

Equip Biblical Institute

Church Planting * Team Leadership * Pastors Institute

2100 Greenfield Drive, El Cajon, CA 92019



Planting Healthy Churches

Professor:

Training Center City:

Semester and Year:

Course Description

This course focuses on how to plant healthy, evangelistic, Bible-centered churches. Topics include understanding cultures and church planting models, starting right, personnel, and the process of church planting and growth. Students will create visual projects and applications for transformational discipleship and leadership.

Course Design

This 14-week course is designed to equip pastors, church planters, and next-generation leaders with Bible knowledge, Christian character, servant leadership, and disciple-making skills with the goal of life-change. It addresses the learning styles of adults through active discussion, charts, visuals, Internet resources, team-building, and presentations. To ensure transfer of credit, changes to this course syllabus must be approved by both Equip Biblical Institute and Southern California Seminary. Over 1,200 leaders have completed EBI courses. *Suggestions for improving course design are appreciated.*

Required Textbooks

- 1. *Jeremiah Study Bible*. Annotated by Dr. David Jeremiah. Worthy Publishing, 2013. CBD or 9781936034895
- Dr. Aubrey Malphurs. Planting Growing Churches for the 21st Century: A Comprehensive Guide for New Churches and Those Desiring Renewal, 3rd ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2004. CBD 9780801065149
- Dr. Ed Stetzer. Viral Churches: Helping Church Planters Become Movement Makers. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass, 2010. <u>CBD</u> 9780470550458

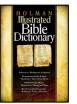
Additional Books for Pastors, Leaders, and Advanced Students

- Dr. Ed Stetzer. Lost and Found: The Younger Unchurched and the Churches That Reach Them. Nashville, TN: B&H, 2009. CBD 9780805448788
- Dr. Daniel R. Sanchez and Dr. Ebbie C. Smith. Growing Healthy Churches: New Directions for Church Growth in the 21st Century. Fort Worth, TX. Church Starting Network, 2014. <u>9781505527391</u>

Internet Resources http://sendme.namb.net/church-planting and http://www.malphursgroup.com and www.leestrobel.com and www.gotquestions.org,













Professors – Click here to receive the Notes by email. The intent of this course is to equip you with the Word of God, to strengthen your character and integrity, and to develop your relational and servant-leadership skills for the glory of God.



Learning Outcomes

The student who successfully completes this course will be able to implement 2 Timothy 2:2:

- 1. Apply and teach how to become a missionary church by serving the community around you.
- 2. Apply and teach how to develop core values in your leadership team.
- 3. Apply and teach how to listen to your community.
- 4. Apply and v to reach young adults in your community.
- 5. Apply and teach how to create a deep sense of belonging, service to the community, and worship experiences that connect with young adults in your community.
- 6. Apply and teach how to incorporate spiritual formation, mentoring, and disciple-making.
- 7. Apply and teach how to help church planters become movement makers.
- 8. Participate in a group or individual presentation, project, PowerPoint, mind-map, visuals, webpage, or YouTube video on a chapter in one of the textbooks.
- Type a 10- to 15-page term paper titled "Applications from Planting Healthy Churches for Leadership and Character Development."
- 10. Equip others to develop Christian character through our identity in Christ, gratitude for the Gospel, the spiritual disciplines, personal revival, the fruit of the Spirit, and the seven virtues with the goal of transformational discipleship.

Methods of Instruction

Instruction emphasizes active learning, problem-based learning, project-based learning, presentation-based learning, team-based learning, reflection, discussion, interactive lecture, collaboration, visuals, term papers, and exams, with the goal of long-term and real-world learning that results in life-change and leadership skills. The major pedagogical premise of this course is that students should be treated like the servant-leaders they are becoming.

