



NEW ORLEANS
BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

CESE8311: Maturing Believers in a Cross-Cultural Context
A Professional Doctoral Special Event Seminar in Minsk, Belarus
Spring Trimester
May 25-June 1, 2022

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NOBTS 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 seminar is designed helping students to experience leading discipleship ministries in a cross-cultural setting. This seminar will usually be offered as a mission trip focusing on the practice of leading Christian education in an international partnership. Special attention will be given to principles and practice of communication and educational leadership in other cultures. As a part of the mission trip students will assist local and national leaders in implementing programs to mature believers and develop leaders for multiplication.

Student Learning Outcomes

When students have completed this course, they will be able to:

- Identify principles of communicating biblical truths in a cross-cultural context.
- Demonstrate an awareness of historical, cultural, linguistic, and geographical factors impacting spiritual development with people in the mission trip.
- Effectively dialogue with church leaders on the mission trip about methodology for maturing believers.
- Synthesize principles of cross-cultural ministry within their own ministry context.
- Present a plan for maturing Christians in a specific cultural area.

Course Methodology

This seminar will utilize textbook readings, small group interaction, and critical reflection as well as an experiential component of the mission trip to provide educational methodology for the students' learning experiences.

Required Textbooks

See individual assignments for necessary textbooks.

Course Requirements

Pre-Event Assignments:

Cultural Insights List: Each student will read one of the following textbooks. For the selected book the student is to prepare a list of at least ten insights gained about the people group for the mission trip. Briefly discuss each of the insights. It is anticipated that this assignment will be approximately five pages double-spaced in length. **Date Due: May 15**

Select from one of the following two books ...

Bazan, Lubov. *A History of Belarus*. London: Glagostav Publications, 2014.

Roberts, Nigel. *Belarus (Brandt Travel Guide)*, 2018.

Cross-Cultural Ministry Book Critique: Read one of the following two books and prepare a six page doubled spaced critique for each book: Include a significant (at least four pages) summary of content. Also identify strengths and weaknesses of the authors' points of view, points of agreement or disagreement, and potential application to the student's personal ministry. **Date Due: May 15**

Plueddemann, James. *Teaching Across Cultures: Contextualizing Education for Global Mission*. Downers Grove: IVP Academics, 2018.

Yount, William R., and Mike Barnett. *Called to Reach: Equipping Cross-Cultural Disciplers*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 2008.

Maturing Believers Presentation: Prepare a thirty-minute presentation to be shared at a conference in Belarus. Students will be assigned a specific presentation based on need of churches and participant background. Assignments will be made by April 1. **Date Due: Submit a two page outline of the prepared presentation by May 15.** Actual presentations will be made during the mission trip.

During the Mission Trip

Mission Trip Participation: Participate completely in all activities of the mission trip. Lead presentations as assigned. **Date Due: May 25-June 1.**

Daily Journal: During the mission trip maintain a daily journal of activities, insights gained, experiences, and reflections. Following the mission trip submit a typed version of the journal. **Date Due: June 1.**

Following the Mission Trip

Reflection Paper: Following the mission trip submit a four page double-spaced reflection paper identifying increases in knowledge, awareness of cross-cultural sensitivities, and skills developed. Discuss possible applications to current personal ministry and implications for future potential ministry. **Date Due: June 30.**

Logistical Considerations

NOBTS will be partnering with the Belarussian Mission for the trip. The overall cost of the trip is \$3,000 inclusive of airfare, lodging, food, visa etc. The tuition for the class is in addition to the cost of the trip. The deposit of \$500 will be due on March 15th, and the remaining balance will be due April 15th payable to the Belarussian Mission. Upon registration in the class, the professor will provide more information about logistical details for the trip.

Course Evaluation

Cultural Insights List	15%
Cross-Cultural Ministry Book Critique	15%
Maturing Believers Presentation	15%
Trip Participation	25%
Daily Journal	15%
Reflection Paper	15%
Interview	10%



Click [HERE](#) for a link to Helpful Playlist, including topics on how to view your grades, submit assignments, and post on the discussion board.

Click [HERE](#) for a video tutorial on how to navigate Blackboard and enroll in courses.

Click [HERE](#) to sign up for a one-on-one virtual assistance opportunity with ITC personnel.

*Make sure to schedule your appointment at least 2 weekdays in advance.

Be sure to write down any questions you may have concerning Blackboard and bring them to the orientation session. ITC Student Support will be present and able to assist you with your inquiries.

If you have any further questions feel free to contact us at

blackboardhelpdesk@nobts.edu

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