



**Ministry to Refugees, Immigrants, and
Internationals MISS5350 (Online)**
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Church Ministries Division
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Dr. Ken Taylor
Professor of Urban Missions
Office: Dodd 100
Phone:(504) 816-8015
Email: ktaylor@nobts.edu

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 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

Cocanougher, Stu. *Reaching the World Across the Street: A Handbook for Sharing the Love and Message of Jesus with Internationals*. Skyforest, CA: Urban Loft, 2022.

George, Sam and Miriam Adeney, eds. *Refugee Diaspora: Missions Amid the Greatest Humanitarian Crisis of the World*. Littleton, CO: William Carey Publishing, 2018.

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, 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 Canvas portion of the course. The class will begin on Jan 17. 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. 21.

2. **Canvas 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. 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 **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 the textbook readings 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 Feb. 25 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 five significant paragraphs.

5. **Extra Book Discussion.** Choose one book from the bibliography to read and discuss on the appropriate Canvas 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 Canvas Discussion Forum. The discussion should be approximately four paragraphs long. The discussion is due on Apr. 8. (Depending on how the pandemic is trending, this assignment may become optional for extra credit.)

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 Canvas 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 April 29 during Unit 14 in the appropriate discussion board. Respond to other presentations by May 1.

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	Feb. 25
Extra Book Discussion	Mar. 25
Volunteer Experience	Apr. 8
Ministry Study	Apr. 15
Interviews Project	Apr. 29
Responses to Interviews Project	May 1
Final Exam	May 9

Evaluation of Grade

The student's grade will be computed as follows:

Completion of Canvas Units	15%
Discussion Forums	15%
Volunteer Hours	5%
Quizzes	20%
Ministry Study	15%
Interviews Project	20%
Final Exam	10%

Late assignments will be penalized 10 points per day late.

Attendance Policy

Online Classes: Students are expected to engage regularly with course content through the learning management system and other course delivery methods. Students who fail to participate consistently in course activities may receive a grade of “F” for the course.

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. CanvasHelpDesk@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Canvas Learning Management System NOBTS.Canvas.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.
5. Bluejeanshelpdesk@nobts.edu - Email technical questions/support requests with Bluejeans and NOBTS Bluejeans classrooms (On and Off-Campus).

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

- Unit 1 Jan. 21- Introduction to the Course and Diaspora Missiology
Read Cocanougher, pp. 13-51
- Unit 2 Jan. 28- Biblical Background and the Refugee, the Migrant, and the International
George and Adeney, Intro. and chap. 19
- Unit 3 Feb. 4- The World of the Refugee: Conditions Creating Refugees
Read Smrcek, pp. 1-61, chaps. 1-7; George and Adeney, chaps. 1-3
- Unit 4 Feb. 11-The World of the Refugee: Where Are the Refugees?
Read Smrcek, pp. 63-115, chaps. 8-19; George and Adeney, chaps. 4-6
- Unit 5 Feb. 18- The World of the Refugee: Ministering to Refugees in Transition
Read Cocanoughner, chaps 2-4; George and Adeney, chaps. 10-12
- Unit 6 Feb. 25- The World of the Refugee: Ministering to Refugees in Their New Homes
Read Smrcek, pp.117-175, chaps. 20-31, George and Adeney, chap. 18
- Unit 7 Mar. 4- The World of the Migrant: What Leads to Migration?
Read Cocanoughner, chaps. 5-6; George and Adeney, chaps. 20-21
- Unit 8 Mar. 11- The World of the Migrant: Where Immigrants Settle
Read Cocanoughner, chaps. 9-10
- Spring Break

- Unit 9 Mar. 25- The World of the Migrant: Churches Ministering to Illegal Immigrants
Read Cocanoughner, chaps. 7-8; Extra book discussion
- Unit 10 Apr. 1- The World of Internationals in Our Midst: Where They Come From
George and Adeney, chaps. 16, 17, 22
- Unit 11 Apr. 8- The World of Internationals in Our Midst: Students, part 1
No textbook reading
- Unit 12 Apr. 15- The World of Internationals in Our Midst: Students, part 2
Adeney and George, 7, 8, 9
- Unit 13 Apr. 22- Doing Church with Internationals, Read Cocanoughner, chaps. 11-13
- Unit 14 Apr. 29- Report on Interviews and Reflections
- Final Exam Must be COMPLETED by 11:59 PM on May 9

Selected Bibliography

Books

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