



**Christian Missions MISS5330**  
**New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary**  
**Division of Church Ministries**  
**Fall Semester 2023**  
Tuesday/Thursday Classes (+NOLA2U Flex)

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**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**

In this course students are introduced to Christian missions through a brief examination of biblical and theological foundations and a historical overview. Attention is given to the International and North American Mission Boards of the Southern Baptist Convention, including their administration and programs. Particular attention is given to strategic concerns affecting the future of the mission enterprise.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

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

1. Be able to apply their knowledge and comprehension of the biblical, theological, historical, and cultural foundations of Christian Missions to the process of mobilizing the church for missions.
2. Develop a church missions strategy based on partnership with SBC missions organizations.
3. Value strategic concerns affecting the future of missions.
4. Be able to accomplish the following:
  - a) Participate in a volunteer missions experience.
  - b) Advocate missions among Southern Baptists.

**Textbooks**

Barnett, Mike and Robin Martin, eds. *Discovering the Mission of God: Best Missional Practices for the 21st Century*. Downers Grove. IL: IVP Academic, 2012.

*IMB Foundations*. (Download free at <https://store.imb.org/imb-foundations-digital-download/>)

**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. Other teaching methods include small and large group discussion, multi-media presentations, utilization of missions related websites, and other communication mediums. A Canvas 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 textbook readings and the assigned Canvas readings.

## Course Requirements

### 1. Required Reading and Quizzes

Read the assigned textbook readings and demonstrate familiarity with the readings through participation in classroom discussions and successful completion of quizzes. In some weeks there will be an assigned reading from the Canvas shell. Advance notice will be given when this is the case. Quizzes will cover textbook readings, Canvas reading assignments and materials covered in class. Quizzes are open book and can be taken twice. On the second attempt graded can be improved by up to 50%. Missed quizzes CANNOT be made up. The two lowest quiz grades will be dropped.

2. **Missionary Biography.** From a list of missionary biographies supplied by the instructor read one biography, prepare a two page summary of the book, and share a brief oral report of the missionary's life and work in class. The summary is due in class on Oct. 13 and students should be prepared to share a 5 minute oral report of their missionary from the book on that date and on following class meetings.

3. **Volunteer Service.** Spend 3 hours in volunteer work. Report on the experience in the Canvas Discussion Board by Nov. 7. Students are strongly encouraged to use "Serve Day" on Sept. 28 to complete their volunteer work. Clear the volunteer experience with the professor before you commit to the volunteer placement, unless you are participating in "Serve Day".

4. **Reflection Discussion.** Write a 8 to 10 paragraph discussion reflecting on how you sense God's leadership to be involved in missions? Describe how you have examined the missionary call to determine whether or not God has or is calling you to service as a long-term missionary at this point in time. Include how you will be available for possible short term missionary service in your ministry if not called to long-term missionary service. Discuss further aspects of how you will be involved in missions. Chapter 38 the text provides helpful insights for exploring a missionary call in one's life and should be consulted for this reflection paper. Some reflections on chapter 38 are required. The paper should include appropriate references to Bible verses and passages and other sources as needed. It may be written using first person. This assignment is due in the Canvas Discussion Oct. 26.

5. **Acts 1:8 Plan.** Develop a plan for enlisting your church as an Acts 1:8 Church. Make sure that you have adequately addressed each of the requirements for a church to become an Acts 1:8 Church. If your church is already an Acts 1:8 Church develop your plan for another church or significantly update it. The plan is due on Nov. 30 in the Canvas Assignment folder.

NOTE: All assignments are due at the beginning of the class period unless otherwise noted. Late assignments will negatively impact grades. **Assignments turned in late will receive an automatic 15 point deduction. There will be an additional 10 point deduction** for each additional weekday the assignment is late.

**ALL ASSIGNMENTS MUST BE COMPLETED IN ORDER TO PASS THE COURSE.**

### NOLA2U Flex

**If you are taking this course as a NOLA2U Flex student, please note the following attendance policies:**

1. You are required to be in class either through viewing the lectures live or viewing the recorded lectures on Canvas. When you view the recorded lecture, you will be considered present for that class. Regardless of if you watch the class live or recorded, you are only allowed to miss the amount of class time specified in the NOBTS attendance policy as stated in this syllabus.

