



EVAN9401 Emerging Issues in Evangelism and Church Growth

Aug. 29, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, Dec. 5
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Pastoral Ministry Division
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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.

Core Value Focus

The seminary has five core values.

1. **Doctrinal Integrity:** Knowing that the Bible is the Word of God, we believe it, teach it, proclaim it, and submit to it. This course addresses Doctrinal Integrity specifically by preparing students to grow in understanding and interpreting of the Bible.
2. **Spiritual Vitality:** We are a worshiping community emphasizing both personal spirituality and gathering together as a Seminary family for the praise and adoration of God and instruction in His Word. Spiritual Vitality is addressed by reminding students that a dynamic relationship with God is vital for effective ministry.
3. **Mission Focus:** 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. This course addresses Mission Focus by helping students understand the biblical foundations for fulfilling the Great Commission and the Great Commandments.
4. **Characteristic Excellence:** What we do, we do to the utmost of our abilities and resources as a testimony to the glory of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Characteristic Excellence is addressed by preparing students to excel in their ability to interpret Scripture, which is foundational to effective ministry.
5. **Servant Leadership:** We follow the model of Jesus and exert leadership and influence through the nurture and encouragement of those around us. Servant Leadership is modeled by classroom department.

The core value focus for this academic year is Spiritual Vitality.

Curriculum Competencies

NOBTS faculty members realize that all ministers need to develop specific competencies if they are going to have an effective ministry. To increase the likelihood of NOBTS graduates having an effective ministry, the faculty developed a competency-based curriculum after identifying seven essential competencies necessary for effective ministry. All graduates are expected to have at least a minimum level of competency in all of the following areas:

1. **Biblical Exposition:** to interpret and communicate the Bible accurately.
2. **Christian Theological Heritage:** To understand and interpret Christian theological heritage and Baptist polity for the church.
3. **Disciple Making:** To stimulate church health through mobilizing the church for missions, evangelism, discipleship, and church growth.
4. **Interpersonal Skills:** To perform pastoral care effectively, with skills in communication and conflict management.

5. **Servant Leadership:** To serve churches effectively through team ministry.
6. **Spiritual and Character Formation:** To provide moral leadership by modeling and mentoring Christian character and devotion.
7. **Worship Leadership:** To facilitate worship effectively.

This course will address the following curriculum competencies:

- a. **Biblical exposition:** The student will discover passages of Scripture that will serve as foundation for understanding emerging issues in evangelism.
- b. **Theological and historical perspective:** The course will provide a theological basis and a historical understanding of emerging issues relevant to evangelism..
- c. **Effective servant leadership:** The course is designed to provide an understanding of the relationship and practice of servant leadership to current issues in evangelism.
- d. **Interpersonal relationships:** The course emphasizes the importance of interpersonal skills as a vital aspect of evangelism.
- e. **Disciple making:** In this course, students are encouraged to understand that church evangelism and growth necessitate growth of individuals via discipleship.
- f. **Worship leadership:** The relationship between the design of worship to current issues in evangelism is noted in the course.

Course Description

This seminar is a study of the most current issues and potentially dangerous issues that are emerging in evangelism and church growth. In addition to researching the latest printed resources to discover and discuss emerging issues, attention will be given to gaining new information through the construction and implementation of surveys and other data gaining devices.

Learning Objectives

1. Students will learn and understand emerging issues related to evangelism and church growth.
2. Students will study the importance of context to emerging issues in evangelism.
3. Students will become familiar with significant literature related to emerging issues in evangelism.
4. Students will learn how to lead churches to deal with emerging issues in evangelism.

Course Teaching Methodology

1. Professor supervision: The professor will guide students in addressing the areas of study necessary to accomplish the seminar objectives.
2. Individual work: Each student will be expected to read, conduct research, and engage in critical thinking and clear writing.
3. Group discussion: Each student will be expected to participate in all seminar discussions and group discussions outside of seminar time.

Textbooks

Each student will read the six required textbooks. The textbooks are:

Price, Craig. *Engage*. **Report Due: August 29**

Andrews, Edward D. *Conversational Evangelism*. **Report Due: October 3**

Allen, David, Eric Hankins, Adam Harwood. *Anyone Can Be Saved*. **Report Due: October 3**

Butterfield, Rosaria. *The Gospel Comes with a House Key*. **Report Due: November 7**

Hearn, Mark. *Techni Color*. **Report Due: November 7**

Lokkesmoe, Ryan, Heather Zempel. *Paul and His Team*. **Report Due: November 7**

Seminar Requirements

1. Book Report:

Student will submit a 6-8 page (typed; double-spaced) critique:

Answer at least the following:

- a. What was the author's primary purpose in writing this book?
- b. A brief summary of the book.
- c. Did the author accomplish his purpose?
- d. Complete a thorough synthesis, what were the larger messages of this book?
- e. What did you like about the book?
- f. With what did you disagree or have questions about?
- g. Identify and discuss 3-5 emerging issues that may have an impact on contemporary evangelism.

Each student will be expected to lead the seminar discussion related to their assigned portions of the textbooks.

2. Seminar Paper:

During this semester, research papers related to contemporary trends in evangelistic methods will be researched by each student. Each seminar paper will involve discussions of research methods and evaluation will be provided by the professor and class.

