

MISS 5330-02 CHRISTIAN MISSIONS
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Division of Pastoral Ministries
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Fall Semester 2015

Purpose of the Seminary

The mission of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is to equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission (Matthew 28:16-20) and the Great Commandments (Matthew 22:34-40) through the local church and its ministries.

Course Purpose

The purpose of this course is to help equip those studying at NOBTS to fulfill the Great Commission (Matthew 28: 16-20) through the local church and its ministries.

Core Value Focus

Our seminary has five core values: doctrinal integrity, spiritual vitality, mission focus, characteristic excellence, and servant leadership. This course relates in some way to all five core values but especially Mission Focus, which is the emphasized core value of 2015-2016 at NOBTS: “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.”

Curriculum Competencies Addressed

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary has seven basic competencies guiding the NOBTS curriculum. This course supports and relates to various competencies such as biblical exposition in the section related to biblical foundations of missions. The disciple making competency which stated is “to stimulate church health through mobilizing the church for missions, evangelism, discipleship, and church growth” is especially addressed in the curriculum of this course. The Master of Divinity curriculum lists this course under the disciple making competency.

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, and to the contributions of the Woman’s Missionary Union. 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.

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. Students will also give class presentations.

Course 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.

The Holy Bible (Print or Electronic)

Approved book on missions or missionary biography

Possible Blackboard readings

Course Requirements

1. **Blackboard.** You will be enrolled on Blackboard for the course by the NOBTS ITC. If you have any problems with access to Blackboard after the fall semester begins, contact Blackboard at BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu or (504) 282.4455 x8180.
2. **Reading.** Read all required reading assignments from the textbook, *Discovering the Mission of God* or other assigned sources. You will be accountable for reading assignments through quizzes, reading checkups, or other appropriate evaluation. Those late to class may not be allowed to take quizzes or reading checkups and these cannot be made up if missed.
3. **Missionary Biography or Missions Book Critique and Presentation.** Read a missionary biography or missions book approved by the professor, write a critique of the book, and give a class presentation related to the book.

The book chosen to read may come from the list of missionary biographies on the Course Documents of the Blackboard supplement, course syllabus bibliography or another book approved by the professor. (The book must not be one used in another course)

- A. Write a minimum of a two full double-spaced page critique, using one inch margins, 12 point Times New Roman, a cover page, headings (See (5) below, and proper Turabian form. The book critique should include the following:

- (1) Briefly summarize the contents of the book. Discuss the major topics or themes of the book. Summaries may be done for each chapter but covering the main themes is more important.

- (2) Discuss two concepts, principles, or ways to apply concepts from the book that would be helpful to someone involved in ministry. Include how these points could impact your own life and ministry.
 - (3) Use Headings for each section in the body of the paper: **Summary, Discussion.** Each section should be approximately one full page of text.
- B. During the class presentation, the student will distribute a handout of one or more pages to the class containing practical insights or suggestions applicable to ministry from the book. The handout should not simply be an outline of chapter titles or major sections of the book.
- Due: Submit on Blackboard by 11:59 p.m. Tuesday, September 15. Presentations begin Wednesday, September 16.**
4. **Acts 1:8 Strategy Paper.** Research and write a strategy designed to enable a local church to implement an Acts 1:8 strategy which includes intentional local (Jerusalem); regional (Judea); North America (Samaria) and international missions(ends of the earth) with direct involvement by church members. If your church already has an Acts 1:8 strategy, develop your plan for how to expand its ministry in the four areas or develop an Acts 1:8 strategy for another existing church or planned new church. This plan should be a minimum of six to eight full double-spaced pages in length. The Acts One 8 website shows the basic expectations for Acts 1:8 churches which includes committing a church “to a comprehensive missions involvement in our community (our Jerusalem), state (our Judea), continent (our Samaria), and world (our ends of the earth).” <http://dev.actsone8.com/> Your paper will be a brief description of how you will carry out missions in the four geographic areas and separately how to use each of the eight commitments for your church. (See “Acts One 8” website for a description of the eight commitments. Begin your plan with a brief description of your church and its present involvement in missions. An overview of information on the Acts 1:8 Challenge will be given during the course. Use headings: **Introduction, Description of Church, Geographic Areas of Missions, Commitments, and Conclusion.** Examples of Acts 1:8 churches may be found in articles from *Commission Stories* available online through <http://www.commissionstories.com/>; <http://imb.org>; and <http://www.namb.net>. For detailed information on the Acts 1:8 challenge, go to the website: <http://dev.actsone8.com/> **Due: Submit on Blackboard by 11:59 p.m., Tuesday, October 27.**
- 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 this syllabus. Please complete the assignment according to the syllabus guidelines and this rubric.
5. **Reflection Paper.** Write a 3-4 double-spaced page reflection paper 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 thirty-eight of the textbook provides helpful insights for exploring a missionary call in one’s life and should be consulted for this reflection paper. The paper should include appropriate references to Bible verses and

