MS508 EVANGELISM: THEOLOGY AND PRACTICE

by

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COURSE DESIGN

Reformed Theological Seminary

Jackson, Mississippi
Spring 2015 A.D.
TENTATIVE SCHEDULE--SPRING 2015

TOPICS TO BE ADDRESSED

Introduction to the Course

What is this course all about?
  What is the greatest joy ever?
  What the Bible is All About?
  What Ministry is All About?
  What the Problem of Every Human Being?
  What did Jesus do and send us to be and to do?

The Chief End of Ministry and “Evangelism”

Evangelism, Evangelist, Evangelize, Intercultural Evangelism
God’s glory, the Church, and the Unconverted
The Problem of Every Person You Meet, the Solution, and the Means
The Teachings and Ministry of Jesus
The Teachings and Ministry of Peter
The Teachings and Ministry of Paul

The Practice of Evangelism

Evangelism Explosion Seminary
Evangelizing College Students
Evangelizing Roman Catholics
Evangelizing Muslims in USA
Evangelistic “methods”—Small Groups Discussion

Reformed and Puritan Evangelism
The Sovereignty of God and Evangelism
Calvin and the TULIP
Discussion on Baxter and Beeke

Outreach Project Reports
MS508 EVANGELISM: THEOLOGY AND PRACTICE

Course Description

“Evangelism” and its practice within the context of the pastoral ministry and the work of every member of the body of Christ are reviewed in light of the teaching and the practical work of Jesus, the apostles, and the early church and applied to the context of our local churches. The dynamics of the preaching of the gospel as the motivational means of making Christ known across the street and around the world as portrayed in the Scriptures are also considered. During the class, “Evangelism” is taught in such a way that the lectures, small group discussions, and the exercises done in class and outside the classroom may be duplicated in the context of the local churches.

The Lord willing we will have the participation of some experts on the topics of Evangelizing Muslims, Evangelizing Roman Catholics, and so forth. Please pray for our class and all the participants. You will be engaging in a tremendous and unbelievable spiritual warfare zone.

Course Requirements

1. Classroom attendance and active participation in the small group discussions. “Classroom attendance [and active participation in the small group discussions] [are] for the glory of God and preparation for the gospel ministry.”
   - SIX (6) ABSENCES: GRADE F
   - FOUR (4) ABSENCES: GRADE C+
   - THREE (3) ABSENCES: GRADE B-

2. The careful reading of the assigned materials and four reading reports (two pages each per book, except the Book of Acts), single space, highlighting the main propositions, statements, theses, principles, etc, gathered from the reading. Check the due dates of the readings and of the written reading reports. IT IS THE STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY TO SUBMIT THESE INFORMATIONS VIA E-MAIL. DON’T WAIT FOR A REMINDER.

3. Serious involvement in and commitment to an outreach project (Evangelism Explosion, Gateway Homeless Ministry, Hospital Visits, Prison Ministry, etc.) during this semester. 50 % of your grade. You can also create your own outreach project or share your faith with, at least, 10 different unconverted, unchurched people during the semester.

4. A journal of your outreach project with the dates and main experiences, lessons, and/or impressions that you have each time you went out to speak to someone.

5. Written Personal “testimonies.” Each student will have an opportunity to share his/her written personal testimony in the context of a small group. For a format of how to prepare your personal “testimony,” see Metzger 2002, 209-210.
Required Readings

Books


At least 250 pages of an “evangelist” biography/biographies. **Reading and written reading report due on May 01.** Some suggestions:¹


¹ Please, take the initiative to select the evangelist biography/biographies you would like to read during this semester. Check the internet, RTS Library, etc. Take a look at [http://www.desiringgod.org/ResourceLibrary/Biographies/](http://www.desiringgod.org/ResourceLibrary/Biographies/).
Chapman, J. Wilbur. [1900]. *The life and work of Dwight Lyman Moody (1837-1899).* Wilbus Chapman was a close friend of Moody. This biography is available online: [http://www.biblebelievers.com/moody/index.html](http://www.biblebelievers.com/moody/index.html)

Fullerton, W.Y. *Charles Haddon Spurgeon: A biography.* This biography is available online: [http://www.spurgeon.org/misc/biopref.htm](http://www.spurgeon.org/misc/biopref.htm)

**DISCIPLINE YOURSELF TO READ 10 PAGES PER DAY. YOU WILL FINISH THESE READINGS BEFORE MAY 1.**

**Other Sources**

Use your Internet search engine (Google, Yahoo, Copernic, etc.) and search for “books on evangelism,” “evangelism bibliography,” “bibliography on evangelism,” “evangelism institute,” “evangelism books,” “evangelism resources,” “theology of evangelism,” “history of evangelism,” “evangelism and culture,” “evangelism methods,” “Reformed Evangelism,” “Puritan Evangelism.”


**John Piper resources**—[http://www.desiringgod.org/resource-library](http://www.desiringgod.org/resource-library)


**Bakerpublishinggroup.com**

**InterVarsity Press**—[http://www.ivpress.com/](http://www.ivpress.com/)

**Crossway Press**—[http://www.crossway.org/search?q=evangelism](http://www.crossway.org/search?q=evangelism)

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3 Includes the following publishing companies: BakerAcademic, BakerBooks, BethanyHouse, Revell, Chosen, BrazosPress, and Cambridge University Press.
Reformed Evangelism--http://www.the-highway.com/c_evangelism.html


Preliminary Bibliography

Books


4 Update this preliminary bibliography by accessing the recommended websites above.


Edwards, Jonathan. 2002. The salvation of souls: Nine previously unpublished sermons on the call of ministry and the gospel. Wheaton: Crossway Books. These sermons were edited by Richard A. Bailey and Gregory A. Wills. Book well recommended by John Piper (Senior Pastor of Bethlehem Baptist Church), Douglas A. Sweeney (Chair, Department of Church History and the History of
Christian Thought, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School), Harry S. Stout (Jonathan Edwards Professor of American Christianity, Yale University) and others. 179 pages


______. 1995. *One to one: How to share your faith with a friend.* Nashville: Moorings.


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<tr>
<th>MDiv Student Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Rubric</th>
<th>Mini-Justification</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Articulation (oral &amp; written)</strong></td>
<td>Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Scripture</strong></td>
<td>Significant knowledge of the original meaning of Scripture. Also, the concepts for and skill to research further into the original meaning of Scripture and to apply Scripture to a variety of modern circumstances. (Includes appropriate use of original languages and hermeneutics; and integrates theological, historical, and cultural/global perspectives.)</td>
<td>Strong</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sanctification</strong></td>
<td>Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student’s sanctification.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Desire for Worldview</strong></td>
<td>Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Winsomely Reformed</strong></td>
<td>Embraces a winsomely Reformed ethos. (Includes an appropriate ecumenical spirit with other Christians, especially Evangelicals; a concern to</td>
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| Preach       | Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm. | Minimal but modeling | 1. Applications are constantly made throughout the lectures  
2. I do not lecture. I preach throughout the course. |
|--------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Worship      | Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service. | Moderate             | 1. Evangelism as caused by the inability and impossibility of fallen creatures to worship their creator.  
2. Discussion on the role of the church as a worshipful community and Evangelism. |
| Shepherd     | Ability to shepherd the local congregation: aiding in spiritual maturity; promoting use of gifts and callings; and encouraging a concern for non-Christians, both in America and worldwide. | Moderate             | 1. Emphasis on the role of the pastor in the context of actively modeling evangelism for every member of the local church.  
2. Evangelism is considered globally (locally and globally). |
| Church/World | Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues. | Minimal              | This is included on the preceding justification (Shepherd). |