

MISS5330 Christian Missions
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Division of Pastoral Ministries
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Mission Statement

The mission of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is to equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

Course Purpose, Core Value Focus, and Curriculum Competencies Addressed

The purpose of this course is to carry out the mission of NOBTS as is reflected through the core values and the core competencies in the following ways:

Core Values

1. Doctrinal Integrity- The course will follow the confessional commitments that are outlined in the Articles of Religious Belief of NOBTS and the Baptist Faith and Message 2000.
2. Spiritual Vitality- The professor will teach that missions without spiritual vitality is ineffective for the Kingdom of God. This is the emphasized core value for 2014-15.
3. Mission focus- We are not here to 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.
4. Characteristic Excellence- The professor will teach that missions is a service to Christ and therefore should be rendered with characteristic excellence.
5. Servant Leadership- The professor will teach that servant leadership is a crucial aspect of those involved in missions

Core Competencies- The seminar will address six of the seven competencies:

1. Biblical Exposition- The biblical foundations of missions will be examined..
2. Christian Theological Heritage- The history of Christian missions will be examined.
3. Disciple Making- Disciple making in a mission context will be explored..
4. Interpersonal Skills- Students will be challenged to see the vital connection between interpersonal skills and missions.
5. Servant Leadership- The servant leadership nature of missions will be explored..
6. Spiritual and Character Formation-Students will be exposed, through reading and contact, with those who model Christian character and devotion in mission settings.

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 Course Objectives

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 online presentations by the professor, PowerPoint presentations, readings, and online handouts. There will be frequent brief audio lectures. Students will spend time with online mission resources. Other teaching methods include discussions on Blackboard forums.

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

Course Requirements

1. A. Once each student has completed the registration procedures and had cleared the Business Office, he or she will be automatically enrolled in the Blackboard portion of the course during the week of January 12-16 (Do not be surprised if it is toward the end of that week). The class will begin on January 20. The first thing each student should do is go through "Unit 1: Getting Started". This will explain course procedures.
- B. Students in an internet course are responsible to check the announcements and units in Blackboard as well as emails from the professor to stay up to date on assignments or any adjustment to due dates listed in the course syllabus. **You must maintain a valid e-mail address recorded in your Blackboard account at all times.**

2. Students should proceed through the learning units in numerical order beginning with “Unit 1: Getting Started.” New units will be released weekly so students should not expect to work ahead too far. With the exception of the shorter Unit One, all units should be completed by Sat. of each week. For the first week of the class the first unit is due on **Sat., January 24, 11:59 P.M.** and the second unit is due on **Sat., January 31, 11:59 P.M.** All units must be completed along with required readings. At the end of each section of a unit students will indicate completion of that section of the unit by clicking on the “Reviewed” button. 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.

3. Reading, review, and completion of unit materials. Mark each item as reviewed when you have completed it. A quiz may be given on any materials in the unit.

4. Outside Projects (Assignments not found in Blackboard Units but to be submitted on Blackboard as noted below):

a. **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.

This assignment is due on **Wed., April 1**, and is to be submitted via the Blackboard Assignment File.

b. **Acts 1: 8 Plan.** 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.actstone8.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, 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.actstone8.com/>

The plan is due on **Wed., March 18**, and is to be submitted via the Blackboard Assignment File. Helps for the Acts 1:8 Plan can be found on the External Links site.

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.

c. **Volunteer service.** Spend 4 hours in volunteer mission work 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).

Report on the experience in the Blackboard Discussion Board. Clear the volunteer experience with the professor before you commit to the volunteer placement. The volunteer work must be completed by **Wed., April 22** and the discussion entered in Blackboard by **Sat., April 25**. This assignment will be graded on a pass/fail basis and is required component for passing this course.

d. **Missionary Biography** or other **Missions Book**.

1. Choose a missionary bibliography (from list supplied by professor) or a missions book from the course syllabus or textbook bibliographies or another missions book approved by the professor. Email the professor for approval of the book you request to read.