passages and other sources as needed. It may be written using first person. The reflection paper will be graded for clarity, content, creative expression, and proper grammatical expression and form. **Due: Submit on Blackboard by 11:59 p.m. Tuesday, November 4.**

6. **Special Project.** All special projects should: Have 12-14 full pages, typed double spaced in the body of the paper, using at least at least 14 different sources cited in footnotes, endnotes, or otherwise in proper Turabian form. An introduction, chapter headings, and conclusion are the body of the paper. A cover page, table of contents, and separate bibliography of works cited in research should be included. Use one inch margins, 12 point Times New Roman.

Due: Submit on Blackboard by 11:59 p.m. Tuesday, November 18.

Choose one of the following to complete from A. or one of the six options under B.

- A. Academic: The student will research and write a paper on an approved topic related to missions and ministry.

Examples: How to involve more church members in mission projects and mission service; The Cooperative Program and its missionary impact on Southern Baptists; The Life and Ministry of Lottie Moon,... Annie Armstrong (or) other missionaries or mission figures; An Analysis of the North American Mission Board since its formation in 1997; The Call to Be a Missionary: Is Everyone a Missionary or Is It a Spiritual Gift.

- B. Ministry Focused: Students may choose any individual project or to participate in a group ministry focused special project. Details will be given in class.

- (1) Develop a people profile and strategy proposal for an unreached people group, population segment, or city which may be selected in consultation with the professor. The proposal should include the five pillars of a comprehensive strategy outlined in *New Directions*, pages 41-42, as a guide to help develop a strategy for reaching the unreached people group. The IMB Regional offices or IMB missionaries may be contacted about possible people groups to profile.
- (2) Prepare a complete project work-up for a North American or International volunteer mission project. This should include a clear objective; target group profile; time frame; orientation, preparation and implementation schedule; logistical details; cost estimates; relevant health issues; project partners and facilitators; materials needed; and debriefing process. Students should not develop a project work-up of an already completed project but one anticipated in the future that may be patterned after a prior trip.
- (3) Develop an actual prayer and advocacy network for a specific unreached people group, population segment, city, or related ministry. This network should include at least two congregations and 25 individuals, and should include basic promotional material. The people group or related ministry should be selected in consultation with the professor.
- (4) Develop a profile and evangelistic strategy for a people group or population segment in a city or area. Include the five pillars of a comprehensive strategy found in *New Directions*, pages 41-42, as a guide to help develop a strategy. You should seek to share your findings with someone working in the ministry through a local church or with that people group or segment of the population.
- (5) Do research on a specific geographic location such as a city, town or rural area. Determine what is being done now to reach people in that location for Christ.