Dr. Gary C. Woods has served as the Bible Department Chairman and Registrar at Southern California Seminary. Dr. Woods has taught for Liberty University, Luther Rice Seminary, San Diego Christian College, and Southern California Seminary. He has a Doctor of Education in Technology and Learning from Alliant International University, a Master of Divinity in Missions from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and a Bachelor of Science in Cross-Cultural and Pastoral Ministry from Liberty University. He has served as a pastor and church planter with the North American Mission Board, and as an elected governing board member of GUHSD with over 20,000 high school students.

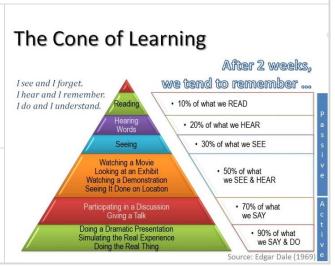


Accelerated Adult Learning Strategies

Authentic learning involves observation, interpretation, and application. The goal of *balanced instruction* is to address the learning strengths of adult learners, including verbal, visual, musical, logical, kinesthetic, reflective, interpersonal, natural, and spiritual. *Student-centered instruction* is most effective when it impacts the mind, will, and emotions.

TEAM-based Active Learning Principles

Students are encouraged to study in teams to develop application skills, leadership/relational skills, and presentations. Students are not to give answers to co-learners, but help them learn how to find the answers. TEAM = Together Everyone Accomplishes More.



Student Requirements

First, answer the **questions** in the **portfolio** before class. This will assist student-leaders in focusing on core information and developing the time-on-task study skills and writing skills essential to effective learning and long-term memory. Each student must do his or her own work.

Second, maintain the **journal** in the portfolio. (1) What is God teaching you in this session? (2) How are you going to apply these concepts to your life, family, and ministry? (3) How can your church apply these concepts to making disciples and developing leaders? This will assist student-leaders in developing reflection, application, and decision-making skills essential to spiritual growth.

Third, participate in the **discussion** of the questions and applications in the portfolio during class. Through discussion students learn from one another and sharpen one another as iron sharpens iron. This will assist student-leaders in developing the relational, speaking, and creative/critical thinking skills essential to effective teaching and servant-leadership.

Fourth, complete the **midterm exam**. This will assist student-leaders in developing long-term memory through multiple reviews of the core material.

Fifth, participate in an individual or **group presentation** on one of the chapters in the textbooks. The ability to make engaging presentations will multiply your influence, leadership, teaching, and preaching. Discuss applications found in that book. This presentation can be a PowerPoint, drama, role-play, charts, or drawings. This will assist student-leaders in developing the creative/critical thinking and teamwork skills essential to effective teaching and servant-leadership. Week 13

Sixth, type a 10- to 15-page **term paper** titled "Applications from Planting Healthy Churches for Leaders." The ability to write well will multiply your influence, leadership, teaching, and preaching. Footnote all the ideas, paraphrases, and direct quotes in your paper, whether from books or the Internet. Font should be Times New Roman 12. Include illustrations and charts. This will assist student-leaders in developing the creative/critical thinking and writing skills essential to effective biblical teaching, preaching, and servant-leadership. Week 13

Seventh, complete the **final exam** in the portfolio. This will assist student-leaders in developing long-term memory through multiple reviews of the core material and in focusing on transformational leadership and teaching skills. Week 14

Course Objective Is Life Change

Our mission is to bring glory to God by assisting local churches to equip believers to live and minister biblically based on the inerrant Word of God. This equipping includes Bible knowledge, Christian character, and ministry skills. The objective is to take student-leaders from where they are and move them to where they need to be. Students will learn how (1) to read with their brains; (2) to remember what they have read; (3) to sharpen their thoughts through journaling; (4) to speak effectively before others; (5) to work as learning teams of leaders; and (6) to biblically apply what they are learning to life, family, and ministry.

Accelerated Adult Learning Techniques

Adults learn in unique ways and so this course incorporates multiple learning styles. According to the **Cone of Learning**, writing, discussing, and applying concepts are the keys to accelerated adult learning. The portfolio is foundational to learning because students remember more of what they write, discuss, and apply. By applying these principles of champion learners, students will experience transformational growth. Welcome to the accelerated disciple-making process!

