majority of people that do not accept Christ as youth will never do so. Others show that the majority of students growing up in church will never return after graduating high school. This necessitates a great priority on reaching and discipling youth. Traditionally parents accepted this responsibility, but current trends find young people in need of mentors and role models. The church can meet the need with passionate and well-trained student ministers who are willing to invest themselves into the lives of teens. Not only will this see a harvest of fruitful young lives, but brightens the future of the Church through tomorrow's potential leaders. This course directly contributes to the Institutional Student Learning Objectives 1-10 and Divisional Objectives 1-5.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

Upon completion of this course, the learner should be able to:

1. Understand that God is at the center of all successful student ministries.
2. Understand that student ministries are to for the purpose of seeking and saving the lost.
3. Identify the unique issues concerning their target audiences.
4. Develop a comprehensive program that targets all spiritual levels, while fulfilling the purposes of God.
5. Develop a plan for developing non-Christians into mature disciples.
6. Communicate the value of Student focused ministry.
7. Incorporate parents into their student ministry .
8. Recruit and train volunteers within their ministry.
9. Avoid the pitfalls of student ministry.
10. Successfully perform basic student ministry tasks, such as choose curriculums, plan events, write lessons, etc...

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

### 1. *Class Attendance and Participation.*

Each student is expected to attend every class session and participate. No excused absences will be allowed except in the case of family emergencies or other extenuating circumstances. Absences due to school-sponsored activities must be cleared through the Academic Dean (see SLCC catalog for details). Each unexcused absence will result in a 1-point deduction from both the mid-term and final grades (up to 10 points for the semester). Each instance of tardiness or leaving class early without an extenuating circumstance will result in a .5-point deduction from the final grade. Students missing more than 15 minutes of class will be counted as absent for that class session.

Although there is no grade given for class participation, each student should recognize that participation is key to the educational experience. Everyone is expected to ask thoughtful questions, make constructive comments and be respectful of others' involvement.

### 2. *Reading Quizzes (20% of final grade).*

Within the course guide is a schedule of the required reading. Students are responsible to have read the textbook chapters/pages for the day listed. Quizzes may also include information from guest lecturers. There will be daily reading quizzes at the professor's discretion. There will be no make-up quizzes. Each quiz will be worth 10 points, but most will have opportunity for extra points. This will count for a total of 200 points, with extra points carrying over to the overall grade.

### 3. *Youth Ministry Projects. (50% of final grade).*

Students will be required to submit several projects relating to youth ministry. These projects must be typed and submitted at the beginning of class the day they are due. Related topics will be covered in class prior to due date of assignments. The projects are as follows:

- a. **Outreach Strategy.** Students must identify 10 sub-groups of potential youth that they may encounter in youth ministry. They must give a detailed approach/strategy of how they will reach out to these students and be inclusive of their sub-groups within the youth programming. Each of the 10 sub-groups will be graded on identification 1 point, strategy 2 points and inclusion 2 points for a total of 50 points.
- b. **Philosophy of Youth Ministry.** Students should prepare a 4 to 5 page formal paper detailing their philosophy of youth ministry. This should display a clear and accurate understanding of biblical principles relating to youth ministry. Students should also display the need and validity of youth ministry as a specific ministry for today's Church and communities. MLA format should be followed. Papers will be graded on form 10 points, quality of content 10 points, clarity of thought 10 points, and strength of support 20 points for a total of 50 points.
- c. **Youth Meeting.** Students must give a detailed plan for a youth meeting. This should include purposes, activities, songs, message, timeframes, preparations, etc... for a weekly youth meeting. Students are to determine what format and activities they would do. This plan should be detailed enough that another youth volunteer could set up and run the meeting based on the plan. Plans will be graded on relevance to audience 10 points, overall unity 10 points, detail 10 points, strength of purpose 10 points, and achievement of purpose 10 points.
- d. **Bible Study.** Students must prepare a detailed 50–60 minute original bible study for a Sunday School setting. This should include title, topic, objectives, bible verses, study questions, illustrations, application, etc... Study should show both creativity and strong

