COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION
A course designed to prepare the participant for presentation of an acceptable project prospectus to the D.Min. Project Committee. Components of a prospectus, research methodologies, and writing strategies are explored and applied.

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES
At the conclusion of this course, the participant should be able to:

Cognitive Outcomes
1. Differentiate the roles of the doctoral project team: participant, editor, biblical adviser, project adviser, project coordinator, D.Min. Critique team, and outside reader.
2. Analyze the required components of the project prospectus and final project.
3. Identify a ministry problem or opportunity.
4. Synthesize foundational research themes that will be developed to address the project’s problem or opportunity. The biblical-theological and general literature themes should reflect the participant’s depth of theological and professional insights in relation to ministry.

Character/Attitude Outcomes
1. Gain confidence in planning the work and working the plan: taking a large task and breaking it down into doable components to strategize for success.
2. Articulate a deepened appreciation for the myriad skills needed for completion of the project: personal leadership, time management, critical thinking, doctoral-level writing, working with teams, clear communication, enhanced technology, etc.
3. Expect the empowerment of the Holy Spirit for the task ahead, carried out with character reflecting the fruit of the Spirit.

Skill Outcomes
1. Design a project implementation that will seek to provide the most effective solution to the project’s ministry problem or opportunity.

*The ending time on Friday depends on when the prospectus critique time finishes; this depends on size of each class.*
2. Write a detailed Description of the Proposed Project, including the necessary components of the project’s Scope and Timetable for completing all phases of the project.
3. Devise an evaluative tool for assessing the project’s implementation.
4. Compile a bibliography of appropriate resources that will support the research component of the project.
5. Create an approved written project prospectus.

DOCTOR OF MINISTRY PROJECT STANDARDS
The current project standards as stipulated by the Association of Theological Schools are:

The program shall include the design and completion of a written doctoral-level project that addresses both the nature and the practice of ministry. The project should be of sufficient quality that it contributes to the practice of ministry as judged by professional standards and has the potential for application in other contexts of ministry.

The ministry project should demonstrate the candidate’s ability to identify a specific topic in ministry, organize an effective research model, use appropriate resources, and evaluate the results, and should reflect the candidate’s depth of theological insight in relation to ministry.

Upon completion of the doctoral project, there shall be an oral presentation and evaluation. The completed written project, with any supplemental materials, should be accessioned in the institution’s library.

COURSE METHODOLOGY
This course includes faculty instruction and mentoring, online resources, guest speakers, library research, and peer review sessions.

COURSE TEXTBOOKS

  This handbook includes key documents you will need in the research and writing of your doctoral project. Download it before class and read through it carefully.

The D.Min. Department recommends to new participants that they purchase several writing resource books at the beginning of their program and utilize these books throughout their studies. If you have not yet done so, please purchase the following books in preparation for the Project Class:


Introductory Research text that will assist you in beginning your biblical-theological literature review:

• Fee, Gordon, and Douglas Stuart. *How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2014. (Read chapters 1 and 2 before coming to class.)

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

*Pre-Session Assignments*

1. **(Three months out) By July 16**, read the reference **textbooks**, highlighting useful information.
   a. Handbook – Read this *carefully*. It will be your Guide for the next year-and-a-half.

   b. Begin reading reference works - Though these are reference works rather than cover-to-cover required reading for the course, familiarity with content prior to class will assist you in the production of your project prospectus due the end of Project Design week.

   c. Begin reading introductory Bible and Theology book (Fee and Stuart) – Read this prior to class.

   d. **D.Min. Participant Resources** Web page: [http://www.agts.edu/dmin/project/index.html](http://www.agts.edu/dmin/project/index.html). Familiarize yourself with this material and make a list of any questions you have relative to any of the following documents or others posted at the D.Min. Participant Resources site:
      o Writing and Editorial Resources (esp. the D.Min. Writing Style Guide)
      o [http://www.agts.edu/dmin/project/DMin-Writing-Style-Guide_June-2017.pdf](http://www.agts.edu/dmin/project/DMin-Writing-Style-Guide_June-2017.pdf) Samples and Templates (especially the *whole project template* and *project outline*)
      o Project Design Class Prospectus Resources (esp. the prospectus template and samples)
      o Research Resources (esp. the Biblical-Theological Resource)
      o Symposium, Graduation, and Alumni Resources (esp. full sample projects and alumni abstracts)

2. **(Three months out) By July 16** Download the **draft prospectus template** and **read the posted sample prospectuses** located here: [http://www.agts.edu/dmin/project/project_design_class.html](http://www.agts.edu/dmin/project/project_design_class.html).

