

ANSWERING GOD'S CALL

**EVAN5250 Church Evangelism** Internet Course New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

Church Ministry Division Spring Semester 2021

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

#### **Purpose of the Course**

The purpose of this class is to explore the ministry of evangelism through a local church and its ministries. In addition to a summary of various approaches to evangelism in local churches, the biblical, theological and historical aspects of evangelism will be highlighted as well in order to provide a holistic view.

#### **Core Value Focus**

*Doctrinal Integrity* – Knowing that the Bible is the Word of God, we believe it, teach it, proclaim it, and submit to it. The doctrinal statements used in our evaluations are our Articles of Religious Belief and the Baptist Faith and Message Statement.

*Spiritual Vitality* – We are a worshiping community, with both personal spirituality and gathering together as a Seminary for the praise and adoration of God and instruction in His Word.

*Mission Focus* – We are not here merely to get an education or to give one. We are here to change the world by fulfilling the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

*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.

*Servant Leadership* – We follow the model of Jesus and exert leadership and influence through the nurture and encouragement of those around us.

Annually, the President will designate a core value that will become the focus of pedagogy for the year. For Spring 2021 academic year that Core Value is *Mission Focus*.

#### **Curriculum Competencies Addressed**

This course will address the following curriculum competencies:

- *1. Biblical exposition:* The student will discover passages of Scripture that will address biblical foundations for leadership in the local church or Christian ministry setting.
- 2. *Theological and historical perspective:* The course will provide a systematic and historical progression of church leadership and ministry as it has evolved to the requirements today.
- 3. *Effective servant leadership:* The course is designed not only to teach about servant leadership but also to encourage the student to practice this leadership style.
- 4. *Interpersonal relationships:* The course contains a strong emphasis on interpersonal skills as a vital aspect of leadership and administration.
- 5. *Disciple making:* In this course, students are encouraged to understand that the ultimate purpose of leadership is transforming.
- 6. *Worship leadership:* The course does not directly address worship leadership, however the leadership principles discussed will relate to any venue of ministry in the local church.
- 7. *Spiritual and character formation:* Students are taught that ministry leadership and administration should flow out of a transformational walk with Jesus Christ.

#### **Student Learning Outcomes**

In order to stimulate evangelistic church growth and health, the students, by the end of the course, should:

1. Be able to apply their knowledge and comprehension of the following concepts to the process of stimulating evangelistic church growth through mobilizing the church for evangelism:

- The biblical mandate for church evangelism.
- The biblical components of the Gospel, including various understandings of what it means to be "saved," to "make a decision," or "be drawn to Christ," and how people may objectively know of and develop confidence in their salvation.
- The ministry of evangelism; approaches to evangelism; and the biblical, theological, and historical aspects of evangelism.
- 2. Value the following concepts:
  - Sharing the Gospel with non-Christians.
  - A holistic view in evangelism.
- 3. Be able, with the help of various evangelistic tools, to share the Gospel with non-Christians and train other Christians in the use of the tools.
- 4. Be able to develop an informed, multi-faceted evangelistic strategy for a local church.

#### **Course Methodology**

In coordination with Blackboard lectures, reading assignments, videos, and threaded discussions, the course will feature a variety of teaching/learning methods to engage students and encourage interaction.

#### **Required Readings**

The following texts and resources are required reading for class discussions and are to be read in their entirety unless otherwise specified.

#### **<u>Required Texts</u>**

Each student will read the required two textbooks:

- Johnston, Thomas P., ed. *Mobilizing a Great Commission Church for Harvest: Voices and Views from the Southern Baptist Professors of Evangelism Fellowship*. Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock Publishers, 2011.
- Reid, Alvin L. *Evangelism Handbook: Biblical, Spiritual, Intentional, Missional.* Nashville, Tenn.: B&H Academic, 2009.

#### **Course Requirements:**

**1. Weekly Reading Quizzes (10%)** Each student will be expected to complete all assigned readings. Open book quizzes (paralleling each week's reading) will post on Blackboard Sunday evening with assigned material for the week. Students will have until Friday at 11:59pm to complete each quiz.

**2. Interview with the Unchurched (10%) Due Friday, Feb. 5<sup>th</sup> @ 11:59pm.** Each student will complete an **interview** with a person the student believes is not a Christian or has been out of church for at least 5 years. After the interview, the student is to write a thoughtful reflection of the experience. The student may want to include selected significant quotes, a summary paragraph of the interview, what you learned about the person, what you discovered about yourself or what you need to learn. Please include the raw data/responses to the questions.

#### **Interview Guide**

The student should ask for the time from the person in order to interview them for a class assignment with the objective being to simply learn how people see religious things. The purpose is not to convert the person or even share the Gospel message. The purpose is to learn what people are thinking about religious matters. The **interview must be conducted in person (if available), FaceTime, or Video Conferencing** (not over the telephone).

