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MS 610 The Ministry of Evangelism

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**MS610(Section I, Florida Campus)
A SYLLABUS AND GENERAL GUIDE FOR**

"The Ministry of Evangelism"

Fall Semester, 2001

Thursday, 2-4:40 p.m.

Robert G. Tuttle, Jr., Professor

Asbury Theological Seminary

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course equips students with contemporary models and strategies of personal, congregational, and world evangelization based on biblical, historical and cultural foundations. Attention will be given to recognizing the social, personal and spiritual needs of people and relating the gospel to such needs. Efforts will be made to develop an integrated Wesleyan model of evangelism bringing strategies and methods into closer harmony with God's ultimate purpose, the great commission, and the commandment of love. This is a basic course for all that seek to serve Christ and his Church with a global consciousness and a local effectiveness.

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES

A. A clear understanding of the gospel with regard to content and delivery.
Content: The student should know the basic content of the gospel as taken from Scripture and informed by reason, tradition, and experience. Delivery: While having an overall feel for the different approaches to evangelism, the student should have developed a style of presentation that acknowledges his/her uniqueness and ability to proclaim the Good News in several different kinds of settings.

B. Some practical experience in witnessing. Each student will be required to present the gospel in several different settings and write a number of case studies evaluating their own effectiveness.

C. An awareness of one's own sphere of influence. Each student should be able to identify those opportunities where they can minister most effectively.

D. Each student should have developed some specific tools for motivation churches toward evangelism.

E. Each student will be required to develop a specific program of evangelism for a particular local church.

III. TOPIC LISTINGS AND SEQUENCE (Subject to modification)

Sept. 4: "Communicating the Christian Faith Today--Some General Characteristics of Growing Churches" (including a general introduction regarding expectations, ground rules, assignments, and some definitions).

Sept. 11: "The Good News We Share"

Assignment due (all weekly assignments are due Fri. at the beginning of class):
Evangelism Packet Items 1-3. First book critique.

Sept. 18: "Equipping the Laity"

Tom Tumblin video tape

Assignment due: Evangelism Packet Items 4-5. First case study.

Sept. 25: "Other Forms of Evangelism"

Assignment due: Evangelism Packet Items 6-7.

Oct. 2: "Advocacy and Evangelism--The Great Commission in Light
of the Great Commandment"

Assignment due: Second book critique.

Spring Reading Week

Oct. 9: "Dynamic Equivalence--World (and Indigenous) Religions and Communicating
Cross-Culturally"

Assignment due: Evangelism Packet Items 8-10. Second case study.

Oct. 16: "Community--The Matrix of Natural, Spontaneous Evangelism"

Assignment due: Evangelism Packet Items 11-14.

Oct. 23: "Introduction to Church Growth"

Assignment due: Evangelism Packet Items 15-16. Third case study.

Oct. 30: "Discipleship--Born Again, What Then?"

Assignment due: Evangelism Packet Items 18-19. Third book critique.

Nov. 6: "Youth Evangelism"

Assignment due: Project outline (if needed).

Nov. 13: "The Holy Spirit as the Great Evangelist"

Assignment due: Evangelism Packet Item 17, Fourth book critique.

Nov. 19-23: **Fall Reading Week**

Nov. 27: "Communicating the Faith One on One"

"Planning an Evangelistic Worship Service."

Assignment due: Evangelism Packet Items 20-21.

Dec. 4: The Neighborhood Block Party (time TBA).

TERM PROJECT DUE!

Dec. 10-14: Exam week (NO FINAL EXAM).

IV. COURSE EVALUATION PROCEDURES

Requirements:

- A. Attend and participate in class sessions.
- B. Complete assigned readings of approximately 1200 pages (1,000 pages in the required texts), and at least one text from the collateral reading (for the remaining 200 pages).
- C. Four book critiques limited to one single-spaced, typewritten page (three from the five required texts and one from the collateral reading).
- D. Three case studies using the prepared forms (to be explained).
- E. Integrative term report (maximum of 10-12 pages, typewritten, double-spaced) composed as if it is to be given to the ruling board of a local congregation (or youth group) known to you. It should incorporate recommendations for a more effective evangelistic outreach, taking into consideration the nature of your community, and the condition of your church (or youth group). Apply what you deem helpful from the course readings, lectures, practicums, and your personal involvement. Note the additional guidelines at the end of the syllabus.

