

Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form.

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## COURSE SYLLABUS

### Course Information

MN4400 Planning New Ministry Ventures, 3 credit hours

### Course Description

An investigation of the processes related to the development of a strategy including, but not necessarily limited to, the identification of opportunities, the design of sustainable models, and funding new venues. Differentiation from other organizations or offerings, as well as the creation of a unique value proposition, are also addressed.

### Course Objectives

By the completion of this course you should be able to:

1. **Identify** biblical values and mandates related to planning new ministry ventures
2. **Explain** the different components that are necessary when planning new ministry ventures
3. **Evaluate** existing ministry ventures/opportunities based on strategic planning principles from Scripture and the readings
4. **Utilize** strategic planning principles to design a ministry opportunity/venture
5. **Appraise** spiritual formation and readiness for ministry involvement through study and writing

### Course Materials (required)

Required textbooks for all Moody Online classes can be found on the [Required Textbooks](#) section of the Moody website.

*NOTE: Additional content or links to Internet content may be required and will be provided in the course*

## Course Work

See the *Syllabus page in the Blackboard course for general assignment instructions.*

All course work is due according to the **Course Checklist**.

1. **CLASS PARTICIPATION:** Active participation is expected in this online course. Participation includes two main areas: discussion boards and reading. **Class Participation** accounts for between **25% and 40% of final course grade**.

**a. Discussion Boards:** You must maintain a significant presence in the discussion board. Please refer to the discussion board rubric included in the Documents section of this course for more information on how your participation in the discussion board will be assessed. Unless otherwise directed, post your initial response to the discussion question by mid-week (**Friday, 11:59 pm CT**). Then read and respond to **at least TWO** of your classmates' initial posts by the end of the week (**Monday, 11:59 pm CT**).

**b. Course Expectations:** The completion of the course reading, audio/video reviews, online articles, etc. is an important part of the course. You are expected to complete the weekly expectations prior to your discussion boards each week so you are able to discuss the concepts with others in the course.

2. **ASSIGNMENTS:**

### Note about Course Structure:

- Weeks 1-4 involve analyzing the components of an *existing* ministry.
- Weeks 5-8 entail creating the components for your own ministry venture (either one you create OR reshape).

**Journal Entries for Week 1 through 8:** Each week the student will write an online journal in Blackboard regarding a topic presented that week.

**Assignment 1-1 Sample Ministry Focus:** Find ONE existing ministry to analyze for this week (Week 1) through Week 4. You may find a ministry on [this webpage](#), or one in your local church or community. Be sure that your choice has available their (1) mission statement, (2) vision statement, (3) core values, and (4) ministry strategy, from their website or printed materials, as well as (5) describing their ministry community or context. Fill out the provided chart, **1-1 Sample Ministry Information**.

**Assignment 1-2 Biblical Foundation for Strategic Planning:** From the Marshall article, select one of the biblical leaders mentioned and write a **TWO page paper** that further elaborates on (1) how the leader employed strategic planning when accomplishing God's call on his/her life. (2) how having a strategic plan impacted their ministry and (3) how was God honored in the process of strategic planning?

**Assignment 2-1 Ministry Venture Assessment:** Based on this week's reading, write a **2-to-3 page** evaluation of the mission, vision and values statements of your selected ministry.

**Assignment 3-1 Ministry Community & Context Report:** Write a **2-to-3 page paper** answering the questions: Who and where are the people that your selected ministry intends to reach or will most likely reach with the gospel, i.e. the focus community? As a part of the paper, you should identify any pre-understandings about your selected community/context that might affect your ministry to them.

**Assignment 4-1 Building Support:** In a **2-to-3 page paper**, provide information on the support that would be required for your selected ministry. In doing so, share the following: (1) A summarized version of your biblical theology of finances and stewardship raising support; (2) Information on tools and/or training provided by the ministry to help with your support raising process, that is, some ministries have a specific raising support model that they require those who work with them to use; and, (3) Any challenges that you might encounter in raising your ministry support.