- Develop a missions strategy for reaching a special target or ethnic group in the geographic location that includes a three year plan of ministry. Seek to contact at least one person or group targeting that city or area if possible. Make your strategy available to them when complete. The five pillars of a comprehensive mission strategy found in *New Directions*, pages 41-42 should be used as a guide for developing a strategy to reach the people in the location with the gospel.
- C. Do an alternative special project upon approval from the professor.
7. Spend three hours in **volunteer missions service** in New Orleans or in the place you live at a North American Mission Board, state convention, or local church/association community service ministry site. One goal of the assignment will be for you to be involved in ministry beyond the four walls of a church building or traditional ministry structures. This project may be completed any time between registration and the due date below. Write a brief summary of your experience, along with personal reflection on the experience. This project will be graded on a pass/fail basis but is a necessary component of passing this course. The typed summary and reflection should be one to two double spaced typed pages. (Students who are not Southern Baptist may discuss with the professor an appropriate substitute for this assignment.)

Due: Submit on Blackboard by 11:59 p.m. Tuesday, December 1.

Reading Assignments

The assignments should be read before the class meeting on that day. A quiz, reading checkup, or other evaluation may be given on any class day. Chapters listed below come from the textbook. Other reading assignments may be given in class or on blackboard.

August 26	Syllabus
September 2	p. 11-30; Chapters 1-6
September 9	Chapters 7-9; 21
September 16	Book Review Presentations begin
September 23	Chapters 11-14
September 30	Chapters 15-17; 34
October 7	Chapters 23-26
October 14	Midterm Exam
October 21	Fall Break
October 28	Chapters 18-19; 29
November 4	Chapters 27-28; 30-32
November 11	Chapters, 36-37
November 18	Chapters 10, 20, 22
November 25	Thanksgiving Break
December 2	No Textbook Chapters
December 9	Chapters 33, 35, 38

Due Dates

Topic for Special Project	Tuesday, September 8
Book Critique	Tuesday, September 15
Book Presentation	Wednesday, September 16
Outline for Special Project	Tuesday, September 29
Midterm Exam	Wednesday, October 14
Acts 1:8 Church Plan	Tuesday, October 27
Reflection Paper	Tuesday, November 4
Special Project	Tuesday, November 18
Volunteer Service Summary	Tuesday, December 1
Final Exam	Wednesday, December 16, 9 A.M.

Evaluation

Quizzes, Readings, Participation*	20%
Reflection Paper	5%
Acts 1:8 Church Plan	15%
Mission Volunteer Service	Pass/Fail
Midterm Exam	10%
Final Exam	15%
Missions Book Critique and Presentation	10%
Special Project	25%

*Class absences may impact this portion of the class grade at the discretion of the professor.
Any student missing more than six hours of class may receive one letter grade deduction.

Course Outline*

Introduction and Orientation

Foundations for Missions

- A. Biblical Foundations
- B. Theological Foundations
- C. Cultural Considerations & Contextualization

Post Reformation Missions

- A. Historical Overview
- B. Overview of Southern Baptist FMB/IMB
 - 1. Strategic Issues such as Church Planting; Spiritual Warfare, and Prayerwalking
 - 2. Serving with IMB and the Appointment Process

Southern Baptist North American Missions

- A. Historical Overview
- B. Overview of NAMB
 - 1. Strategic Issues such as Church Planting, Revitalization, and Disaster Relief
 - 2. Serving with NAMB and the Appointment Process

The Role of Missions Education and Involvement

The Role of the Local Church in Missions, Missional Churches, and the Acts 1:8 Challenge

*The course outline will be subject to adjustment as deemed appropriate by the professor.

Additional Items

1. Late Assignments

NOTE: All assignments to be submitted on Blackboard by 11:59 p.m. on date due to receive full credit. Assignments turned in late will receive an automatic ten point deduction and receive an additional two point deduction per weekday late. (Example: An assignment turned in one weekday late receives a 20 point deduction; two weekdays late a 30 point deduction.)

NO WORK will normally be accepted that is more than TWO WEEKS PAST THE DUE DATE FOR THE ASSIGNMENT.

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

2. Absences and Class Attendance

See current NOBTS Graduate Catalog for number of hours of class absences allowed. Three occasions of arriving late for class or leaving early will count as one absence. The number of absences may impact the final grade for the course.

