I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

A survey of issues, developmental tasks, and biblical principles for contemporary adults. Emphasizes adult learning, both in church and community programs.

II. COURSE GOAL

Most church activities are done for, with and through adults. With the aging of America, adults are entering the spotlight more than ever. Because of these reasons, it is the goal of this course to help students understand and appreciate the developmental characteristics and learning theories and approaches to working with adults, as well as to develop skills related to programming requirements and ministry features.

III. COURSE OBJECTIVES

As a result of this course, students will be able to do the following:
A. describe the basic theories of adult development and aging.
B. explain the needs and developmental issues of young adults, middle-aged, older and single adults.
C. evaluate research and contemporary materials and their significance to ministry with adults.
D. compare and contrast pedagogy and andrology as approaches to teaching adults.
E. demonstrate ability to prepare and present a lesson utilizing adult learning principles.
F. recognize various approaches to education of adults in the community and church.
G. understand and appreciate the differences between men and women and to develop a theological understanding of gender roles.
H. articulate a plan to build strong teaching and program structure for ministry to adults in the local church.
I. develop skill in designing a church program which assists adults to carry out their respective roles in the total life span.

IV. TEXTBOOKS

C. Vital Adult Learning by R. Wade Paschal, Abingdon, 1994. Nashville:

V. COURSE PROCEDURES

Course Expectations

A. Complete reading assignments in each of the textbooks and library resources as assigned.
B. Take two unit examinations and a final examination.
C. Complete one of the following:

   Develop a handbook which could be used in a church program for adults. Although the exact contents
of the handbook will be determined by the student, it should include a statement of philosophy, objectives, and the general administrative structure for the organization of a church educational ministry for adults. It should also show how the church plans to meet its educational objectives for adults through a program designed according to the needs and interests of the age groups of young adults, middle adults, and older adults, as well as the special groups of single adults, men’s groups and women’s groups.

-OR-

Write an 8 to 10 page paper on a selected topic related to adults. Thorough research is expected relative to the subject and its application to the church setting. The student will share general conclusions from his/her research with the class. Prior approval of subject is required. It is expected that current scholarly resources will be consulted. Follow Turabian for style and form. Critical thinking should be evidenced by the conclusions reached.

VI. Course Evaluation

Examinations 50%
Project/Paper 35%
Class activities 15%

D. The course requirements given in this syllabus do not automatically constitute the course requirements for approved incompletes.

VII. BIBLIOGRAPHY