**Assignment 5-1 Your Ministry's Mission, Vision and Value Statements:** Write a **THREE** page paper with the mission, vision and core value statements for a ministry venture/opportunity that you would like to create OR reshape. In the Malphurs Appendix, there is a personal core value assessment that might be helpful to you as you compose your own value statement. (p. 344)

**Note:** To do a good job, this assignment will take time. More importantly, it will require you to spend time with God, seeking His wisdom. After all, it is His ministry.

**Assignment 6-1 Your Ministry's Community Analysis:** Write a **THREE** page paper describing your ministry community and setting as well as a plan of how you intend to serve. Be sure to mention any potential challenges that might be faced as you attempt to reach the particular context.

**Assignment 7-1 Your Ministry's Support Plan:** Create a **TWO** page paper that describes your ministry support plans. This should include the following:

1. Details about your dream team (for example make mention of character traits, skillset etc.);
2. An outline of the financial needs of your ministry. For example, a ministry budget;
3. At least one fundraising venture to raise financial support.

**Assignment 8-1 Your Ministry's Strategic Ministry Plan:** Write a strategic plan for your original ministry venture. In the document, add all the components that you have been working on since Week 5. After you have edited assignments 5-1, 6-1 & 7-1 according to comments made by your instructor, please add the revised versions to your Strategic Plan in this order, adding an executive summary at the beginning::

**Executive Summary:** Include a brief summary of this document at the beginning under the heading Executive Summary. This will give the reader a **1/2-1 page (150-300 words)** overview of your ministry plan without reading the entire document. [How to write and executive summary.](#)

**Section A.** Mission Statement (from 5-1)

**Section B.** Vision Statement (from 5-1)

**Section C.** Value Statement (from 5-1)

**Section D.** Ministry Community Analysis (incl. discipleship Process, from 6-1)

**Section E.** Ministry Support Plan (incl. team members and raising finances with your

ministry budget, from 7-1)

**Assignment 8-2 Raising Support Presentation:** Do a **3-5 minutes video/audio/PowerPoint with audio** of your new ministry venture. Your presentation should be primarily geared towards inviting people to support you in this ministry by clearly communicating the ministry vision, the ministry community, and the support needed (e.g. money, team members, prayer partners, etc.)

### Assessments

Your grade for this course will consist of:

Assessments (# in parentheses)	% of Total
<b>Class Participation:</b> Discussions (8) + Study Assignments	<b>25%</b>
<b>Journals</b> (1-3, 2-2, 3-2, 4-2, 5-2, 6-2, 7-2, 8-3)	<b>15%</b>
<b>Analyzing an existing ministry's components:</b>	
1-1 Ministries Opportunities Inventory (chart)	<b>5%</b>
1-2 Biblical Foundation for Strategic Planning (2-3 pages)	<b>5%</b>
2-1 Ministry Ventures (2-3 pages)	<b>5%</b>
3-1 Ministry Community & Context Report (2-3 pages)	<b>5%</b>
4-1 Building Support (2-3 pages)	<b>5%</b>
<b>Creating components for your own ministry:</b>	
5-1 Your Mission, Vision and Value Statements	<b>5%</b>
6-1 Your Ministry Community Analysis	<b>5%</b>
7-1 Your Ministry Support Plan	<b>5%</b>
8-1 Your Strategic Ministry Plan (complete)	<b>10%</b>
8-2 Raising Support Presentation (video)	<b>10%</b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>100%</b>

**\*Note:** This course uses the weighted percentages to determine your final grade.

Letter grades are determined by the following scale:

Letter Grade	Percentage Equivalent	Letter Grade	Percentage Equivalent
A	96% or higher	C	73 - 76.9%
A-	90 - 95.9%	C-	70 - 72.9%
B+	87 - 89.9%	D+	67 - 69.9%
B	83 - 86.9%	D	63 - 66.9%
B-	80 - 82.9%	D-	60 - 62.9%
C+	77 - 79.9%	F	Below 60%