

MISS5350 Ministry to Refugees, Immigrants, and Internationals

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Division of Pastoral Missions
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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. The core value emphasis for this academic year is Spiritual Vitality.

1. Doctrinal Integrity- The course will follow the confessional commitments that are outlined in the Articles of Religious Belief and the Baptist Faith and Message 2000
2. Spiritual Vitality- The professor will teach that ministry and missions without spiritual vitality is ineffective for the Kingdom of God.
3. Mission focus-The course will deal with missions to a wide variety of people..
4. Characteristic Excellence- The professor will teach that missions and ministry 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 three of the seven competencies.

1. Disciple Making- Students will examine ways people and ministries are making disciples in the context in which are found refugees, immigrants, and internationals.
2. Servant Leadership- Students will examine leadership styles effective ministry and missions.
3. Spiritual and Character Formation-Students will be exposed, through reading and contact, with those who model Christian character and devotion in ministry to refugees, immigrants, and internationals.

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.

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 small and large group discussion, 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.

Textbooks

Payne, J.D. *Strangers Next Door: Immigration, Migration and Mission*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2012. 3: 9780830857586

Smrcek, Helena. *Kingdom Beyond Borders: Finding Hope Along The Refugee Highway*. Bloomington, IN: WestBow Press, 2011.

Class Assignments

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 Blackboard portion of the course. The class will begin on June 1. The first thing each student should do is go through Unit 1. This will explain course procedures.

2. **Blackboard 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 Wednesday and each Saturday. 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. PLEASE DO NOT FORGET TO MARK AS REVIEWED AS YOU GOT THROUGH THE DIFFERENT PARTS OF EACH UNIT. Orderly completion of the two 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. The deadline for completing a unit is midnight on the date it is due. Unit 1 is due at 11:59 PM on Wed., June 3. 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 **at least 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 both textbooks 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, during the unit due on June 20, 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 six significant paragraphs.

5. **Extra Book Discussion.** Choose one book from the bibliography to read and discuss on the appropriate Blackboard 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 June 27. The reflections on the discussion of others is due on June 29.

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 Blackboard Discussion Forum. The discussion should be approximately four paragraphs long. The discussion is due on July 8.

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 Blackboard Discussion Forum. Respond to the posts of your fellow students. Due on July 11.

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 July 20 during Unit 14 in the appropriate discussion board. Respond to other presentations by July 22.

9. **Reflection Discussion.** At the end of the class in the discussion forum reflect on your learning experiences in this class. Your discussion entry should be at least eight 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 July 24 at noon.

Class Outline

Unit 1	Introduction to the Course and Diaspora Missiology Read Payne, chapter 12	Due Wed., June 3
Unit 2	Biblical Background and the Refugee, the Migrant, and the International Read Payne, chapters 1, 4, and 5	Due Sat., June 6
Unit 3	The World of the Refugee: Conditions Creating Refugees Read Smrcek, pp. 1-61	Due Wed., June 10
Unit 4	The World of the Refugee: Where Are the Refugees? Read Smrcek, pp. 63-115	Due Sat., June 13
Unit 5	The World of the Refugee: Ministering to Refugees in Transition Read Payne, chapter 8	Due Wed., June 17
Unit 6	The World of the Refugee: Ministering to Refugees in Their New Homes Read Smrcek, pp.117-175	Due Sat., June 20
Unit 7	The World of the Migrant: What Leads to Migration? No textbook reading	Due Wed., June 24
Unit 8	The World of the Migrant: Where Immigrants Settle Read Payne, chapters 2 and 6	Due Sat., June 27
Unit 9	The World of the Migrant: Churches Ministering to Illegal Immigrants Read Payne, chapter 3	Due Wed., July 1
Unit 10	The World of Internationals in Our Midst: Where They Come From No textbook reading	Due Wed., July 8
Unit 11	The World of Internationals in Our Midst: Students, part 1 Read Payne, chapter 7	Due Sat., July 11
Unit 12	The World of Internationals in Our Midst: Students, part 2	Due Wed., July 15
Unit 13	Doing Church with Internationals, Read Payne, chapters 9, 10, and 11	Due Sat., July 18
Unit 14	Report on Interviews and Reflections- No textbook reading Interviews due on July 20. Reflections on interviews of others	due Wed., July 22
Final Exam	MUST be Completed by July 23 at 11:59 PM	

Due Dates Summary

1. Unit completion (and any quiz) due on each Wed. and Sat., except Saturday, July 4
2. June 20- Reflection on "The Good Lie"
3. June 27- Extra Book Discussion
4. June 29- Responses to the extra book discussions of others
5. July 8- Volunteer hours discussion
6. July 11- Ministry study
7. July 20- Interview project
8. July 22- Responses to the Interview projects of others
9. July 23- at 11:59 PM- Final exam completed
10. July 24- at noon- Reflection Discussion
11. There will also be discussions board assignments due. These dates will be given in the units

Evaluation

Unit Quizzes	20%
Extra Book Reading and Reflection	15%
Volunteer Experience	5%
Ministry Study	10%
Group Project	25%
Reflection Discussion	10%
Final Exam	15%

Any late assignment will be penalized 15 points for the any part of the first day late and 10 points per weekday thereafter.

Netiquette: Appropriate Online Behavior

Each student is expected to demonstrate appropriate Christian behavior when working online on the Discussion Board. The student is expected to interact with other students in a fashion that will promote learning and respect for the opinions of others in the course. A spirit of Christian charity is expected at all times in the online environment.

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