Seminar papers (40 pages) will be written on the assigned topic. Papers will be written in an appropriate style and quality acceptable for possible publication in a book.

After completion of a major paper, the paper then should be tailored to fit the requirements for major scholarly presentation or publication.

Printed and electronic copies of the seminar paper will be submitted to the professor.

Progress report discussion will be: Oct. 3 and Nov. 7. Completed research papers will be presented on the Dec. 5. The seminar paper and adjusted paper for scholarly presentation/publication will be due November 25 to allow evaluation by the professor and students.

Course Evaluation

The final grade will be determined by the professor's evaluation of the student's written work and oral presentations, taking into account style, critical thinking, design, subject coverage and other related matters.

The requirements for the course and the contribution of each towards the final grade are as follows:

ACTIVITIES	PERCENTAGES
Book Reports	40%
Class Discussion	20%
Seminar Paper	40%

Technical Assistance

For assistance regarding technology, consult ITC (504-816-8180) or the following websites:

1. Selfserve@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the Selfserve.nobts.edu site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)
2. BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Blackboard Learning Management System NOBTS.Blackboard.com.
3. ITCSupport@nobts.edu - Email for general technical questions/support requests.
4. www.NOBTS.edu/itc/ - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

Help for Writing Papers at "The Write Stuff"

NOBTS maintains a Writing Center designed to improve English writing at the graduate level. Students can receive writing guides, tips, and valuable information to help in becoming a better writer.

Plagiarism on Written Assignments

NOBTS has a no tolerance policy for plagiarism. Plagiarism in certain cases may result in expulsion from the seminary. See the NOBTS Student Handbook for definition, penalties, and policies associated with plagiarism.

A Sample of Possible Topics for a Major Paper

Evangelism in a Postmodern World
House Church Network
Family to Family Evangelism & Discipleship (equipping heads of households)
Internet Church & Evangelism
Trends in Evangelizing Children
Trends in Evangelizing Youth
Trends in Evangelizing Senior Adults
The Dynamics of the Multi-Congregational Church
Personal Evangelism with those with Little Religious background
Distinguishing Christian beliefs, practices and doctrine
Evangelizing the Dechurched (formerly churchd)
Evangelizing the Uninterested and Hard to Reach
Uniqueness and Exclusivity of Christ in a Pluralistic America
Use of Cell and Small Groups in Evangelism
The Christian Message Among Conflicting Messages
Communication Barriers
Assimilation and Follow-up After Conversion
The Changing Role of Mass and Direct Marketing
Characteristics of Churches which Reach Lost People through Worship
Role of Church Planting in Reaching Unreached People Groups
Turning the Spiritually Interested into World-Changing Disciples
Changing Role of Revival Meetings
The Marriage of Ministry and Evangelism
Church Models for Evangelism and Disciple-Making
Evangelism in the Urban Setting
Evangelism in Rural Areas
Evangelism in Small Towns
Evangelism in the Suburbs
Evangelism at Colleges and Universities
Evangelism among Different Lifestyle Groups
Evangelism in Small Towns
Evangelism in Medium Size Churches
Evangelism in Large Churches
Evangelism in Mega-churches
Evangelism among the Poor
Evangelizing the Wealthy
Evangelism Involving Specific Racial or Ethnic Groups
Essentials of the Christian Message to Pre-Christian America
Pros and Cons of Worship Evangelism
Pros and Cons of the Mega Church Over Time
Assimilation Difference in Relational and Non-Relational Evangelism
The Death of Churches
Pros and Cons of the Individualizing of Discipleship
Family Friendly Churches
Natural Church Development as a Tool for Church Growth and Health
Challenges to Churches in an Ever-Changing Culture
Why Live the Christian Life - Why Become a Christian
Turning Natural Conversations to Spiritual Conversations
Pastoral Leadership in the Area of Evangelism
Calvinism in the Southern Baptist Life
The New Questions of the Pre-Christians
The Use of Additional Services to Reach Additional People Groups
Pastoral Learning in an Increasingly Complex World
Planting Seeds in Unseeded Fields
The Unknown God: The God People are Looking For
Identifying Evangelism and Growth Problems

Identifying the Major Approaches to Evangelism in the New Century
The Changing Roles of Members to Minister: the New Reformation
The Use of the Internet and Other Technologies in Evangelism
Power Evangelism Revisited: The Demonstration of the Supernatural
Demonic Strongholds and Deliverance in Evangelism and Discipleship
Gen X Church Models
Effective Millennials Church Evangelism
Church Without Walls
Skills Needed to Share the Gospel in a Changing World
The Changing Gospel for an Unchanging World
Keys to Leading a Church to Close
Music and Worship as an Expression of One's Faith
Keys to Making Membership Meaningful
Tapping into Seniors for Ministry
The Pastor's Personal Participation in Highly Evangelistic Churches
Hindrances to Church Evangelism: Can Most Churches Have Ongoing Evangelism and Assimilation?
Major Competitors to the Christian Message and Task
Training Materials and Methods
Possible Futures for the Church of America
Confronting Nominal Christianity
Jesus as the Person Worthy of Following
The Role of Pastoral and Apostolic Gifts in the 21st Century

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