



**Ministry to Refugees, Immigrants, and
Internationals MISS5350 (Online)
Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Pastoral Ministries Division
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Mission Statement

The mission of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is to equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

Core Value Focus

The seminary has five core values: Doctrinal Integrity, Spiritual Vitality, Mission Focus, Characteristic Excellence, and Servant Leadership. The core value focus for this academic year is Characteristic Excellence: What we do, we do to the utmost of our abilities and resources as a testimony to the glory of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Curriculum Competencies

All graduates of NOBTS are expected to have at least a minimum level of competency in each of the following areas: Biblical Exposition, Christian Theological Heritage, Disciple Making, Interpersonal Skills, Servant Leadership, Spiritual and Character Formation, and Worship Leadership. The curriculum competencies addressed in this course are: Biblical Exposition, Disciple Making, and Servant Leadership.

Course Description

This course involves a survey of the issues around the world of refugees and how the church can minister to them on their journey and upon arrival in their new homes. Issues related to migration and how immigrants can be reached for Christ will also be examined. An examination will also be made of internationals, especially students, who live around us and how we can be more effective in ministering to them.

Student Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Identify and describe the issues and problems faced by refugees, immigrants, and internationals.
2. Understand and design effective ministries to refugees, immigrants, and internationals.
3. Value the place that refugees, immigrants, and internationals play in our society and the role churches and ministries have in ministering the love of Christ to these individuals.
4. Apply principals of ministry to refugees, immigrants, and internationals in ways that will lead churches and other ministries to effective ministry.

Textbooks

Payne, J.D. *Strangers Next Door: Immigration, Migration and Mission*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2012. 3: 9780830857586

Smrcek, Helena. *Kingdom Beyond Borders: Finding Hope Along The Refugee Highway*. Bloomington, IN: WestBow Press, 2011.

Course Teaching Methodology

A variety of teaching methods will be utilized such as class presentations by the professor using PowerPoint and handouts. Other teaching methods include small and large group discussion, multi-media presentations, utilization of missions related web sites, and other communication mediums. Students will be exposed to individuals in the target group and will learn from that interaction.

Course Requirements

1. **Unit One.** Once each student has completed the registration procedures and had cleared the business office, he or she will be automatically enrolled in the Blackboard portion of the course. The class will begin on Jan 23. The first thing each student should do is go through Unit 1. This will explain course procedures. This unit should be completed by Sat. Jan. 28.

2. **Blackboard Units.** Students should proceed through the learning units in numerical order beginning with Unit 1. New units will be released several at a time so students should not expect to work ahead too far. Units will be due on each Saturday at 11:59 PM. All units must be completed along with required readings. At the end of each section of a unit students will indicate completion of that section of the unit by clicking on the “Reviewed” button. PLEASE DO NOT FORGET TO MARK AS REVIEWED AS YOU GOT THROUGH THE DIFFERENT PARTS OF EACH UNIT. Orderly completion of the weekly units along with attention to the specific assignments given in this syllabus will keep the student on track for successful completion of the course. Most units will contain quizzes. Quizzes CANNOT be taken late. If you miss a quiz you will not get credit for that quiz. The two lowest quiz grades will be dropped. Quizzes can be taken **at least twice** and you can access any materials in completing the quizzes. A second attempt on a quiz CANNOT add more than 50 points to your quiz score, so students should attempt to answer all questions on the first attempt. For example, if you make 40 on the first attempt, even if you get all answers correct on the second attempt, your score on the second attempt would be 90.

3. **Textbook Reading.** Read both textbooks as assigned. Be prepared to show comprehension of the texts through class discussions and through reading quizzes. Also read other assigned reading given during the semester.

4. **“The Good Lie.”** Watch the movie, “The Good Lie.” In a discussion forum in Unit 6 due on Mar. 4 discuss the movie and implications for churches and other organizations doing ministry to refugees settling in a new country. Your discussion should contain at least six significant paragraphs.

5. **Extra Book Discussion.** Choose one book from the bibliography to read and discuss on the appropriate Blackboard discussion board. You should have at least 6 substantial paragraphs in your discussion. React to the discussions of all others in the class. Due on Mar. 25. The reflections on the discussion of others is due on Mar. 27.

6. **Volunteer Experience.** Spend five hours in volunteer service at a church, ministry, or organization ministering to, or working with, refugees, immigrants, or internationals. As much as possible the hours should be spent working with one or more of these groups. Discuss this experience in the appropriate Blackboard Discussion Forum. The discussion should be approximately four paragraphs long. The discussion is due on Apr. 8.