- Sample request: "I am doing a research project and need your help. My assignment is to learn how people see religious things. Will you take a few minutes to help me?"
- Let them know that their name will not be included in any manner. You can interview people you know. Please do not interview family members for this assignment.
- Take the approach of a student researching, not a minister evangelizing. Please do not try to convince them or debate with them; simply record their answers on a notepad. If they ask your opinion, gracefully decline (because you do not want to influence their answer). *After* the interview, if the person asks you to tell them your beliefs, listen to the Holy Spirit and either set another time to get together for that purpose or go ahead and share. THE POINT: if they feel you are conning them into a witnessing opportunity, you will not get their true feelings and thoughts.

The following represents questions the student should ask...

1.To you, what is God like? Describe God.

- If they don't believe in God, ask ... What do you value most in life?
- 2. How would you describe your religious background and church involvement if any?
- 3. What message do you think the church is trying to communicate?
- 4. What do you think it takes to be made right with God?
- 5.Describe what the name Jesus Christ means to you.
- 6. Why do you think people do not go to church?

3. Two personal evangelism reports (10%) Due Friday, March 5<sup>th</sup> @ 11:59pm of witnessing to a non-believer conducted during the course of the spring internet course.

#### 4. Midterm (15%) Due Friday, March 12<sup>th</sup> @ 11:59pm

### 5. Final Exam (15%) Due Wednesday, May 5<sup>th</sup> @ 11:59pm

6. A Comprehensive Evangelism Strategy (20%) Due Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup> @ 11:59pm for a local church chosen by the student. The student will provide a description of the church's community using demographic information, Chamber of Commerce information, or other pertinent information. The student will develop a historical understanding of the church. The student will study the church's evangelistic obstacles, strengths/weaknesses, and programs. The student will delineate an evangelistic strategy for the church for a period of at least twelve months. A typed, eight-page (minimum) double spaced paper will be prepared by the student. In addition, the student will provide a twelve-month calendar with events that execute the evangelistic strategy developed by the student. *This assignment is an embedded assignment that will be completed by all students for all sections of this course. The rubric for grading this assignment is attached to* 

#### 7. Book Report: (10%) Due Friday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 11:59pm

Students will select one (1) of the required readings and submit a book report. The report should contain a <u>brief summary</u> of the book. <u>Most of the report</u> should be an evaluation of the book in which the book's <u>strengths and weaknesses</u> are noted. The report should be at least five double-spaced pages.

#### 8. Blackboard Discussion Posts: (10%)

Scheduled participation through class discussion on Blackboard is integral to the design of this course. **Discussion posts count for 10% of a student's final grade**. Each Monday the professor will post one or more questions on the Blackboard Discussion Board. <u>Each student is expected to participate by responding to each of the professor's posted questions **no later** <u>than Thursday.</u> *Students should also respond to at least one other student's discussion board post.* \**Posts may be acknowledged in weekly videos by Dr. Johnson*\*</u>

#### **Evaluation of Grade**

The requirements for the course and the contribution of each towards the final grade are as follows:

Activities	Percentages
Weekly Reading Quizzes	10%
Interview with the Unchurched	10%
Two personal evangelism reports	10%
Midterm	15%
Final Exam	15%
Comprehensive Evangelism Strategy	20%
Book Report	10%
Blackboard Discussion Posts	10%

# Note: All work must be completed and received on due dates by the professor in order to receive a passing grade in this course.

#### Technical Assistance

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

- <u>Selfserve@nobts.edu</u> Email for technical questions/support requests with the\_ <u>Selfserve.nobts.edu</u> 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 <u>NOBTS.Blackboard.com</u>.
- 3. <u>ITCSupport@nobts.edu</u> Email for general technical questions/support requests.
- 4. <u>www.NOBTS.edu/itc/</u> General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

**VERY IMPORTANT:** If a student communicates with the professor by email, note clearly in the subject line the **name of the course**. Due to junk email, if the purpose of the email is not clear, the message may be deleted without ever being read.

Blackboard Enrollment: Students will be enrolled in Blackboard by ITC.