3. **(Two months out) By August 16**, email Dr. Olena to schedule your **Project Design phone interview**. This will be a time to discuss your project idea, discuss adviser choices, and help set you up for success in writing your draft prospectus that will be due **September 16**.
4. **(Five weeks out)** **By September 11, confer with biblical adviser and project advisers.** This must be an individual with a terminal degree who has competency in your specific area of study. It must also be an individual accessible and available to you during your project phase. You may query that individual to determine his or her availability and willingness to assist; however, the D.Min. office will provide final approval of your project adviser the week of Project Design. As soon as you have someone in mind, contact Dr. Olena to discuss that choice. **Also confer with her about a biblical adviser to advise you on chapter 2.** Ideally, you should be able to confer with your potential adviser(s)—biblical and project advisers—**before** Project Design about your research themes.

5. **(One month out)** **By September 16,** **Submit draft prospectus** of the project that you envision. Follow the [AGTS D.Min. Project Design Handbook](#) sections on writing your prospectus to know how to include the required elements in your prospectus. **This draft (at least five pages double-spaced plus the single-spaced bibliography) is due to Dr. Olena via e-mail (lolena@agts.edu) by September 16, 2017 for her initial edit/critique.**

When Dr. Olena receives your draft, she will send it to one of our approved D.Min. editors who will then make changes. Dr. Olena will then add her critique to that document and return it to you for pre-class changes. The editor will send you an invoice directly.

**In-Session Assignments**
Your prospectus will be revised throughout the week of Project Design. The more you have prepared prior to class, however, the less stressful the week will be as you ready your prospectus for its approval on the last day of class—and the more time you will have in the AGTS library to find additional suitable sources.

By 3 PM Thursday of the week of class, you will submit your revised draft to Dr. Olena, who will send it on to the respective members of the Critique Team to review it on Thursday evening in preparation for our Friday critique team session. (See p. 16 of your [Project Design Handbook](#) for further details.)

**Post-Session Assignments**
Any changes needed to the prospectus will be due two weeks after class, by which time you will re-submit the prospectus to Dr. Olena. Prospectuses will be due **November 3, 2017.**

**COURSE OVERVIEW**
A detailed outline of the week’s schedule will be presented to participants on the first day of class.

**COURSE GRADING**
All grades will be awarded using the AGTS D.Min. Grading Scale. Upon receipt of a final, approved prospectus, a grade of “S” will be recorded for each participant.
CELL PHONE POLICY
Please turn off cell phones before the beginning of class. Out of respect for your fellow students, as well as the professor, please do not talk on the phone or text during class.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY
It is assumed that students at AGTS will endeavor to be honest and of high integrity in all matters pertaining to Seminary life. A lack of respect and integrity is evidenced by cheating, fabricating, plagiarizing, misusing facilities, removing books and other property not one’s own, and disrupting classes.

Cheating is defined as intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise. It is assumed that whatever work is submitted is the student’s own work and is new work for that course. Fabrication is defined as intentional and unauthorized falsification or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise or form. Plagiarism is defined as representing the words or ideas of another as one’s own in any academic exercise. One who facilitates any of the above is equally responsible with the primary violator.¹

Penalties may include restitution, an “F” on an individual paper, exam, or course; loss of campus employment; disciplinary probation; removal from extracurricular activities; and suspension.
—AGTS Student Handbook.

NON-DISCRIMINATORY LANGUAGE
Students should use non-discriminatory language in all written and spoken communication in this class. For specific guidelines, see the Student Handbook at http://www.agts.edu/community/student_handbook/2012studenthandbook912.pdf.

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION
As defined in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Assemblies of God Theological Seminary at Evangel University is committed to the provision of reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If AGTS students believe they qualify for accommodations, they should contact the AGTS Student Life Office, Room 218, telephone extension 8881.

AGTS MISSION STATEMENT
The purpose of AGTS is to train men and women to fulfill the mission of the church as taught in Scripture—Shaping servant leaders with knowledge, skill and passion to revitalize the church and evangelize the world in the power of the Spirit.

EVANGEL UNIVERSITY MISSION STATEMENT
Evangel University is a comprehensive Christian university committed to excellence in educating and equipping students to become Spirit-empowered servants of God who impact the Church and society globally.

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY
Additional bibliographical resources are listed in the D.Min. Project Design Handbook.

SPECIFIC DATA
Prepared by Dr. Lois E. Olena, June 27, 2017