Session	Date	Professor Responsibilities	Student Responsibilities
1		The Definition of Church Planting The Reasons for Church Planting Go over this syllabus and the portfolio. Preview the study guides for the exams. Discuss the appendix and the Church Planter's Workbook on page 265. Discuss portfolio questions and journal applications. Demonstrate how to get the most out of the textbooks. Group activity: Create a visual summary or mind-map of one of these chapters. Review in class: https://edstetzer.com/, http://larryosbornelive.com/; www.leestrobel.com; www.joelcomiskeygroup.com/articles; www.malphursgroup.com/; http://thomrainer.com/; http://thomrainer.com/; http://thrivingsmallgroups.com/ It is imperative that professors help students improve their term papers and character through coaching, feedback, encouragement, examples, and rubrics. These are crucial learning and leadership skills. Go over the Transformational Discipleship Covenant.	 Print 226 Planting Healthy Churches portfolio and notes. Pay the honorarium to the director. Skim the textbooks and be prepared to discuss how these books are unique as learning tools. Study chapters 1-2 and Appendix A in <i>Planting Growing Churches</i>. Sign-up for the eNewsletter at http://www.malphursgroup.com. Explore the resources at https://edstetzer.com/, http://larryosbornelive.com/; www.joelcomiskeygroup.com/articles; www.malphursgroup.com/; http://thomrainer.com/; http://thrivingsmallgroups.com/. Type the answers to the portfolio questions and journal applications in preparation for the discussion and group activity. Begin writing the term paper. Read <i>The Baptist Faith and Message</i> in Resources at http://www.sbc.net. Share what you are learning with your apprentice disciples.
2		The Funds for Church Planting The Assumptions of Church Planting Welcome guests and encourage students to share what they have learned so far. Discuss portfolio questions and applications. Coach students on how to improve their term papers and transformational church planting skills in class. Group activity: Create a visual summary or mind-map of one of these chapters. Remind students that as royal priests and spiritual warriors it is our privilege and duty to pray for people by name.	 Study chapters 3-4 and Appendix B in Planting Growing Churches. Explore the resources at http://www.malphursgroup.com. Explore Internet resources on this topic to share with the class. Type the answers to the portfolio. Work on the term paper. Review the study guide. Make or update a reach list of every nonbeliever that you know. Go on an evangelistic visit during the course with your pastor, deacon, church leader, Sunday school worker, or friend. Share what you are learning with your apprentice disciples.

Session	Date	Professor Responsibilities	Student Responsibilities
			 Invite friends and apprentice disciples to see how the course works.
3		The Practice of Assessment A Strong Servant-Leadership Discuss portfolio questions and applications. Coach students on how to improve their term papers and transformational church planting skills in class. Group activity: Create a visual summary or mind-map of one of these chapters.	 Study chapters 5-6 and Appendix C in Planting Growing Churches. Explore the blog and resources at http://www.malphursgroup.com. Type the answers to the portfolio. Work on the term paper. Review the study guide. Pray for those on your reach list. Share what you are learning with your apprentice disciples.
4		The Conception Stage of Church Planting, Parts 1 & 2 Discuss portfolio questions and applications. Coach students on how to improve their term papers and transformational church planting skills in class. Group activity: Create a visual summary or mind-map of one of these chapters.	 Study chapters 7-8 and Appendix D and F in <i>Planting Growing Churches</i>. Explore the tweets and resources at http://www.malphursgroup.com. Type the answers to the portfolio. Work on the term paper. Review the study guide. Pray for those on your reach list. Share what you are learning with your apprentice disciples.
5		The Development Stage of Church Planting The Birth Stage of Church Planting Discuss portfolio questions and applications. Coach students on how to improve their term papers and transformational church planting skills in class. Group activity: Create a visual summary or mind-map of one of these chapters.	 Study chapters 9-10 and Appendix E in Planting Growing Churches. Explore the FAQs and resources at http://www.malphursgroup.com/servic_es/faqs/. Type the answers to the portfolio. Work on the term paper. Review the study guide. Pray for those on your reach list. Share what you are learning with your apprentice disciples.
6		The Growth Stage of Church Planting The Maturity Stage of Church Planting The Reproduction Stage Discuss portfolio questions and applications. Coach students on how to improve their term papers and transformational church planting skills in class.	 Study chapters 11-13 and Appendix G in Planting Growing Churches. Explore the resources at http://www.malphursgroup.com. Type the answers to the portfolio. Work on the term paper. Review the study guide. Pray for those on your reach list. Share what you are learning with your apprentice disciples.

