

**Presbyterian Theological College MA intensive course (2010)**  
***Church Planting EM 764***

**Date and time: 26/7/2010-30/7/2010 (Monday to Friday)**

Date	Time: morning session	Afternoon session
26/7/2010	9am -11am (Registration)	
26/7/2010 (Monday)	11am -1pm	2pm-4pm
27/7/2010 (Tuesday)	9am -1pm	2pm-4pm
28/7/2010(Wednesday)	9am -1pm	2pm-4pm
29/7/2010 (Thursday)	9am -1pm	2pm-4pm
30/7/2010 (Friday)	9am -1pm	off

Total lecture hours: 26

**Course description:**

**Classification:** Missiology/Inter-cultural Studies Elective

**Lecturer:** The Rev Professor S. H. Larsen

**Credit Points:** Eight

**Prerequisites:** None

**SUMMARY**

**Purpose**

The purpose of the unit is to give students an opportunity to evaluate critically the issues, theory, and model of church planting from biblical and theological perspectives, and to apply practical insights to ministry situations.

**Aims**

The aim of this unit is to help students to appreciate and evaluate different models and theories of church planting, and to respond to issues of church planting from biblical and theological perspectives.

**Outcomes**

At the end of the unit, candidates should:

- be able to identify the major biblical principles and theology of church planting
- be able to evaluate contemporary models of church planting from around the world from biblical and theological perspectives
- be able to undertake a research program within a specific community or region in the world with a view to planting a church
- be able to design a strategy for the establishment of a new local church within a specified community
- be able to apply the biblical and theological principles to respond to current issues of church planting in the 21st century.

## **METHOD AND CONTACT HOURS**

This unit will be taught in a five day intensive course, giving a total of 26 class hours. Students will be required to complete 500 pages of prescribed pre-reading together with a 1,000 words critical review from the prescribed reading for presentation to the class.

## **OUTLINE OF THE CONTENT**

1. Biblical principles relating to church planting; the New Testament concept of the church; the constituent features of a Christian congregation; the teaching and example of Paul and the apostles; the theology of church and its implications for church planting.
2. Church planting models; urban and rural models; cross-cultural church planting; cell church planting, emerging church, missional church.
3. Identifying potential church planting situations; research methodologies; the interpretation and application of research results.
4. Issues in Church planting process: preparation; personnel & structure; leadership style; contextualization
5. Approaches to strategy development; the model of church planters needed; appropriate evangelism and Bible teaching; training for growth and reproduction.

## **ASSESSMENT**

**1. Pre-course** Completion of a 1,000 word critical review of one of two following prescribed texts. Special attention should be focused on the evaluation of biblical and theological foundation of the text and cultural relevance in Australian context. 15%. Due date: 28<sup>th</sup> July, 2010.

Hirsch, Alan, *The Forgotten Ways: Reactivating the Missional Church* (Brazos, 2007)

Stetzer, E. *Planting Missional Churches* (Broadman & Holman, 2006)

**2. Post-course** Completion of a 3,000 word church planting research project on a community or region proposed by the student and approved by the lecturer. You may either choose to evaluate an established church planting project or to formulate a new church planting project for a community. Relevant addresses to biblical, theological and cultural references are expected. 35%. Due date: 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2010

**3. Post-course** Completion of a 4,000 word essay on an aspect of the course, the exact topic to be determined by the student and the lecturer during the intensive part of the course. 50%. Due date: 3<sup>0th</sup> November, 2010.

**Lecturer: The Rev Professor S. H. Larsen, B.S., M.Div., D.Min., Ph.D.**



Samuel Patterson Professor of Missions, Dir. of Ph.D., Vice Principle of Intl. Doctoral Programs, Academic Dean, Reformed Theological Seminary, Atlanta; USA.

Dr. Samuel Larsen, Samuel Patterson Professor of Missions and Evangelism, is known for his contagious love for Christ and for global missions. He holds a Doctor of Ministry Degree from Reformed Theological Seminary and a Doctor of Philosophy in Intercultural Studies from Trinity International University. A graduate of the United States Naval Academy, Dr. Larsen once served as naval line officer with the rank of Commander. Called to the Gospel ministry, he completed seminary and served as a missionary first in Kenya and later in Australia. Dr. Larsen subsequently served again on active duty as a Navy Chaplain until his retirement from the Navy in 1996. He has had pastoral and urban church planting experience on three continents and is a former church planting team leader and regional director with Mission to the World. He has also had previous teaching experience both at the United States Naval Academy and as dean of a theological college in Australia. Professor Larsen's special interests are globalization and contextualization issues and intercultural education.

Those who are interested please contact:

Registrar Sophia Urbano ([registrar@presbytercollege.org](mailto:registrar@presbytercollege.org), 03 9898 9384) or  
Post graduate coordinator Rev Dr Tony Bird ([birdt@presbyteriancollege.org](mailto:birdt@presbyteriancollege.org)) for  
enrolment or further information.