YM 624 Youth Ministry Seminar

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YM624—Youth Ministry Seminar

Dr. Cathy Stonehouse, Professor

Reminders:

Dates: The seminar is Monday, December 6, 1999
Times: 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. (coffee & donuts provided before 8:30 a.m.; lunch provided)
Location: The seminar is in Southland Christian Church’s youth building
(direcions will be sent to you later)

Requirements for this course:

1) Time Investment: For one hour of credit, students are required to invest 48 hours by completing requirements 2 through 6. A record of time spent on requirements 3, 5 and 6 totaling 40 hours is due with the integration paper on December 12 in SPO #799. This record should include how long you worked on the observations and interviews; this includes the time taken for set-up and travel. The record should also include the time spent on the integration paper and the reading; include the books read—their title, author and total pages read. As needed, invest additional time in the requirements of your choice to fill out the forty hours.

2) Attendance of the entire seminar is required for credit.

3) Reading: The reading requirement is due December 6. All books can be purchased in the seminary bookstore. The required text is Youth Ministry Handbook by Edward A. Trimmer, Abingdon Press. Additional reading of 300 pages must be taken from your choice of the following books:
   - How to Use Music with Youth: Even If You’re Musically Challenged by Skillabilities, Abingdom Press
   - It Takes a Congregation: How to Gain Support for Youth by Skillabilities, Abingdon Press
   - Overlooked Allies: How to Involve Parents of Youth by Skillabilities, Abingdon Press
   - Saving the Millennial Generation: New Ways to Reach the Kids You Care About in These Uncertain Times by Dawson McAllister and Pat Springle, Thomas Nelson
   - Setting Boundaries with Youth: How to Discipline with Understanding by Skillabilities, Abingdon Press
   - Sunday School CPR: How to Breathe New Life into Sunday Morning by Skillabilities, Abingdon Press
   - Working with Black Youth: Opportunities for Christian Ministry edited by Grant S. Shockley and Charles Foster, Abingdon Press

4) Discussion Group: On December 6, you will meet with an assigned small group for lunch (which is provided) and from 4:00–5:00 p.m. to discuss the seminar. On or before December 6 you will receive your groups, meeting places and questions to guide the discussion for those two meeting times.

5) Observations and Interviews: Due December 6. Using the attached sheets, conduct three interviews—one with a middle school student, one with a high school student, and one with an adult volunteer youth worker. Also using the attached sheets, conduct two observations of youth ministries by contacting local churches and setting that up through their youth pastors such as Wes Olds at Centenary United Methodist Church in Lexington and Rick Durrance at Wilmore United Methodist Church.

6) Integration Paper: From readings, observations and interviews articulate the values and principles that will guide your youth ministry or formulate a philosophy of youth ministry. Show how you could practically use ideas from the seminar to implement those values or that philosophy. Paper should be typed, double-spaced and 8-10 pages. Document sources of ideas. Due: December 12 in SPO #799.
Using this sheet, let the eight questions guide your observation and prompt your thinking.

1) Describe the environment before the program officially begins. What are the students doing? What are the volunteer adults doing? What is the youth pastor doing? What does the room look like?

2) Describe the elements of the program. Is their teaching; how is it? Are their games; what kind and what is the response to them? Are their small groups? Is their music, drama, or video; how is it used?

3) How are students disciplined?

4) How do the students and adult volunteers interact? How do the youth pastor and students interact? How do the youth pastor and adult volunteers interact?

5) Describe the environment after the program ends. What are the students doing? What are the volunteer adults doing? What is the youth pastor doing? What does the room look like?

6) Before, during and after the program, what values or principles in youth ministry are apparent and lived out in this ministry?

7) What things did you like and would try in your own youth ministry?

8) What things would you change and do differently in your own youth ministry?
YM624—Student Interview

Name: ______________________________________  Date & Time: ________________________________

Student’s Name: __________________________________________  Age & Grade: __________________________

Using this sheet, let the eight questions guide your interview and prompt your thinking.

1)  What is your favorite television show and why do you like it?  What is your favorite radio station and why?

2)  What do you do for fun?  on weekends?

3)  What do you like best about school?  What activities are you in at school?

4)  What do you like best about church?  What activities do you participate in at church?

5)  Describe your family.  How do you get along with you parents?  Siblings?

6)  How would you describe God?  How do you relate to God?

7)  How do you feel about the future?  What do you want to do when you grow up?

8)  What are the frustrations and the joys of being your age right now?
YM624—Volunteer Interview

Name: ___________________________  Date & Time: ________________________________
Volunteers Name: ___________________________  Age & Years Volunteered: ______________________

Using this sheet, let the eight questions guide your interview and prompt your thinking.

1) Why did you first start volunteering with youth ministry? Why are you still doing it?

2) What roles have you been involved in? Counselor? Small group leader? Teacher? Music?

3) What are some of the “highs” or joys you’ve experienced in doing youth ministry?

4) What were some of the “lows” or frustrations you’ve experienced in doing youth ministry?

5) What training have you received that was helpful or what training do you wish someone would give you to better equip you for youth ministry?

6) What is the biggest challenge in relating to the students?

7) What is the biggest challenge in relating to the youth pastor?

8) What are some of the things you consider to be important for a youth pastor to provide for you? Communication—administration stuff? Ideas? Layout discipline procedures? Get to know you personally?