



## EVANGELISM

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October 26–29, 2021

### COURSE DESCRIPTION & PURPOSE

The course aims to promote faithfulness to 2 Timothy 4:5: “Do the work of an evangelist.” We will study the essential doctrines necessary to living as an evangelist, as well as the various strategies available to show personal and congregational obedience to declare the gospel of Jesus Christ.

### COURSE OBJECTIVES

- To grow the student’s understanding of God’s commands to evangelize.
- To increase the student’s knowledge of how sound doctrine promotes a heart for the lost.
- To grow the student’s love for Christ so he or she can say with Paul, “The love of Christ controls us” (2 Cor. 5:14).
- To help the student see the centrality of the local church in evangelism.

### REQUIRED TEXTS

- [R. B. Kuiper, \*God-Centered Evangelism: A Presentation of the Scriptural Theology of Evangelism\* \(Edinburgh: Banner of Truth, 1996\).](#)
- [John C. Miller, \*Outgrowing the Ingrown Church\* \(Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1986\).](#)
- [J. I. Packer, \*Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God\* \(Downer’s Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2012\).](#)
- [Rico Tice with Carl Laferton, \*Honest Evangelism: How to Talk about Jesus Even When It’s Tough\* \(Epsom, Surrey: The Good Book Company, 2015\).](#)

### SUPPLEMENTAL TEXTS

- [Jerram Barrs, \*The Heart of Evangelism\* \(Wheaton: Crossway, 2005\).](#)
- [Joel R. Beeke, \*Puritan Evangelism: A Biblical Approach\* \(Grand Rapids: Reformation Heritage Books, 1999\).](#)

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS

**4 Scripture Memory Quizzes (20%):** Students will memorize six biblical passages that are significant for evangelism. You are expected to have memorized the assigned passage—in the



*English Standard Version*—prior to the relevant week of class. A “Bible Memory Quiz” will be administered at the beginning of the applicable class date. See the following schedule for daily quizzes:

- Tuesday: Romans 3:23, Romans 6:23, and Romans 10:10
- Wednesday: Ephesians 2:1, 5, 8–9
- Thursday: 1 Corinthians 5:3–4, 2 Corinthians 5:21
- Friday: Isaiah 53:4–6

**1 Interview with an Unbeliever (15% of final grade), 800 words:** Conduct an interview with an unbelieving and/or un-churched friend, neighbor, relative, or stranger. Describe the individual, but names are not necessary. *This conversation does not count toward your Personal Evangelism Report.*

The interview need only take about fifteen minutes. Explain to the interviewee that the conversation is a requirement for your seminary class, and that all answers are confidential, but that you’ll need to write a brief paper reflecting on your experience and answers given in the interview. Ask at least seven of the following questions:

- 1) What do you believe about the Bible?
- 2) How would you define God?
- 3) Can a person know God? (How?)
- 4) Who was/is Jesus Christ?
- 5) What is sin?
- 6) What is the biggest problem, in your opinion, facing humankind today?
- 7) When you think about the church, what comes to mind and why?
- 8) How would you define salvation?
- 9) Is there only way to reach God? If not,
- 10) What happens after we die?
- 11) How would you define a Christian?
- 12) How does a person get to heaven?
- 13) What is the purpose of life?
- 14) What do you think is common to world religions? How do they differ?

**1 Interview with a Church Leader (20% of final grade), 800 words:** Interview your senior pastor or the leader in charge of your church’s outreach/evangelism efforts. Come with a spirit of inquiry, not criticism. Ask the following questions:

- 1) What is your philosophy of evangelism? How does our church approach evangelism?
- 2) How do you view responsibility of evangelism related to 1) the pastor, 2) the church member, and 3) the church?
- 3) What is our church’s current strategy to reach the lost in our community?



- 4) What do you believe are the unique hindrances to evangelism in our context? Hindrances can be the ordinary objections non-Christians have, the struggles your church has in evangelism, or other similar pitfalls.
- 5) How can our church grow in evangelism?

The student will write an 800-word reflection on this interview, remarking on places of agreement or disagreement, and provide ways in which he or she can contribute to the congregation's evangelism efforts.

**6 Personal Evangelism Conversations (40% of final grade):** The best way to learn how to share the gospel *is to share it*. Each student will pursue six different individuals with the truth of the gospel, and then record their experience in a "Personal Evangelism Report." The Report will consist of six entries, each about three hundred words that describes the conversation: "How did it occur? What were the objections and responses to Christ's gospel? Where you confident in the conversation? What was difficult about it?"

**1 Reading Report (5% of final grade):** Students will submit a reading report on the final day of the semester.

**\*\* All assignments must be uploaded to Canvas by 11:59 p.m. on December 8 \*\***

## CLASS ATTENDANCE

Students are required to attend all sessions. If a student is "providentially hindered" from attending class, please notify the instructor.

## WRITING GUIDELINES

Review papers must be double-spaced, use 12 pt. Times New Roman font, and include pagination. Points will be deducted for spelling and grammar errors.

## TECHNOLOGY POLICY (Taken from Dr. Michael Allen)

Computers, tablets, and smart-phones are not allowed in class. Think we're over-reacting? Believe you are a master of multitasking? [You are not. No, you really are not. Notes taken by hand are almost always more useful than typed notes](#) because more thoughtful selectivity goes into them; [plus, there are multiple cognitive benefits to writing by hand.](#) And [people who use laptops in class see their grades decline](#)—and even contribute to lowering the grades of *other people*.

**Course Objectives Related to MDiv\* Student Learning Outcomes**

Course: Evangelism  
 Professor: Dr. Jordan Stone  
 Campus: Houston  
 Date: Fall 2021

<b><u>MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes</u></b>		<b><u>Rubric</u></b>	<b><u>Mini-Justification</u></b>
<i>In order to measure the success of the MDiv curriculum, RTS has defined the following as the intended outcomes of the student learning process. Each course contributes to these overall outcomes. This rubric shows the contribution of this course to the MDiv outcomes.</i>		> Strong > Moderate > Minimal > None	
<b>Articulation (oral &amp; written)</b>	Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks.	Strong	Student required to engage in multiple evangelistic conversations.
<b>Scripture</b>	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.)	Moderate	Student required to memorize various Scripture verses with attention to context.
<b>Reformed Theology</b>	Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.	Strong	Class lectures are based on many major doctrines necessary for growing in evangelism.
<b>Sanctification</b>	Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student's sanctification.	Moderate	Emphasis on prayer and love for Christ as necessary for faithfulness in evangelism.
<b>Desire for Worldview</b>	Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.	Minimal	Some philosophical objections are considered.
<b>Winsomely Reformed</b>	Embraces a winsomely Reformed ethos. (Includes an appropriate ecumenical spirit with other Christians, especially Evangelicals; a concern to present the Gospel in a God-honoring manner to non-Christians; and a truth-in-love attitude in disagreements.)	Strong	Student will learn about conversational evangelism and convictional kindness in sharing Christ.
<b>Preach</b>	Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.	None	No preaching requirement in the course.
<b>Worship</b>	Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service.	Minimal	Attraction church worship as evangelism is mentioned and evaluated.
<b>Shepherd</b>	Ability to shepherd the local congregation: aiding in spiritual maturity; promoting use of gifts and callings;	Moderate	Students will see the focus of evangelism for church leaders.

	and encouraging a concern for non-Christians, both in America and worldwide.		
<b>Church/World</b>	Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.	<b>Strong</b>	Student will engage in evangelistic conversations in the public sphere.