Grading scale for course: Four book critiques 40%
 Three case studies 10% (not actually graded)
 Term Report 50%

An advanced Doctor of Missiology student in the ESJ School will do most of the grading. Your papers will be evaluated and a grade suggested for each student. The instructor will schedule one office day to review a sampling of the grading assistant's appraisals before course grades are submitted to the registrar.

[ALL PAPERS MUST HAVE A **SPO** # FOR THEM TO BE RETURNED VIA THE SPO! Students desiring privacy may attach a self-addressed large envelope.]

V. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Required Texts:

- ME 501 Selected Articles Packet (125 pp.).
1. The Faith Sharing Congregation, Swanson and Clement (107 pp.).
 2. To Spread the Power, George Hunter, III (200 pp.).
 3. Becoming a Contagious Christian, Hybels and Mittelberg (221 pp.).
 4. Turnaround Strategies for the Small Church, Ron Crandall (160 pp.).
 5. Can We Talk?, Robert Tuttle, Jr. (110 pp.).

Collateral Texts: Read at least one of the following not previously read.

1. The Heart of Youth Ministry, Goddard and Acevedo (Bristol, 1989).
2. Tell It Well, J. T. Seamands, Beacon Hill, 1981.
3. How to Reach Secular People, George Hunter, III (Abingdon, 1992).

4. A Song of Ascents, E. Stanley Jones (Abingdon, 1979).
5. New Testament Evangelism, Michael Green, OMF Literature, 1979.

Recommended Reading:

- Abraham, William J., The Logic of Evangelism, Eerdmans, 1989.
- Allen, Diogenes, Christian Belief in a Postmodern World: The Full Wealth of Conviction, Westminster/John Knox Press, 1989.
- Arn, Win and Charles Arn, The Master's Plan for Making Disciples, Church Growth Press, 1987.
- Berger, Peter L., A Rumor of Angels: Modern Society and the Rediscovery of the Supernatural, Revised Ed., New York; Doubleday, 1990.
- Chadwick, Owen, The Secularization of the European Mind in the Nineteenth Century, Cambridge University Press, 1975.
- Dodson, Ed, Starting a Seeker Sensitive Service, Zondervan, 1993.
- Donovan, Vincent J., Christianity Rediscovered, Orbis, 1979.
- Dyrness, William, How Does America Hear the Gospel?, Eerdmans, 1989.
- Eims, Leroy, The Lost Art of Disciple Making, Zondervan, 1778 (updated reprint available).
- Green, Michael, Evangelism Through the Local Church, Nelson, 1992
 _____, Evangelism in the Early Church, Hodder & Stoughton, 1970.
- Griffin, Em, The Mind Changers, Tyndale House, 1976.
- Hendricks, William D., Exit Interviews ("Revealing Stories of Why People Are Leaving the Church), Moody Press, 1993
- Hybels, Lynne and Bill, Rediscovering Church: The Story and Vision of Willow Creek Community Church, Zondervan, 1995.
- Johnson, Ben, Speaking of God: Evangelism as Initial Spiritual Guidance, Westminster/John Knox, 1991.
- Johnson, Ronald W., How Will They Hear If We Don't Listen?, Broadman & Holman, 1994.
- Jones, E. Stanley, Conversion, Abingdon, 1959.
- Kraft, Charles H., Communication Theory for Christian Witness, Second Ed., 1991.
- McGavran, Donald A., Understanding Church Growth, 3rd Ed., Eerdmans, 1990.
- McGrath, Alister E., Expanding Your Faith Without Losing Your Friends, Zondervan, 1989.
- Mead, Loren B., The Once and Future Church: Reinventing the Congregation For a New Mission Frontier, The Alban Institute, 1991.
- Newbigin, Leslie, Foolishness to the Greeks: The Gospel and Western Culture, Eerdmans, 1986.
- Nida, Eugene A., Message and Mission: The Communication of the Christian Faith, revised ed., William Carey Library, 1990.
- Pannenberg, Wolfhart, Christianity in a Secularized World, Crossroad, 1989.
- Richardson, Don, Eternity in Their Hearts, Regal Books, 1981.
- Roxburgh, Alan J., Reaching a New Generation, IVP, 1993.
- Schaller, Lyle, The Seven-Day-a-Week Church, Abingdon, 1992.
 _____, Growing Plans, Abingdon, 1983.
 _____, Strategies for Change, Abingdon, 1993.
- Smith, Donald K., Creating Understanding: A Handbook for Christian Communication Across Cultural Landscapes, Zondervan, 1992.

