

## **First and Twenty First Century Ministry Parallels EVAN-9406**

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

Pastoral Ministries

Fall 2014

(8/28, 9/25, 11/6, 12/4)

Thursdays (8-11 a.m., 1-5 p.m.)

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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 areas:

- Spiritual Vitality – This seminar will be conducted in line with the seminary’s value of Spiritual Vitality. Spiritual Vitality is the emphasis for the current academic year at NOBTS.

#### Core Competencies ...

- Christian theological heritage – As a part of the seminar, the students will explore several theological issues that the first century church faced that the church of the 21<sup>st</sup> century is still facing.
- Spiritual and character formation – Some students may choose to explore how spiritual and character formation took place in Biblical times and how those impact ministry today.
- Disciple making – The primary competency being addressed by the students is disciple making. The seminar will explore arenas of disciple making in the first and twenty first century.
- Biblical exposition – The foundation of the seminar will be the Bible. The students will explore various Biblical issues.

## **Course Description**

This seminar examines the striking parallels between the context for ministry in the early church and the church of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Context and corresponding methods will be examined in the areas of evangelism and church planting along with disciple-making global missionary principles. The Book of Acts and the early church will be examined along with the local and global task and context facing the 21<sup>st</sup> century church.

## **Student Learning Outcomes – Objectives**

Upon the successful completion of the course the students should be able to:

1. Demonstrate a level of research skills consistent with doctoral studies.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of several key 1<sup>st</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century parallel issues.
3. Demonstrate the ability to organize and articulate ideas in a coherent and convincing manner.
4. Demonstrate a familiarity with related literature.

## **Course Teaching Methodology**

Professor supervision: The professor will guide students in addressing the areas of study necessary to accomplish the seminar objectives.

Individual work: Each student will be expected to read, conduct research, and engage in critical thinking and clear writing.

Group discussion: Each student will be expected to participate in all seminar discussions and group discussions outside of seminar time.

Research: The personal and collective research of the students will serve as the primary source of materials for the seminar.

Discussion: There will be class discussions based on questions raised in the assigned reading, research and in the lectures.

## **Textbooks**

*Acts* by Darrell Bock

*Thirty Years that Changed the World: The Book of Acts for Today* by Michael Green

*Acts for Everyone* by N. T. Wright

*The Acts of the Apostles* by James Dunn

## **Course Requirements**

1. Each student will read and review *Thirty Years that Changed the World* (6-8 pages double-spaced). Each review should include a synopsis of the book, evaluation, and identification with explanation of major ministry issues for 21<sup>st</sup> century church. A special attention should be given to approach, lifestyle, message, apologetics, methods, church planting, pastoral care, church life, leadership, hardship, the Holy Spirit, and priorities of the apostles and the early church. The assignment is due August 28.

2. Each student will read *Acts* by Bock, *Acts for Everyone* by Wright, *The Acts of the Apostles* by Dunn according to the schedule below and prepare a summary of Parallel Ministry Issues per each chapter of the book of Acts. More information will be given on the first day of class (Acts 1-10 is due September 25 and Acts 11-28 is due November 6).
3. Each student will write a major research paper that is 30-50 pages in length. The major paper will be presented by the student on December 4. The presentation should include the Power Point Presentation of the work. The major paper should be emailed to each student in class and the professor on December 1. Each student will evaluate major papers of other students in the seminar and bring an evaluation per each paper to the seminar on December 4.
4. Each student will modify his or her major paper to be submitted to a journal, periodical, Baptist Press, or for presentation at a professional society. The student should research and meet submission guidelines of the selected entity. The modified version of the major paper is due December 12 and should be emailed to the professor.

### **Course Evaluation**

The final grade will be determined by the professor's evaluation of the student's written work, oral presentations, and contributions to seminar discussions. Written work will be examined by looking at the following: grammar and style matters, construction and flow of the paper, demonstration of critical thinking and analysis, completing the research problem or solving the problem, and related matters.

### **Policies**

- 1) Students are expected to attend each seminar session.
- 2) All work is to be prepared on time and any late work that is submitted will dramatically negatively influence the grade for the assignment.
- 3) All work is due at the beginning of the seminar session unless specified otherwise.
- 4) All work will be examined for style, grammar, flow, and logical flow of ideas developed from the research conducted.

## Assignment Particulars

- Do not turn in work late. If you turn work in late, you will have a difficult time passing the seminar.
- Pay attention to the quality of your grammar and style. You might want to refer to *The Elements of Style* by William Strunk & E. B. White.
- All topics for the major paper are to have professor approval. This research proposal is to include: a topic, several major references, and tentative outline of the proposed paper.
- Major Paper – 30-50 pages + bibliography, 1 hour and 30 minutes total for each major paper (approximately an hour per student presentation, remaining time in dialogue)
- Students are to read and provide corrections to presenting student on each major paper.

### Selected Bibliography on First Century

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- Skausanne, Oskar. *In the Shadow of the Temple*. Grand Rapids: IVP, 2002.
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Wilken, Robert Louis. *The Christians as the Romans Saw Them*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1984.

Williams, D. H. *The Free Church & the Early Church*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans Publishing, 2002.

### **Selected Bibliography 21<sup>st</sup> Century**

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Anderson, Neil. *The Bondage Breaker: Overcoming Negative Thoughts, Irrational Feelings, and Habitual Sins*. Eugene, OR: Harvest House Publishing, 1993.

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\_\_\_\_\_. *Frog in the Kettle: What Christians Need to Know about Life in the Year 2000*. Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 1990.

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Beougher, Timothy K. and Alvin L. Reid. *Evangelism for a Changing World Essays in Honor of Roy J. Fish*. Wheaton: Harold Shaw Publishers, 1995.

Bosch, David, Alan Neely, and Wayne Pipkin, eds. *Believing in the Future: Toward a Missiology of Western Culture*. Grand Rapids: Trinity Press International, 1995.

Carson, D. A., ed. *Telling the Truth: Evangelizing Postmoderns*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2000.

Celek, Tim, Dieter Zander and Patrick Kampert. *Inside the Soul of the New Generation: Insight and Strategy for Reaching Busters*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1996.

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- Hawthorne, Steve and Graham Kendrick. *Prayer-Walking: Praying On Site With Insight*. Orlando: Creation House, 1993.
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- \_\_\_\_\_. *How to Reach Secular People*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1992.
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- Kelly, Gerard. *RetroFuture: Rediscovering our Roots, Recharting our Routes*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2000.
- Kramp, John. *Out of Their Faces and Into Their Shoes: How to Understand Spiritually Lost People and Give Them Directions to God*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman Publishers, 1995.
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