Session	Date	Professor Responsibilities	Student Responsibilities
		Group activity: Create a visual summary or mind-map of one of these chapters. Review for the midterm exam.	
7		Midterm Exam Give the midterm exam. Preview the second half of the course. Coach students on how to improve their term papers. Make corrections to the term paper in class. Discuss who would benefit from the EBI leadership training program. Order textbooks for next semester. Request next semester portfolios and notes by email.	 Review the study guide in the notes to prepare for the midterm exam. Four hours of study are recommended. Work on the term paper. Make a list of leaders and future leaders you can pray for, share with, and encourage. Pay for textbooks for the next courses. Be involved in the small group and/or Sunday school ministry of your church.
8		Introduction Church Planting: The New Evangelism Welcome guests and encourage students to share what they have learned. Discuss portfolio questions and applications. Coach students on how to improve their term papers and transformational church planting skills in class. Group activity: Create a visual summary or mind-map of one of these chapters.	 Study the Introduction and chapters 1-2 in Viral Churches. Check out church planting at http://thomrainer.com/. Type the answers to the portfolio. Work on the term paper. Review the study guide. Pray with people on your reach list. Share what you are learning with your apprentice disciples Invite your friends and apprentice disciples to see how the course works.
9		Growth by Multiplication New Players: Church Planting Networks Kingdom Cooperation Discuss portfolio questions and applications. Coach students on how to improve their term papers and transformational church planting skills in class. Group activity: Create a visual summary or mind-map of one of these chapters.	 Study chapters 3-5 in Viral Churches. Check out http://sendme.namb.net/. Type the answers to the portfolio. Work on the term paper. Review the study guide. Pray with people on your reach list. Share what you are learning with your apprentice disciples.
10		Predictors of Success	Study chapters 6-8 in <i>Viral Churches</i>.Check out http://sendme.namb.net/.

Session	Date	Professor Responsibilities	Student Responsibilities
		Thriving: New Church Survival Rates House Churches Discuss portfolio questions and applications. Coach students on how to improve their term papers and transformational church planting skills in class. Group activity: Create a visual summary or mind-map of one of these chapters.	 Type the answers to the portfolio. Work on the term paper. Review the study guide. Let your light shine by doing acts of kindness for people on your list. Share what you are learning with your apprentice disciples.
11		Multisite Strategy Rapid Growth Funding: Partnerships Matter Discuss portfolio questions and applications. Coach students on how to improve their term papers and transformational church planting skills in class. Group activity: Create a visual summary or mind-map of one of these chapters.	 Study chapters 9-11 in Viral Churches. Check out http://sendme.namb.net/. Type the answers to the portfolio. Work on the term paper. Review the study guide. Let your light shine by doing acts of kindness for people on your list. Share what you are learning with your apprentice disciples.
12		The New Scorecard for Measuring Church Multiplication Obstacles to Replication Solving the Toughest Challenges Discuss portfolio questions and applications. Coach students on how to improve their term papers and transformational church planting skills in class. Group activity: Prepare for next week's student presentations.	 Study chapters 12-14 in Viral Churches. Check out http://sendme.namb.net/. Type the answers to the portfolio. Work on the term paper. Review the study guide. Invite someone on your list to come with you to small group or church. Share what you are learning with your apprentice disciples.
13		Student Presentations and Term Papers Welcome guests and disciples. Coach student presentations. Review for final exam. Group activity: Peer-review and make corrections to the term paper in class.	 Prepare to participate in a group or individual presentations on a chapter in the books. Bring a rough draft of your term paper for peer review and corrections. Invite your friends and apprentice disciples to watch student presentations.
14		Final Exam and Course Evaluation Give final exam.	Review the study guide for the final exam.

