

# CHPL6370 Gospel and The City: Principles of Contextualization New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Division of Church Ministry Fall Intensive – Oct 6-8, 2021

Dr. George Ross, DMin.

Assistant Professor of Church Planting and Evangelism, Occupying the Cecil B. Day Chair of

Church Planting

Office: NAMB Church Planting and Ministry Center

Phone: (504) 343-1697 Email: gross@nobts.edu

Social Media: @georgerossnola

Ryan Rice

NAMB Send City Missionary, New Orleans Lead Pastor & Church Planter, Connect Church

#### **Mission Statement**

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College prepare servants to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.

# **Course Description**

This class is an "in the field" course where students will learn contextualization principles for understanding and reaching target communities with the gospel. Students will learn to apply four primary practices of community exegesis by gaining an accurate understanding of the social, economic, physical, and spiritual climate of the church planting community. By carefully examining and gaining a clear contextual picture of a community, the planter will discover the degree of need within that context, as well as models and strategies that likely would be appropriate for church planting in a given context.

# **Student Learning Outcomes**

In order to help fulfill the Great Commission, the students, by the end of the course, should:

- 1. Understand the definition and practice of contextualization.
- 2. Identify biblical examples of contextualization.
- 3. Be able to apply their knowledge and comprehension of four primary practices of community exegesis by gaining an accurate understanding of the social, economic, physical, and spiritual climate of the church planting community.
- 4. Understand the role that contextualization plays in communicating the gospel in a given context.
- 5. Be able to accomplish the following:
  - a) Develop a contextualization prospectus for a specific church planting target area.

b) Synthesize contextualization principles and evangelistic strategies to effectively reach a church planting target area.

#### **Textbooks**

Flemming, Dean. Contextualization in the New Testament, Patterns for Theology and Mission, Downers Grove, IL: Intervarsity Press, 2005.

Heibert, Paul G. *The Gospel in Human Contexts, Anthropological Explorations for Contemporary Missions*, Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2009.

Keller, Timothy. Loving The City, Doing Balanced Gospel Centered Ministry in Your City, Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2016.

McCrary, Larry. *Tradecraft: For the Church on Mission*, Portland, OR: Urban Loft Publishers, 2013.

# **Tradecraft Prospectus Examples**

Click <u>here</u> for Dropbox downloads Downloads will also be in Blackboard

# **Course Teaching Methodology**

The course will involve the following methodologies:

A variety of teaching methods will be utilized such as class presentations by the professor using Power Point and handouts. This is an "in the field" class where students will be outdoors in a variety of settings and contexts in New Orleans. Other teaching methods include small and large group discussion, group projects, multi-media presentations, utilization of missions related websites, and other communication mediums. A Blackboard shell for the class will be utilized extensively as a resource for students. Students will be expected to be thoroughly prepared for class discussions through readings and the Blackboard weekly unit supplements.

# **Course Requirements**

1. Participation and Attendance. Because this course takes place in New Orleans and significant time will be spent in the City of New Orleans, students are required to attend in person and on time. This is an intensive format, see the detailed schedule for times and location to meet. Be prepared for outdoor teaching times, dress accordingly for weather and walking.

# 2. Pre-Class Work.

- Reading: Read all required textbooks, students will upload a percentage read of each book. Write a 3-4 page, double spaced review from 2 of the 4 required reading books. The review should cover summary of the ideas/thesis of the book, two key quotes from each chapter (listing should consist of a quote (one to four lines max) from the book and the page number), personal and ministry application, and summary of strengths and weaknesses. (Due Oct 6<sup>th</sup>)
- Contextualization Assignment: Choose one of the following ministry contexts 1. Your current ministry context. 2. A potential church planting ministry context. Using the Tradecraft Principles create a 15-20 page prospectus. Use the examples provided in the syllabus for guidance. (Due Oct 12<sup>th</sup>)

#### 3. Post-Class Work.

- Field Notes: Field notes are typed papers of recorded observations and reflection taken from the Instructors and guests lectures during the "in-the-field" class time. Students should present notes in double spaced paper using location and topic headings from "in the field" lectures and teaching. (Due Oct 20<sup>th</sup>)
- Application and Synthesis paper: Write a 2 page double spaced Application and Synthesis Paper detailing 1. Specific principles you learned in the course, 2. A Self/Ministry evaluation of your current practice of contextualization in ministry, 3. 4-5 specific action steps for using information gleaned in helping you reach your ministry context with the gospel. (Due Oct 25<sup>th</sup>)

#### **Evaluation of Grade**

Total	100%
Application and Synthesis Paper	20%
Field Notes	20%
Contextualization Assignment	30%
Participation/Attendance/Reading Reports	30%

# Students should follow the seminary's manual of style and form for all written assignments.

The following is the grading scale used for this course:

A = 93-100

B = 85-92

C = 77-84

D = 70-76

F = Below 70

# **Technical Assistance**

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

- 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. <u>BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu</u> 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. <u>www.NOBTS.edu/itc/</u> General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

# **Writing Style Guide**

A copy of the approved NOBTS Style Guide can be found in the course Blackboard shell, or can be located online at the Writing Center's page on the seminary website at: https://www.nobts.edu/ resources/pdf/writing/StyleGuide.pdf

# **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**

Date: Oct 6-8

Time:

- Oct 6<sup>th</sup> 1pm-7pm
- Oct 7<sup>th</sup> 8:30am-8pm
- Oct 8<sup>th</sup> 8:30am-12pm

Location: NAMB Church Planting and Ministry Center- Hardin Student Center

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