All precourse assignments should be emailed to the Course of Study Office by May 1, 2013.

Course Description
This course examines the ministry of the church as a means of nurturing faith, Christian values, and ways of life among members of the congregation and community. Skills for evaluating, planning, and designing educational experiences are stressed, as well as the pastor’s role as mentor and servant.

Course Objectives
1. Emphasis on pastor’s identity as servant and mentor, highlighting the need for pastors to be both teachers and learners
2. Examination of faith development in the light of location, economics, gender, ethnicity, age, generation, and human relationships
3. Survey of the major methodologies for educating Christians, with special stress on developing small-group ministries and on teaching scripture, confirmation, and the basic doctrines of the Christian faith
4. Reflection upon the work of the church as formative for Christian discipleship (personal piety and social justice) and development of an action plan for transforming the life of discipleship and the congregation and community
5. Development of the ability to critically assess curricular materials for theological content and appropriateness to ministry setting

Required Textbooks

Recommended Texts

Assignment 1
Part 1: Read Tye’s “Christian Education in the Small Membership Church”
Assignment 1

Part 2: Tye states “The where and when of Christian education in the small membership church are – everywhere and all the time.” Describe your congregation in terms of:
* the Sunday School (classes, numbers, ages, sizes, curriculum, space)
* the worship service, space, bulletin
* important church events
Indicate in what ways the church is “educating” through each of these programs, services, events, and spaces. (4 to 6 pages)

Assignment 2

Part 1: Read Bruce’s “Our Spiritual Brain: Integrating Brain Research and Faith Development”
(Note: Don’t be intimidated by the title. Barbara Bruce writes in user-friendly language.)

Part 2: Bruce states that religious educators need to know how the brain works and how to use that information “to prepare better and more usable lessons to help students . . . on their faith journey.”
Focusing on (and using) the wealth of information in Section 3 of the book, prepare a Bible study lesson for (1) children or youth AND (2) adults. (3 to 5 pages)

• state the text you have chosen
• indicate the age group
• describe room set-up
• give time schedule
• describe step-by-step plan, including activities
• teach the lesson if you have time
• evaluate
DIRECTIONS FOR EMAILING PRECOURSE WORK

Please read all the directions below before emailing your assignments to the COS Office. Any emails received that do not follow the directions below will not be accepted. You will receive an email confirmation of receipt and if your email is not submitted correctly an email indicating you will need to resend your assignments.

1. Email only michelle.levan@emory.edu, do not email the instructor your assignment.

2. Emails must be received no later than 11:59pm on the May 1, 2013 deadline.
   a. Please note that the cut off time is EASTERN STANDARD TIME zone, so email your assignments accordingly.
   b. Any precourse work received after May 1st at 11:59pm will be subject to a late penalty.
      1. Precourse work received between May 2 – June 1 is 1 letter grade deduction.
      2. Precourse work received between June 2 – June 20 is 2 letter grade deductions.
      3. You will be drop from any course for which precourse work has not been received after June 20, 2013. No precourse work will be accepted after the June 20th deadline.

3. The course number and the phrase “precourse work” should be the subject of your email:
   Example - Precourse Work 113
   a. You will need to send a separate email for each course you are registered to attend.

4. Precourse work must be sent as an attached document and not in the body of the email.
   a. Any version of Microsoft Word or WordPerfect documents will be accepted; PDF and Mac-Pages documents will be accepted.
   b. All of your assignments for each course must be in one document, multiple documents are not acceptable. You should send only one attachment with course all assignments.

5. Your FULL name, phone number and email, should all be clearly included at the beginning of your email:
   Example: Michelle Levan
   404.727.4587
   michelle.levan@emory.edu

6. Plagiarism Policy and Plagiarism Defined paragraphs must be included in the body of your email (both are below), not within your precourse work. The inclusion of the policy and definition in the body of the email, verifies that you agree to it and your email will represent your signature. If the email does not include the plagiarism policy and definition it will not be accepted. Your email, with the plagiarism policy and definition will be printed and used as cover sheet for your precourse work, because it has the verification of date and time received, and your agreement to the plagiarism policy and definition, and your contact information.

   Plagiarism Policy
   I have read the plagiarism definition below and verify that this assignment represents my own work, except where credit is given. I have also made copies of this assignment and I will bring them with me to class in the event that any of my work is misplaced.

   Plagiarism Defined
   “You plagiarize when, intentionally or not, you use someone’s words or ideas but fail to credit that person. You plagiarize even when you do credit the author but use his exact words without so indicating with quotation marks or block indentation. You also plagiarize when you use words so close to those in your source, that if your work were placed next to the source, it would be obvious that you could not have written what you did without the source at your elbow. When accused of plagiarism, some writers claim I must have somehow memorized the passage. When I wrote it, I certainly thought it was my own. That excuse convinces very few.” From page 167 of The Craft of Research by Wayne C. Booth, Gregory G. Colomb, and Joseph M. Williams, published in 1995 by The University of Chicago Press in Chicago.

7. If you do not follow the procedure your precourse work WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED!!!!!!!