Session	Date	Professor Responsibilities	Student Responsibilities
		Collect portfolio for review. Collect revised term paper for review. Students will debrief by sharing how they are using and sharing what they have learned. Discuss how to recruit students who would benefit from the EBI leadership training program. Distribute the textbooks, syllabi, portfolios, notes, and promotional materials for the next course. Time of fellowship.	Complete the portfolio. Revise the term paper. Share and/or email your revised term paper to pastors, deacons, small-group leaders, and your apprentice disciples in order to multiply your ministry in obedience to 2 Timothy 2:2-3. Learning is about teaching others. Pass on the baton of transformational discipleship by sharing what you are learning.

EBI holds to *The Baptist Faith and Message*. The inclusion of articles, books, or external links in this course does not imply that the opinions expressed represent the official position of EBI.

Webliography

- 1. Jeremiah Study Bible Online Content http://www.JeremiahStudyBible.com
- 2. 4 Truth.net www.4truth.net
- 3. Bible http://www.bible.org/series.asp?series_id=76
- 4. Bible Atlas Online http://anova.org/sev/atlas/htm/
- 5. Bible Bulletin Board http://www.biblebb.com/
- 6. Bible History http://www.bible-history.com/
- 7. Bible Land Photos http://bibleplaces.com/
- 8. Bible Study Resources www.bible.org
- 9. Biola http://www.go2rhcc.com/resources/OTHist/homepage.html
- 10. Blue Letter Bible Timeline http://www.blueletterbible.org/study/parallel/timeline/index.html
- 11. Blue Letter Bible Study Tools/Charts http://www.blueletterbible.org/study/
- 12. Christian Classics Ethereal Library "World Wide Study Bible" http://www.ccel.org/wwsb/
- 13. Crosswalk.com Bible study tools http://www.biblestudytools.net/
- 14. E-sword.net Bible study tools http://www.e-sword.net/
- 15. Got Questions http://www.gotquestions.org/
- 16. Holy Land Photos http://www.holylandphotos.org/
- 17. New Testament Summary http://www.bible.org/page.asp?page_id=2076
- 18. Old Testament Gateway http://www.otgateway.com/
- 19. Online Bible links http://www.onlinebible.net/links.html
- 20. Apologetics 4Truth www.4truth.net
- 21. Church Planting Village www.churchplantingvillage.net
- 22. Church Starting http://www.churchstarting.net
- 23. Compass I Resources http://www.churchplantingvillage.net
- 24. Ed Stetzer http://www.newchurches.com/
- 25. Got Questions www.gotquestions.org
- 26. Institute of Strategic Evangelism links http://bgc.gospelcom.net/ise/links.html
- 27. Leadership Wired http://www.injoy.com/newsletters/subscribe.asp
- 28. LifeWay.com church planting articles http://www.lifeway.com/lwc/mainpage/0,1701,M%253D50090,00.html
- 29. Malphurs Group http://www.malphursgroup.com/AboutUs/Team.html