7. **Ministry Study.** Study a church, ministry, or organization ministering to, or working with, refugees, immigrants, or internationals. Submit a 2-3 page summary (8-10 substantial paragraphs) of that ministry in the Blackboard Discussion Forum. Respond to the posts of your fellow students. Due on Apr. 15.

8. **Interviews Project.** Locate and interview three individuals. Find someone for each of the categories of refugee, immigrant, and international. Ask the individuals about issues related to how they came to their current country, what were the conditions in their previous homeland, what were their experiences in moving to their current home, what were their greatest needs when resettling, how they relate to others from their homeland, how they relate to the people and culture of their new home, and what their future plans are as to resettlement. Include several other topics in your interview. Present a 1 page summary of each interview. Also present a 1-2 page reflection on implications for ministry based on your three interviews. This is a single reflection paper and NOT a reflection paper for each interview. Due on May 6 during Unit 14 in the appropriate discussion board. Respond to other presentations by May 8.

9. **Reflection Discussion.** A part of the final exam will be a discussion question reflecting on your learning experiences in this class. Your discussion should be at least six significant paragraphs. Reflect on new materials, concepts, and ministry opportunities that were covered. Reflect on your experiences with refugees, immigrants, or internationals that you had during the semester. Reflect on your interactions with your fellow students. Finally, discuss some possible ways that you can implement ministry initiatives with refugees, immigrants, and internationals and how you might encourage others to engage in similar kinds of ministry. Due on May 9 as a part of the final exam..

Assignment Due Date Summary

Unit Completions	Each Saturday by 11:59 PM
“The Good Lie” Discussion	Mar. 4
Extra Book Discussion	Mar. 27
Volunteer Experience	Apr. 8
Ministry Study	Apr. 15
Interviews Project	May 6
Responses to Interviews Project	May 8
Final Exam	May 10

Evaluation of Grade

The student's grade will be computed as follows:

Completion of Blackboard Units	15%
Discussion Forums	15%
Volunteer Hours	5%
Quizzes	20%

Ministry Study	15%
Interviews Project	15%
Final Exam	15%

Late assignments will be penalized 10 points per day late.

Technical Assistance

For assistance regarding technology, consult ITC (504-816-8180) or the following websites:

1. Selfserve@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the Selfserve.nobts.edu site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)
2. BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Blackboard Learning Management System NOBTS.Blackboard.com.
3. ITCSupport@nobts.edu - Email for general technical questions/support requests.
4. www.NOBTS.edu/itc/ - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

Help for Writing Papers at “The Write Stuff”

NOBTS maintains a Writing Center designed to improve English writing at the graduate level. Students can receive writing guides, tips, and valuable information to help in becoming a better writer.

Plagiarism on Written Assignments

NOBTS has a no tolerance policy for plagiarism. Plagiarism in certain cases may result in expulsion from the seminary. See the NOBTS Student Handbook for definition, penalties, and policies associated with plagiarism.

Course Schedule

- Unit 1 Jan. 28- Introduction to the Course and Diaspora Missiology
Read Payne, chapter 12
- Unit 2 Feb. 4- Biblical Background and the Refugee, the Migrant, and the International
Read Payne, chapters 1, 4, and 5
- Unit 3 Feb. 11- The World of the Refugee: Conditions Creating Refugees
Read Smrcek, pp. 1-61
- Unit 4 Feb. 18-The World of the Refugee: Where Are the Refugees?
Read Smrcek, pp. 63-115
- Unit 5 Feb. 25- The World of the Refugee: Ministering to Refugees in Transition
Read Payne, chapter 8
- Unit 6 Mar. 4- The World of the Refugee: Ministering to Refugees in Their New Homes
Read Smrcek, pp.117-175
- Unit 7 Mar. 11- The World of the Migrant: What Leads to Migration?
No textbook reading
- Unit 8 Mar. 25- The World of the Migrant: Where Immigrants Settle
Read Payne, chapters 2 and 6

- Unit 9 Apr. 1- The World of the Migrant: Churches Ministering to Illegal Immigrants
Read Payne, chapter 3
- Unit 10 Apr. 8- The World of Internationals in Our Midst: Where They Come From
No textbook reading
- Unit 11- Apr. 15 The World of Internationals in Our Midst: Students, part 1
Read Payne, chapter 7
- Unit 12 Apr. 22- The World of Internationals in Our Midst: Students, part 2
No textbook reading
- Unit 13 Apr. 29- Doing Church with Internationals
Read Payne, chapters 9, 10, and 11
- Unit 14 May 6- Report on Interviews and Reflections
No textbook reading
- Final Exam MUST be Completed by Wed., May 10 at 11:59 PM

Selected Bibliography

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