2. You will be asked to certify that you have been present for the live session or have viewed the recorded session. This certification will be done through [assignment by professor] after having watched the class live or viewing the recorded session.

3. All video lectures are available for 7 days after the video is posted. If you are unable to view the video within that time frame, you will be considered absent for that class session.
4. Technical issues will not be considered a valid reason for missing a lecture.

### **Evaluation of Grade**

The student's grade will be computed as follows:

Final Exam	15%
Reading Quizzes	20%
Acts 1:8 Plan	25%
Volunteer Service	5%
Reflection Discussion	15%
Missionary Biography and Oral Report	15%
Attendance and Class Participation	5%

### **Attendance Policy**

Students are expected to attend and participate in the class sessions. Any student missing more than nine hours may receive an automatic grade of "F" for the course. Three tardies will count as one absence.

### **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 or My.nobts.edu site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)
2. Canvas@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Canvas Learning Management System (Faculty/Students/Staff) Canvas.NOBTS.edu.
3. Bluejeanshelpdesk@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the Bluejeans & NOBTS Bluejeans classrooms (On and Off-Campus)
4. TelephoneHelpDesk@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS On-Campus Phone system.
5. ITCsupport@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests in the Flex classrooms and for general technical questions/support requests. If you are not sure who to contact, use this email address!
6. 504.816.8180 - Call for any technical questions/support requests. (Currently available Mon-Thurs 7:00am-9:00pm & Fri 7:00-7:00pm Central Time)
7. 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. A copy of the approved NOBTS Style Guide can be found in the course Canvas 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>

### **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

**The reading for the week should be completed before the Tuesday class each week.**

**There will be a quiz due each week on Canvas.**

**Week 1** Aug. 15, 17- Introduction; What Is Missions? Unreached People Groups; Foundations, pp 5-13

**Week 2** Aug. 22, 24 - Introduction (cont'd) , pp. 11-30, chaps. 18, 19, 29; Foundations, pp 14-31  
Become familiar with IMB website: [www.imb.org](http://www.imb.org)

**Week 3**, Aug. 29, 31- Biblical Background-Old Testament & New Testament, pt. 1, chaps. 1-6

**Week 4**, Sept. 5, 7- Biblical Background– New Testament, pt. 2, chaps. 7, 8, 9, 21; Foundations, pp 32-45

**Week 5**, Sept.12, 14- History of Missions, pt. 1, chaps. 11, 12, 13, 14

**Week 6**, Sept.19, 21- History of Missions, pt. 2, chaps. 15, 16, 17, 34

**Week 7**, Sept.26, 28- (Serve Day on 28th) International Mission Board, pt. 1, chaps 27, 31; Foundations, pp 47-53

Fall Break Oct. 2-6

**Week 8**, Oct. 10, 12- Missionary Biography Book Reports, chap. 30

**Week 9**, Oct. 17, 19- IMB, pt. 2, Mission Movements, and Call to Missions chaps. 28, 32, 38 and additional reading on Canvas which is the Church Planting Movements booklet; Foundations, pp. 55-61

**Week 10**, Oct. 24, 26- Contextualization, chaps. 23, 24, 25, 26; Foundations, pp 62-76

**Week 11**, Oct. 31, Nov. 2- Spiritual Warfare/Prayerwalking, chaps. 10, 20, 22; Foundations, pp. 79-90

**Week 12**, Nov.7, 9- Persecution and Missionary Care, chaps. 33, 35; Mission Trips, Foundations, pp. 95-129

**Week 13**, Nov.14, 16- The Local Church/Missions Education; Final Exam Review; chaps. 36, 37; Foundations, pp 131-165

Nov. 20-24 Thanksgiving Break

**Week 14**, Nov. 28- Acts 1:8 Project, Concluding Issues

**Final Exam** Due Thursday, Dec. 5 at 4 PM

## Selected Bibliography

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