- 30. Need Him http://www.needhim.org/
- 31. New Churches http://www.newchurches.com/
- 32. North American Mission Board http://www.namb.net/site/pp.asp?c=9qKILUOzEpH&b=224374
- 33. On Mission to Share Jesus http://www.namb.net/site/pp.asp?c=9qKILUOzEpH&b=224378
- 34. Pastors.com subscription http://www.pastors.com/aboutus/
- 35. Pastor's Weekly Briefing http://www.family.org/pastor/pwbeform.cfm
- 36. Sketches relating to evangelism http://www.namb.net/site/pp.asp?c=9gKILUOzEpH&b=232045

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- Apologetics Study Bible. Annotated by Ted Cabal, Chuck Colson, and Norm Geisler. Nashville, TN: Holman Bible, 2007. 9781586400248
- HCSB Study Bible. Annotated. Nashville, TN: Holman Bible.
- Holman Book of Biblical Charts, Maps, and Reconstructions. Edited by Marsha A. Ellis Smith. Nashville, TN: Holman Reference, 1993. 9781558193598
- Holman Concise Bible Commentary. Edited by David S. Dockery. Nashville, TN: Holman Reference, 2011. 9780805495461
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- Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary. Edited by Charles W. Draper and Chad Brand. Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman, 2003. 9780805428360
- Holman QuickSource Guide to Christian Apologetics. Edited by Doug Powell. Nashville, TN: Holman Reference, 2006. 9780805494600
- Holman QuickSource Guide to Understanding Creation. Edited by Mark Whorton and Hill Roberts. Nashville, TN: Holman Reference, 2008. 9780805494860
- Holman Treasury of Key Bible Words: 200 Greek and 200 Hebrew Words Defined and Explained.
 Edited by Dr. Eugene Carpenter and Dr. Philip Comfort. Nashville, TN: Holman Reference, 2000. 9780805493528
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Transfer of Credits to Southern California Seminary

Attendance Policy

Attending class on time is important to receive the most out of the course. Entering class late disrupts the learning process of all students. Students are permitted three absences for a 14-week semester course. For the semester (28 classroom hours plus 68 homework hours) courses, more than 10 minutes late is a *tardy;* more than 20 minutes late is an *absence*. Two tardies count as one absence. College credit cannot be transferred to Southern California Seminary when a student misses four or more class sessions. A grade of NC (No Credit) will be recorded when a student misses four sessions, does not complete coursework on time, or earns less than 700 points.

Class Time and Homework Policy

To transfer credits to Southern California Seminary, each 2-unit course must include at least 28 hours of class time discussion and 68 hours of portfolio homework during the 14-week semester. Courses with less than 28 hours of class time do not meet EBI requirements. Since "time plus focus equals learning," increased classroom time and active learning result in increased learning—and learning is the key to leadership and service. Courses start the first week of January, May, and September. For maximum learning, it is recommended that working students take 2 courses per semester or 6 courses per year.

Late Work Policy

Completing work on time is an important habit for leaders to develop. Homework should be completed weekly before the class discussion and application. The grade for work that is between 1 and 7 days late is lowered by 20%. Work that is over 7 days late will not be accepted. Professors are to send to the EBI offices the grade sheet within 15 days of the end of each course so that transcripts can be updated each semester.

Portfolio and Term Paper Policy

To graduate or transfer credits from Equip Biblical Institute to Southern California Seminary, students must present a complete portfolio of their course work. The portfolio consists of the questions, journal applications and reflections, term papers, and exams for each course. Upon successful completion of the Associate of Biblical Studies, students may transfer 60-66 units into the Bachelor of Arts in Biblical Studies degree. If the portfolio for a course is not complete, the credits may not be transferable. Portfolios must be completed individually—not as couples. Answers to portfolio questions are subjective, so each student must do his or her own work.

Term Paper Policy

As part of the EBI-SCS Articulation Agreement and to facilitate transfer of degrees to other schools, professors need to submit the term papers of "A" students by email to the registrar at gwoods@socalsem.edu.

