



MISS5330 Christian Missions
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Division of Discipleship and Ministry Leadership
Spring 2023 (Monday 2-4:50p)

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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.

This course addresses all curriculum competencies.

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 an understanding and appreciation of missions history while identifying helpful and unhelpful missionary approaches.
3. Consider, analyze, and evaluate missions strategies and their impact on the future of missions based on partnership with SBC missions organizations.
4. Be able to accomplish the following:
 - a) Participate in missions experiences and advocacy
 - b) Advocate for the Great Commission and develop missions partnerships among Southern Baptists.

Course Teaching Methodology

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 readings and the Canvas weekly unit supplements.

Textbooks

In addition to the Bible as a course text, the following are required:

Akin, Daniel L., Benjamin L. Merkle, and George G. Robinson. *40 Questions About The Great Commission* (Grand Rapids, Kregel, 2020).

Piper, John. *Let the Nations Be Glad: The Supremacy of God in Missions*. 3d edition (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2010). Please use 3d edition or newer.

Smither, Edward L. *Christian Mission: A Concise Global History* (Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press, 2019)

Student Select:

Students with last name A-M

Cho, Eugene and Samira Izadi Page, eds. *No Longer Strangers: Transforming Evangelism With Immigrant Communities* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2021).

OR

Students with last name N-Z

Fuder, John. *Neighborhood Mapping: How to Make Your Church Invaluable to the Community* (Chicago: Moody, 2014)

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Required Readings:

- a. *Let the Nations Be Glad and CM*
There will be weekly quizzes for *LNBG* and *CM* readings
- b. *Great Commission Journal: 40 Questions and Acts* (25%): Students will read *40 Questions About The Great Commission* along with the *Book of Acts*. Students will keep a journal composed of the following: Answering at least 1 of the questions at the end of each chapter in *40 Questions*, reflect on one insight/challenge/thought from *Acts* (1-2 per chapter), and insights/thoughts on how you might communicate this topic to those in your churches (congregation, small group, children, etc.). **Due in class or uploaded to Canvas by 11:55p on May 1, 2023.**

Each paper should begin with a simple declarative statement affirming the approximate percentage of the readings completed each week (see below). If the entire readings were not completed, then the grade will be lowered to correspond with the amount not read.

I, _____[insert name]_____, read _[100, 90, etc.]_% of this week's course readings.

2. **Missional Assessment Paper:** Students are to write a 1-2 page, single-spaced paper

responding to these questions:

- “What is my understanding of the biblical/theological basis for missions?”
- “What is present status of my life’s practice when it comes to praying for and sharing the gospel with my neighbors and the nations?”
- “What motivates me to engage personally the nations locally and globally?”
- “What hinders me from going to the nations?”

This assignment is an introspective paper. It can be written in first person. No title page is needed. Be sure to include your name and student ID on the first page. **Due via Canvas by 11:55pm on Feb 3, 2023.**

- 3. Response to Missions History Presentation:** Students will choose a missionary, nation, or era from the course reading and present for 5 minutes in class. For each presentation, there must be a 1-page single-spaced outline that includes main points and any quotes in the presentation. In the presentation, address why the chosen topic along with concluding lesson/s for application in your current or future ministry. Professor must approve the chosen missionary, nation, or era.

Students will give an engaging oral presentation of their findings. The presentation will be no longer than 5 mins. **Presentations will be in class on March 27, 2023.**

- 4. Reading Reaction and Teaching:** Students will choose one of the select books depending on last name. Each student will read the book in its entirety **and turn in a two page double-spaced reaction to the text.** Then the student will work in groups, depending on text, and teach the book to the class.
 - **In the written reaction,** provide bibliographical data and declarative sentence attesting to % read. Provide 2-3 paragraphs of reaction/lessons learned. The rest of the paper should be key quotes and/or questions from the text. **Written due April 21, 2023 via Canvas by 11:55pm.**
 - **In the presentation,** give a brief summary, highlight the strongest chapter/s and weakest chapter/s, explain important missional lessons, and how we might incorporate into our current ministry. **Presentations in class on April 24, 2023.**
- 5. Final Exam:** Students will take a final exam via Canvas. Exam questions will be taken from both the lectures and the readings.
- 6. Volunteer service (Optional).** Spend 5-10 hours in missions-related volunteer work. Student will provide a 1-pg summary and evaluation of experience on Canvas. **Clear the volunteer experience with the professor before you commit to the volunteer placement.** This assignment is OPTIONAL and extra credit will be given for its completion by April 30