#### 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 abetter 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**

- tentative schedule -

#### Week One: Jan. 18th-24th

Introduction Video w/Dr. Mark Johnson Blackboard Discussion Post: What is Church Evangelism Read: Evangelism Handbook Chapters 1,2 (Quiz due by Friday Jan 22nd @ 11:59pm)

#### Week Two: Jan. 25<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>

Week 2 Video w/Dr. Mark Johnson Blackboard Discussion Post: Engage in Church Evangelism Read: Evangelism Handbook Chapters 3,4 Read: Mobilizing a Great Commission Church for Harvest Chapters 1,4 (Quiz due by Friday Jan 29th @ 11:59pm)

#### Week Three: Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>-7

Week 3 Video w/Dr. Mark Johnson Blackboard Discussion Post: Theology of Church Evangelism Read: Evangelism Handbook Chapter 9 (No Reading Quiz) (Interview with the Unchurched Friday Feb 5th @ 11:59pm)

#### Week Four: Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>-14

Week 4 Video w/Dr. Mark Johnson Blackboard Discussion Post: History of Church Evangelism Read: Evangelism Handbook Chapters 5,6,7,8 (Reading Quiz Due Friday Feb 12th @ 11:59pm)

#### Week Five: Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>

Week 5 Video w/Dr. Mark Johnson Blackboard Discussion Post: Spirituality for Church Evangelism Read: Evangelism Handbook Chapters 10,11,12,13,14 Read: Mobilizing a Great Commission Church for Harvest Chapters 12 (Reading Quiz due by Friday Feb 19th @ 11:59pm)

Week Six: Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> Week 6 Video w/Dr. Mark Johnson Blackboard Discussion Post: Strategy for Church Evangelism Read: Evangelism Handbook Chapters 15,18 Read: Mobilizing a Great Commission Church for Harvest Chapters 2,5 (Reading Quiz due by Friday Feb 26th @ 11:59pm)

#### Week Seven: March 1st-7th

Week 7 Video w/Dr. Mark Johnson Blackboard Discussion Post: Personal Evangelism and Apologetics in Church Evangelism Read: Evangelism Handbook Chapters 16,17 (No Reading Quiz) Read: Mobilizing a Great Commission Church for Harvest Chapters 3,13,14 (Witnessing Report Due Friday March 5th @ 11:59pm)

#### Week Eight: March 8th-14th

Week 8 Video w/ Dr. Mark Johnson: Midterm Review Mid-Term Exam (Midterm due by Friday March 12th @ 11:59pm)

#### Fall Break: March 15<sup>th</sup>- 21<sup>st</sup>

## Week Nine: Mar. 22<sup>nd</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>

Week 9 Video w/Dr. Mark Johnson Blackboard Discussion Post: Worship Evangelism Read: Evangelism Handbook Chapter 19 Read: Mobilizing a Great Commission Church for Harvest Chapter 9 (Reading Quiz due by Friday March 26<sup>th</sup> @ 11:59pm)

#### Week Ten: Mar. 29<sup>th</sup>-Apr.4<sup>th</sup>

Week 10 Video w/Dr. Mark Johnson Blackboard Discussion Post: Mass Evangelism Read: Evangelism Handbook Chapter 20 (No Reading Quiz) Read: Mobilizing a Great Commission Church for Harvest Chapters 7,8,10 (Book Review due by Friday Apr. 2nd @ 11:59pm)

# Week Eleven: Apr. 5<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>

Week 11 Video w/Dr. Mark Johnson Blackboard Discussion Post: Multigenerational Church Evangelism Read: Evangelism Handbook Chapters 21,22,23,24,25 Read: Mobilizing a Great Commission Church for Harvest Chapters 17,18 (Reading Quiz Due Friday April 9th @ 11:59pm).

#### Week Twelve: Apr. 12<sup>th</sup>-18th

Week 12 Video w/Dr. Mark Johnson Blackboard Discussion Post: Servanthood/Ministry and Sport Evangelism Read: Evangelism Handbook Chapter 26 Read: Mobilizing a Great Commission Church for Harvest Chapters 11,15,16 (Reading Quiz Due Friday April 16th @ 11:59pm).

#### Week Thirteen: Apr. 19<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>

Week 13 Video w/Dr. Mark Johnson Blackboard Discussion Post: Closing the Back Door Read: Mobilizing a Great Commission Church for Harvest Chapters 6,19 (Reading Quiz Due Friday April 23rd @ 11:59pm).

#### Week Fourteen: Apr. 26<sup>th</sup> – May 2<sup>nd</sup>

(Strategy Paper due Friday April 30<sup>th</sup> @ 11:59pm)

#### FINAL EXAM DUE WEDNESDY, MAY 5<sup>TH</sup> 2021 @ 11:59pm

Personal Evangelism Report Guide (1-2 pages)

**Situation:** Date, time, location of the witnessing encounter. Name of the person and his or her background.

**Interaction:** How did you start your conversation? How did you transition to the gospel message? What evangelistic tool did you use in presenting the gospel? How did you call for a response? How did the person respond to the gospel? If the person did not respond positively, what do you think is preventing him or her from trusting Christ alone as Savior and Lord? What plans have you made for discipling this person?

**Evaluation:** What were the hindrances to the presentation? What did you do well? What would you do differently?

#### **Selected Bibliography**

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