3. Miscellaneous Course Reminders

- a. Food and drink should not be brought into the classroom.
- b. Academic misconduct including but not limited to plagiarism, cheating, or unacceptable conduct may result in failure of the course and disciplinary action by the seminary as outlined in the student handbook.
- c. Failure of a computer, printer, or other electronic devices used to compose class assignments will not be accepted as a reason for late work.
- d. Members of the class are asked to respect and follow the dress code found in the Student Handbook.
- e. Members of the class are expected to treat the professor and each other with respect in their conversation and conduct. If not, appropriate action may be taken based on seminary policies.
- f. Use the latest edition of Kate Turabian, *A Manual For Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations* as the official style and form guide. Footnotes, end notes, or parenthetical references are acceptable.
- g. Class participation may impact the final course grade.
- h. Use Times New Roman Font and 12 size for assignments.
- i. Students must self-enroll in the Blackboard supplement. In the event of interruption of campus meetings of the course due to weather or other conditions, the course will continue through Blackboard. In such circumstances, view the seminary website: www.nobts.edu for updates.

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.)

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

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

[504.816.8180](tel:504.816.8180) - Call for any technical questions/support requests.

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

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Internet Resources

Caleb Project www.calebproject.org

Crosswinds <http://www.crosswinds.net>

International Mission Board <http://www.imb.org>

Global Mapping International <http://www.gmi.org>

Global Missions Center of NOBTS (See front page of NOBTS website) <http://nobts.edu>

NOBTS Virtual Library <http://www.nobts.edu/library/EResources/missions.html>

North American Mission Board <http://namb.net>

Profiles of Unreached People Groups <http://www.bethany-wpc.org>
<http://www.heartofgod.com>
<http://www.peoplegroups.org>
<http://www.joshuaproject.net>
<http://www.1040window.org>
<http://www.peoplegroups.info> -Focus on North America

<http://www.sim.org> – “Serving in Missions”

<http://www.sil.org> – “Summer Institute in Linguistics” provides extensive helps and links to other websites in the academic areas of linguistics, anthropology, literacy, language learning, translation, and computing.

<http://www.ethnologue.org> – Resources on the world’s languages including information on alternate names, number of speakers, location, dialects, linguistic affiliation, and other sociolinguistic and demographic information.

<http://www.library.yale.edu> – Yale University Library

<http://www.cia.gov> – The Central Intelligence Agency has information on all countries, including a simple map of each country.

<http://www.wabashcenter.wabash.edu/resources/result-browse.aspx?topic=691&pid=650>

Wabash Center Missions Internet links.

Grading Rubric for Acts 1:8 Church Plan Paper

MISS5330 Christian Missions

Student Name _____

Semester _____

Delivery System _____

Student Course Objective 2. Develop a church missions strategy based on partnership with SBC missions organizations.

Four Geographic Areas:

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Local

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 State/Regional

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 North America

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 International

9-10 – Exceptional quality, demonstrating superior workmanship and scholarship

7-8 – Better quality than the class average

5-6 – Met the requirements satisfactorily

3-4 – Low passing; below the quality of the class average

0-2 – Unsatisfactory work

Eight Kingdom Responses:

0 1 2 3 4 5 Prepare

0 1 2 3 4 5 Learn

0 1 2 3 4 5 Pray

0 1 2 3 4 5 Give

0 1 2 3 4 5 Go

0 1 2 3 4 5 Tell

0 1 2 3 4 5 Send

0 1 2 3 4 5 Multiply

5 – Exceptional quality, demonstrating superior workmanship and scholarship

4 – Better quality than the class average

3 – Met the requirements satisfactorily

2 – Low passing; below the quality of the class average

0-1 – Unsatisfactory work

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Length Requirement

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Form/ Style

9-10 – Exceptional quality, demonstrating superior workmanship and scholarship

7-8 – Better quality than the class average

5-6 – Met the requirements satisfactorily

3-4 – Low passing; below the quality of the class average

0-2 – Unsatisfactory work

Possible Points: 100 Points Deducted

Points Total
