YMIN237: Ministry to Families with Teenagers
Fall 2009 – 2 Units
Tuesday/Thursday 8:00-9:15am.
August 27 – November 12

Instructor: Fritz T. Moga
Office: (916) 577-2263; email: fmoga@jessup.edu

Required Text: Hurt: Inside the World of Today’s Teenagers.

Course Description: An in depth exploration of the concept and practice of effective ministry to families in the local church. Emphasis will be on family enrichment programs designed to strengthen and equip families in developing healthy family relationships.

Objectives: At the end of the semester the student will be able to:
1. Evaluate their past experiences with churches and ministries in light of new information on family ministry.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the state of today’s teenagers and families.
3. Identify the basic principles and techniques of designing and leading a ministry to families program.
4. Apply information learned about the components of family ministry by making recommendations for building a ministry to families to a current ministry.

Course Requirements:
1. The student will read the course text book, answer assigned questions and contribute in class discussion on the themes of the book. Late papers will be accepted at half credit. Due on various dates.
2. There will be two exams: a midterm (Tuesday, October 1st) and a comprehensive final (Thursday, November 12th at 8:00). The test material will come from the reading of the text, classroom lectures and discussions, and life experiences.
3. The student will complete the Ministry to Families in the Church project and turn it in by Tuesday, November 3rd. The paper should be typed, double-spaced with one-inch margins in a standard twelve-point font. The project includes three parts: (see attached sheet for more specific requirements)
   a. The student will evaluate the current ministry to families’ opportunities and programs at a church.
   b. The student will meet with a parent or parents and their teen and complete a Family Survey of Needs.
   c. The student will then compile proposed recommendations to the church based upon the current structure of the church, the Family Needs Survey and the information gained through class lectures.

Additional Information:
1. Regular and prompt attendance in class is expected. Class sessions are important for fulfilling the objectives of this course. A student may miss 20% of class (4 class sessions). After that they will be dropped one-half grade for every absence following. There are no differences between excused and unexcused absences, with the exception of a death in the family. It is in the best interest of the student to attend class faithfully. Tardiness counts as one-half of an absence.
2. Exams may not be taken at any time other than the time indicated without the prior approval of the instructor.
3. **Assignments are due at the beginning of class.** Late assignments will be lowered one letter grade for each day late unless prior arrangements are approved by the instructor well in advance. The grade will be lowered until it reaches 50% of the original points.

4. The various assignments will count toward the final grade as follows:
   - Text book reading, questions and discussion 100 points
   - Midterm 100 points
   - Ministry to Families in the Church 250 points
   - Final 200 points
   - **Total** 650 points

   **Grading Scale:**
   - 100-90% = A, 89-80% = B, 79-70% = C, 69-65% = D, 64% or lower = F

5. **Office Hours:** Monday and Wednesday’s 1:00-3:00 or by appointment. Please contact me with any problems you may be having related to the course and the materials covered.

6. Computers are to be used for classroom purposes only (taking notes, checking web pages when appropriate). Anyone found to be using a computer for ANY other reason will NOT be allowed to use a computer in class.

7. Honesty in all matters is a valued principle at William Jessup University; therefore, any form of academic dishonesty, which includes cheating, plagiarism and falsification of documents, constitutes a breach of trust. No form of academic dishonesty will be tolerated.
   a. Plagiarism is the use of another’s words, information or ideas without giving credit to that person. This includes copying, quoting, or taking ideas from published material. Please be careful and document all sources.

8. Students and faculty are to show appropriate respect for each other even when divergent viewpoints are expressed in the classroom. Such respect does not require agreement with or acceptance of divergent viewpoints.

**Course Schedule:**

**TUESDAY**

**THURSDAY**

**August**

27 – Introduction: Family Survey

**September**

1 – Understanding Teenagers Today (pt 1)

3 – Understanding Teenagers Today (pt 2)

**HURT Chapter 1:** “The Changing Face of Adolescents”

8 – What is a Family: Cultural Shifts

10 – Families Today…Better or Not?
   - Biblical Foundations for Families

15 – Characteristics of a Healthy Home

17 – Goal of Parenting (pt 1)

**HURT Chapter 2:** “Abandonment – The Defining Issue for Contemporary Adolescents”

22 – Goal of Parenting (pt 2)

24 – The Churches’ Responsibility (pt 1)

**HURT Chapter 6:** “Family”

**Midterm Review**

**October**

29 – The Churches’ Responsibility (pt 2)

1 – Midterm Exam
6 – Ministry to Families: Building Credibility with Parents

13 – Communication: Parents Meetings and Survey of Needs

HURT Chapter 3: “The World Beneath”

15 – Communication: Calendar, Newsletter

HURT Chapter 9: “Busyness and Stress”

20 – Activities & Budgeting for Ministry to Families

HURT Chapters 4, 5, 7: “Peers, School, Sports”

22 – Equipping: Seminar and Training Ideas

HURT Chapters 8, 10, 11: “Sex, Ethics and Morality and The Party Scene”

27 – Training and Equipping: Training Parents for Spiritual Nurture in the Home

29 – Partnering with Parents: Levels of Involvement

November

3 – Partnering with Parents: Support Ministries

HURT Chapter 12: “What do Midadsols Need?”

Ministry to Families Project DUE

5 – Partnering with Parents: Final Challenge

HURT Chapters 13: “Five Strategies to Turn the Tide of Systematic Abandonment”

FINAL REVIEW

10 – No Class

12 – FINAL 8:00-9:15am

Bibliography:


**Webography:**

Search Institute  
Understanding Your Teenager  
Center for Youth and Family Ministry  
Center for Parent/Youth Understanding  
Family Style Film Guide  
Parents TV  
Music Reviews  
Dove Foundation  
Family Research Council  
Children’s Defense Fund  
Family Dynamics Institute  
Focus on the Family (Dobson)  
Real Families (Lehman)  

[www.search-institute.org](http://www.search-institute.org)  
[www.uyt.com](http://www.uyt.com)  
[www.cyfm.org](http://www.cyfm.org)  
[www.cpyu.org](http://www.cpyu.org)  
[www.familystyle.com](http://www.familystyle.com)  
[www.parentsTV.org](http://www.parentsTV.org)  
[www.crosswalk.com](http://www.crosswalk.com) and [www.music-critic.com](http://www.music-critic.com)  
[www.dove.org](http://www.dove.org) movie, music, video game reviews  
[www.frc.org](http://www.frc.org)  
[www.childrensdefense.org/everyday.htm](http://www.childrensdefense.org/everyday.htm)  
[www.familydynamics.net](http://www.familydynamics.net)  
[www.family.org](http://www.family.org) or [www.pluggedinonline.com](http://www.pluggedinonline.com)  
[www.realFamilies.com](http://www.realFamilies.com)