EVALUATION/GRADING:

Assignments for this course will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

1. Does the work illustrate the student's grasp of basic concepts, definitions, and principles related to...?
2. Does the student demonstrate clear and specific interaction with the assigned reading material and class discussion?
3. Is there evidence of the student's personal reflection on the topics discussed? Does the work illustrate the student's independent research and learning?
4. Does the work reflect the student's responsibility to prepare both academically and practically (i.e., has the student attempted to apply the material to his/her ministry setting or to the local church in general)?
5. Does the work fulfill the assignment by the required date? Because ministry itself demands discipline, students are expected to meet established deadlines for submitted work.
6. Is the assignment written at a level appropriate for master's level work? Does the work follow proper style?

COURSE GRADING WEIGHT:

- Class Participation/Reading Quizzes: 10%
- Missional Assessment: 10%
- Reading Reaction and Teaching: 20%
- Missions History Presentation: 20%
- Great Commission Journal: 20%
- Final Examination: 20%

COURSE GRADING:

Grading for the course will follow the guidelines in the NOBTS Academic Policies: A = 95-100; B = 86-93; C = 77-85; D = 70-76; F = below 70.

Technical Assistance

Need technical assistance? Contact the ITC today!

Selfserve@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the Selfserve.nobts.edu site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)

CanvasHelpDesk@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Canvas Learning Management System NOBTS.Canvas.com.

ITCSupport@nobts.edu - Email for general technical questions/support requests.

504.816.8180 - Call for any technical questions/support requests.

www.NOBTS.edu/itc/ - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

Attendance

Students are expected to attend all classes. Absence of more than 9 hours will result in a failing grade. Any student missing 6 or more hours of class will receive a one letter grade reduction in his or her grade. Tardiness will impact grades. Three tardies will be considered as one hour's absence. In the event that the normal NOBTS schedule is impacted due to a natural event or epidemic go to the seminary website for information. Our class will continue through our Canvas site. Please note

announcements and assignments on the Canvas site in the event one or more of our classes is cancelled.

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 the graduate catalog - <https://www.nobts.edu/resources/pdf/academics/GraduateCatalog.pdf>
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.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Each student is responsible for the academic integrity of his/her work. The following are examples of violations of academic integrity: cheating on an exam, plagiarism, turning in work done by someone else, and submitting a paper which has been submitted in another class. These and other violations of academic integrity may result in failure of the course.

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.

Writing Style Guide

Writing assignments should follow the NOBTS/Leavell College Manual of Form and Style (revised August 2019). 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>

Course Schedule (subject to change at professor's discretion)

Class Meeting Week	Reading/Assignments
Jan 23	NOBTS TOWN HALL (Jan 24)
Jan 30	Read <i>LNBG</i> ch. 1; Acts chs. 1-3 Missional Assessment Paper Due (2/3)
Feb 6	Read <i>LNBG</i> ch. 2; Acts chs. 4-6
Feb 13	Read <i>LNBG</i> ch. 3; Smither ch. 1; Acts chs. 7-9
Feb 20	Read <i>LNBG</i> ch. 4 ; Smither ch. 2-3; Acts chs. 10-12
Feb 27	Read <i>LNBG</i> ch. 5; Smither ch. 4-5; Acts chs. 12-14 GLOBAL MISSIONS WEEK
Mar 6	Read <i>LNBG</i> ch. 6; Smither ch 6; Acts 14-16
Mar 13 (SB)	<i>Spring Break</i>
Mar 20	Read <i>LNBG</i> ch. 7; Acts 17-19
March 27	Missions History Presentations
Apr 3	Read <i>LNBG</i> Conclusion and Afterward; Acts chs. 20-22
Apr 10	Acts chs. 23-25 NOBTS SERVE DAY
Apr 17	<i>Acts</i> chs. 26-28 Written Reading Reaction Papers Due (4/21)
Apr 24	Text Presentations
May 1	40 Questions & Acts Journal Due (May 1)
May 8	Final Exam