- biblical exegesis. Study will be graded on strength of exegesis 20 points, clarity and relevance of presentation to youth 20 points, and meeting of requirements 10 points for a total of 50 points.
- e. **Curriculum.** Students are to select a years worth of curriculums for Jr. High and High School Sunday School and weekly meetings. This must include separate Sunday School class curriculums and one weekly meeting for each group. Each should include the lesson topic and scripture references. Students will include an evaluation of why they chose the curriculums or why they chose to make their own. Students must also give evaluations of no less than three curriculums they chose not to use. Curriculum will be graded on evaluation of selection 20 points, quality of selection 20 points, and evaluation of others 10 points for a total of 50 points.
  - f. **Work Schedule.** Students must create a detailed work schedule for youth ministry. This must be well thought out and show a clear and realistic understanding of time demands on the life of the Youth Minister. This should be a Sunday through Saturday schedule based on half hour of less time slots. Study time, staff meetings, planning, outreach, family time, programs, etc... should be considered for the schedule. Schedule will be graded on meeting requirements 10 points, time considerations 20 points and proper inclusion of activities 20 points for a total of 50 points.
  - g. **Calendar.** Students must develop a quarter (3 months) worth of youth calendars. Student may choose the quarter: Sept.-Oct., Dec.-Feb., Mar.-May, Jun.-Aug. This calendar should include all regular and special events for both Jr. High and High School. Calendars should be detailed, as if being mailed out to students and parents. Calendars will be graded on overall programming 20 points, information 20 points, and presentation 10 points for a total of 50 points.
  - h. **Budget and Fundraiser.** Students must write out a detailed and realistic budget. Students should call local congregations to get an idea of realistic budgets for different sized churches. Students should specify what size church the budget is for and include all aspects the ministries expenses. Students may want, but are not required, to use the *Youth Ministry Management Tools* as a template. Students will also come up with 5 detailed fundraisers. Students should explain how the fundraiser will work as well as any planning that will take place. Students should also show a breakdown of how many workers will be needed. Students should show the cost as well as a realistic financial gain per student. Budgets will be graded on overall considerations 10 points, overall distribution 10 points, and overall sensibility 5 points for a total of 25 points. Fundraisers will be graded on fulfillment of requirements and quality of fundraiser 5 points each. For a grand total of 50 points.
  - i. **Youth Event.** Students are to choose and show detailed preparations for a youth event. Students may choose any of the following events or have one approved by the professor at least 2 weeks prior to due date: Weekend Retreat, Mission Trip, Service Project, Lock-In, Youth Rally, Camp, or Concert. This project should cover all aspects of the youth event (i.e. purpose, destination, guidelines, permission forms, cost, attendance requirements, etc... as they apply). Events will be graded on quality of event 25 points and proper planning 25 points for a total of 50 points.
  - j. **Resume.** Students must prepare a formal resume. This resume should be accurate and can, but doesn't have to, be modeled after that in *Youth Ministry Management Tools*. Resume will be graded on presentation 10 points, form 10 points and quality 30 points for a total of 50 points.

#### 4. *Youth Ministry Program. (15% of final grade).*

Students must put together their own unique youth program. This should be in the form of a folder or binder, have a name, and include all the aspects of the youth program. It should be prepared so

that elders, parents, volunteers, and yourself can get a comprehensive overview of what your program looks like and what it is all about. Some previous projects can and should be included. Students should be sure to incorporate aspects of the youth ministry not included in the previous projects (i.e. volunteer recruitment/training, programs and their purposes, discipline, etc...). Programs will be graded on overall programming 75 points, quality of content 50 points, and presentation 25 points for a total of 150 points.

5. *Final Exam (15 % of final grade).*

Students will be given a comprehensive final exam based on the required reading and classroom lectures. There will be a study guide given prior to the final exam. The exam will be worth a total of 150 points.

## COURSE ASSESSMENT

1. The official St. Louis Christian College grading policy will be used as stated in the catalog.
2. The final course grade will be determined as follows:

|                             |                 |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Reading Checks</b>       | <b>200 pts</b>  |
| <b>Projects</b>             | <b>500 pts</b>  |
| Bible Study (50)            |                 |
| Resume (50)                 |                 |
| Work Schedule (50)          |                 |
| Philosophy of YM (50)       |                 |
| Outreach Strategy (50)      |                 |
| Youth Meeting (50)          |                 |
| Youth Event (50)            |                 |
| Curriculum (50)             |                 |
| Calendar (50)               |                 |
| Budget and Fundraisers (50) |                 |
| <b>Youth Program</b>        | <b>150 pts</b>  |
| <b>Final Exam</b>           | <b>150 pts</b>  |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                | <b>1000 pts</b> |