Stiles, J. Mack, Speaking of Jesus: How To Tell Your Friends the Best News They Will Ever Hear, IVP, 1995.

Strobel, Lee, Inside the Mind of Unchurched Harry and Mary, Zondervan, 1993.

Toulmin, Stephen, Cosmopolis: The Hidden Agenda of Modernity, New York: Free Press, 1989.

Tuttle, Robert G., Jr., Someone Out There Needs Me: A Practical Guide to Relational Evangelism, Zondervan, 1983.

_____, On Giant Shoulders: The History, Role, and Influence of the Evangelist in the Movement Called Methodism, Discipleship Resources, 1984.

Warren, Rick, The Purpose Driven Church, Zondervan, 1995.

Watson, David, I Believe in Evangelism, Hodder & Stoughton, 1976.

Wells, David, God the Evangelist, Eerdmans, 1987.

Wimber, John and Kevin Springer, Power Evangelism, Revised ed., Harper and Row, 1992.

Wright, Timothy, A Community of Joy: How To Create Contemporary Worship, Abingdon, 1994.

Date _____

Name _____

Case Study Report on an Evangelistic Conversation

(Confine report to the limits of this page leaving at least a one-inch margin for comments by the professor)

1. Background. Context of the conversation: where, when, with whom? How did it come about? What were your intentions, expectations, anxieties, etc.?

2. Description. How did the conversation begin, continue, conclude? What happened between you and the other person? Between the other person and God?

3. Analysis and Evaluation. Identify issues, significant openings and closings of response and what was going on in the relationship. How did the person evaluate the experience?

HOW TO DO A BOOK CRITIQUE

(R. Jeffrey Hiatt, D.Miss. candidate)

1. A book critique is not:
 - A summary.
 - A reflection paper.
2. A book critique should contain the following:
 - Analysis of the **mechanics** (more objective: 10-15%).
 - Structure of the book.
 - Flow: How does the material fit together?
 - Resources.
 - Analysis of **content** (more objective: 50-60%).
 - Describe: What is it? Was it achieved?
 - **Strengths**: What does the book do, contribute, etc.
 - **Weaknesses**: What is missing, etc.
 - Application (more subjective: 25-34%).
 - How does this information impact my ministry?
 - What do I find helpful, not so helpful, etc.
3. Use a writing resource manual.
 - Some resources to keep in mind.
 - Slade, Carol. Form and Style. 10th ed. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1996 (cf. grammar, syntax, style, etc.).
 - Adler, Mortimer J. and Charles Van Doren. How to Read a Book. NY: Simon and Schuster, 1972 (note pp. 163-4).
4. Assignment grading information.
 - Each assignment will be evaluated on the following basis.
 - **Perception**: Did you understand the material?
 - **Thoroughness**: Did you cover the main elements?
 - **Clarity**: Did you clearly communicate your ideas?
 - **Objectivity**: Did you represent the author's views?
 - **Mechanics**: Did you use a proper writing technique (see above)?
 - **Application**: How did this material impact you?
 - **Integration**: Can you incorporate what you learned into your life and ministry (**most important**)?

GUIDELINES FOR THE INTEGRATIVE TERM REPORT

Assignment Instructions:

- **Content:** The intent here is to provide you with a working tool to take to your local church or organization.
 6. Each report should contain a brief description of the church or organization in question (history, location, particular problems, etc.).
 6. State your program (be specific, do not try to spread yourself too thin).
 - State your resources (how do you plan to implement the program).
 - Project a time line (this part of the program should be completed by ...).
 - Describe your desired results.

- **Style:** Keep it simple.
- Watch your syntax and grammar (proof read your paper).
- Avoid run on sentences (Why did God invent the semicolon?).
- Feel free to use headings.
- Double space with ample margins for the instructors comments.

- **Documentation:** Some of this can be omitted from the copy presented to the church or organization.
- Footnotes (identify your sources).
- Bibliography.