			Gra	de Scale
Grade		Percent	Points	the state of the s
Α	=	95-100%	950-1,000	FRI
A-	=	90-94%	900-949	CSBC CSBC
B+	=	87-89%	870-899	California Southern Eapter Convention
В	=	84-86%	840-869	
B-	=	80-83%	800-839	8UCO 08 CA
C+	=	77-79%	770-799	
С	=	74-76%	740-769	Contractions and Section 18
C-	=	70-73%	700-739	Seminary
NC	=	Below 70%	0-699	SERVICE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR
ident Evalua	ation			Percent Points
Portfolio/Grou	ıp Activ	vities		55% 550
				10% 100
Student Prese	entatior	าร		10% 100
erm Paper				15% 150
Final Exam				10% 100
				100% 1.000

Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4	Session 5	Session 6	Session 7	Midterm 8	Session 9	Session 10	Session 11	Session 12	Presentation 13	Term Paper 13	Final Exam 14	Points	Grade
50	50	50	50	50	50	50	100	50	50	50	50	100	150	100	1,000	ABC

	Course Grading Rubric							
Grade	Requirements	✓						
Α	Exams, portfolio, presentation, and the 10- to 15-page paper with zero errors.							
A-	Exams, portfolio, presentation, and the 10- to 12-page paper with less than 2 errors.							
B+	Exams, portfolio, presentation, and the 10- to 11-page paper with less than 4 errors.							
В	Exams, portfolio, presentation, and the 8- to 9-page paper with less than 6 errors.							
B-	Exams, portfolio, presentation, and the 6- to 7-page paper with less than 8 errors.							
C+	Exams, portfolio, presentation, and essay are completed with few errors.							
С	Exams, portfolio, presentation, and essay are completed but need corrections.							
C-	Exams, portfolio, presentation, and essay need individual tutoring or peer coaching.							
NC	Students earn less than 700 points or miss more than 3 sessions.							

It is possible to earn a "C" by writing an essay rather than a term paper, but it is necessary to write a term paper to earn an "A" or "B". Writing clarifies one's thoughts and is a key skill for an effective leader. Initially students may have difficulties in developing writing skills, but they will improve and gain confidence with each course they complete. It is important that professors help students improve their writing skills to maximize their thinking and leadership skills. Students should use the term paper rubric, sample term paper, and type-over template to write their term papers. Since students have different abilities, goals, responsibilities, and schedules, students can choose the grade for which they are aiming.

Writing is one of the most important skills that a leader can develop. As part of the academic agreement with Southern California Seminary, to earn an "A" students are required to email or mail a copy of their academic work to the EBI Registrar. The goal is to catch students doing something right and affirming them. The objective is to recognize and analyze the best term papers and to prepare next generation leaders for university level education by helping them improve their writing skills, thinking skills, and leadership skills.

The mission of Equip Biblical Institute is to bring glory to God by assisting local churches to equip believers of various cultures and languages to live and minister biblically based on the inerrant Word of God. This equipping includes building biblical knowledge, Christian character, and ministry skills. The goal is to provide preaching and teaching resources, intentional leadership development, disciplemaking materials, Skype courses, YouTube videos, charts, notes, and visuals to pastors and churches around the world. EBI is equipping the next generation of pastors and leaders to multiply their influence by training leaders, creating videos, and writing books.

EBI is a religious exempt school and not accredited by the U. S. Department of Education; however, EBI Associate degrees are transferable to Southern California Seminary and other schools based on the EBI-SCS articulation agreement.

As students take each course, their brains will develop a multitude of new neural connections, increasing their ability to read with comprehension; make practical applications from what they are learning; and improve their communication, leadership, and writing skills.

EBI is about planting healthy churches by developing Christian character. Christian character is developed through spiritual battle, struggle and testing, perseverance and obedience, faith and virtue. The Christian virtues are integrity, self-control, generosity, diligence, patience, kindness, and humility—the opposites of the worldly vices of lust, selfishness, greed, sloth, wrath, envy, and arrogance.