## COURSE SCHEDULE

| Date | Classroom Discussion                | READING*  | ASSIGNMENTS              |
|------|-------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|
| 8/20 | Introduction to Youth Ministry      |           |                          |
| 8/22 | Youth Minister and Youth Ministry   | YW Chp 1  |                          |
| 8/27 | Philosophy of Youth Ministry        | YW Chp 2  |                          |
| 8/29 | Discipleship and Youth Ministry     | YW Chp 3  |                          |
| 9/3  | Small Groups and Youth Ministry     | YW Chp 4  | <b>Outreach Strategy</b> |
| 9/5  | Personal Time and Youth Ministry    | YW Chp 5  |                          |
| 9/10 | <b>NO CLASS: INFINITE INFLUENCE</b> |           |                          |
| 9/12 | Momentum and Youth Ministry         | YW Chp 6  |                          |
| 9/17 | Resources and Youth Ministry        | YW Chp 7  | <b>Philosophy of YM</b>  |
| 9/19 | Deviance and Youth Ministry         | YW Chp 8  |                          |
| 9/24 | Parents and Youth Ministry          | YW Chp 9  | <b>Youth Meeting</b>     |
| 9/26 | Leadership and Youth Ministry       | YW Chp 10 |                          |
| 10/1 | Time Management and Youth Ministry  | MT Chp1-4 | <b>Bible Study</b>       |

|       |                                     |                         |                          |
|-------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 10/3  | <b>NO CLASS: FALL BREAK</b>         |                         |                          |
| 10/8  | Organization and Youth Ministry     | MT Chp5-7               | <b>Curriculum</b>        |
| 10/10 | Planning and Youth Ministry         | MT Chp8-10              |                          |
| 10/15 | Money and Youth Ministry            | MT Chp11-13<br>SC Chp 6 | <b>Work Schedule</b>     |
| 10/17 | Events and Youth Ministry           | MT Chp14-16             |                          |
| 10/22 | Teamwork and Youth Ministry         | MT Chp17-20<br>SC Chp8  | <b>Calendar</b>          |
| 10/24 | Risk and Youth Ministry             | MT Chp21-22             |                          |
| 10/29 | Job Searching and Youth Ministry    | MT Chp23-25             | <b>Budget/Fundraiser</b> |
| 10/31 | Burnout and Youth Ministry          | MT Chp26<br>SC Chp9     |                          |
| 11/5  | Size and Youth Ministry             | SC Intro, Chp1-2        | <b>Youth Event</b>       |
| 11/7  | Tradition and Youth Ministry        | SC Chp3                 |                          |
| 11/12 | Family and Youth Ministry           | SC Chp4                 | <b>Resume</b>            |
| 11/14 | Missions and Youth Ministry (ICOM)  |                         |                          |
| 11/19 | Diversity and Youth Ministry        | SC Chp5                 | <b>Youth Program</b>     |
| 11/21 | Facilities and Youth Ministry       | SC Chp7                 |                          |
| 11/26 | <b>NO CLASS: THANKSGIVING BREAK</b> |                         | <b>Prepare Turkey</b>    |
| 11/28 | <b>NO CLASS: THANKSGIVING BREAK</b> |                         | <b>Eat More Turkey</b>   |
| 12/3  | Approach and Youth Ministry         | SC Chp10-14             |                          |
| 12/5  | Evaluation and Youth Ministry       | SC Chp15                |                          |
| TBA   | <b>FINAL EXAMINATION</b>            |                         |                          |

\*MT – *Youth Ministry Management Tools*

\*SC – *Help! I'm a Small Church Youth Worker*

\*YW – *Youth Work*

## COURSE TEXTS

Grassel, Rich. *Help! I'm a Small Church Youth Worker: Achieving Big-Time Success in a Non-Mega Ministry*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2002.

Olson, Ginny, Diane Elliot, and Mike Work. *Youth Ministry Management Tools*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2001.

Pearson, Don & Paul Santhouse. *Youth Work*. Chicago: Moody, 2009.

## COURSE POLICIES

1. All work is due at the beginning of the class period. No late work will be accepted.
2. Early work is always accepted and appreciated. It may also receive additional points.
3. Plagiarism is unacceptable and unethical. If plagiarism is found in an assignment, the student will receive no credit for that assignment.
4. The instructor reserves the right to modify due dates, assignments and lecture topics as long as it does not add to the students' total workload.

5. All official email communication between professors and students will occur via each student's "myslcc.org" email address.
6. All assignments must be typed.
7. Any assignment may be submitted to the professor early to get feedback before final submission. Assignments submitted later than one week prior to due date may not receive feedback.
8. If you are dissatisfied with a grade you have received on an assignment, you may revise and resubmit your assignment to improve your grade.
9. The SLCC Administration has established the policy that no food is allowed in the classroom; only drinks are permitted.
10. If you have a diagnosed learning disability, please see the professor privately to discuss assessment measures that would enhance your learning ability.

### **INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION**

Professor Jon-Michael David Brown I  
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\*Feel free to contact me outside of my office hours.