2. After completion of reading a missionary biography or a missions book, post a discussion about the book on the discussion board. Your discussion should be three or four substantial paragraphs between two-thirds to one full page in which you discuss the missionary and the ministry of that missionary. Evaluate the life and work of the missionary and point out major contributions. If reading a missions book other than a missionary biography, post a discussion about key points from the book and ways to apply insights from the book in local church ministry or missions. Your discussion should be three or four substantial paragraphs between two-thirds to one full page.

3. After posting your discussion, read and respond to at least 5 other posts. The post on your missionary biography or missions book should be entered by **Wed., February 18** and your response to 5 other posts should be completed by **Sat. February 21**.

e. **Research Project.** Do **one of** the following projects which must be approved by the professor. Choose one of the following to complete from 1). or one of the options under 2). An introduction, headings for key points, conclusion and a separate bibliography of works cited in research should be included.

1). 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; The Call to Be a Missionary: Is Everyone a Missionary or Is It a Spiritual Gift; The Impact of the Great Commission Resurgence Task Force Recommendations on the local church (or) state conventions (or) NAMB (or) IMB.

2). Ministry Focused:

(a) 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*, (course document), 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.

(b) 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.

(c) 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.

(d) 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*, (course document) should be used as a guide for developing a strategy to reach the people in the location with the gospel.

(e) Do an alternative special project upon approval from the professor.

By **Wed., February 11**, each student will submit the topic of the project in the appropriate discussion forum. By **Wed., March 4**, each student will turn in a preliminary outline of his or her project with at least 6 of the 14 sources that will be used. This will be submitted in the Assignment File. The final project is due on **Wed., April 15**, and should be submitted on the appropriate discussion board so that all students will have access to papers. The paper should be at least 12-14 pages in length (the text portion) and use at least 14 different sources. All papers should be in Turabian format. Use footnotes to show your sources. Students will also be responsible for reviewing other research papers as assigned at the end of the semester. Failure to review the assigned research papers of fellow students will negatively impact your research paper grade.

NOTE: Assignments turned in late will receive an automatic 15 point deduction for the first day, and a 2 point deduction for each additional weekday late.

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.

Course Evaluation

Final Exam	15%
Unit Quizzes	10%
Acts 1:8 Church Plan	15%
Research Project Preliminaries	5%
Research Project	20%
Reflection Paper	5%
Mission Volunteer Hours	Pass/Fail
Missionary Biography	10%
Completion of Unit Assignments including Discussion Forums	20%

Outline of Course and Completion Dates for Units*

Note: Below you will find the names of the Learning Units that you will find on the class Blackboard site. A completion due date is given for each unit. In each unit you will find the assigned textbook readings, online readings, and other assignments. It is extremely important that you not get behind. If you get behind you will miss quizzes and have points deducted for late work.

Unit 1: Getting Started	Completion date January 24
Unit 2: What Is Missions?	Completion date January 31
Unit 3: Biblical Background– Old Testament	Completion date February 7
Unit 4: Biblical Background– New Testament, pt. 1	Completion date February 14
Unit 5: Biblical Background– New Testament, pt. 2	Completion dates Feb. 21
Unit 6: History of Missions, pt. 1	Completion date Feb. 28
Unit 7: History of Missions, pt. 2	Completion date March 7
Unit 8: International Mission Board	Completion date March 14
Unit 9: North American Mission Board	Completion date March 21
Unit 10: The Call to Missions	Completion date April 4
Unit 11: Contextualization	Completion date April 11
Unit 12: Review of Research Papers	Completion date April 18
Unit 13: Spiritual Warfare/Prayerwalking	Completion date April 25
Unit 14: The Local Church/Missions Education	Completion date May 2
Unit 15: Christian Comm. Dev. and Disaster Relief	Completion date May 9
Final Exam	MUST be Completed by May 12

*The course schedule may be subject to adjustment as deemed appropriate by the professor.

Due Dates

Topic for Special Project – February 11
Missions Book Critique – February 18
Tentative Outline for Special Project – March 4
Acts 1:8 Church Plan – March 18
Reflection Paper – April 1
Special Project – April 15
Volunteer Service Project Summary – April 22
Final Exam – **Tuesday, May 12**

Contacting Dr. Pinckard

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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
