Northern Seminary  
ME 301 - MISSIONS AND EVANGELISM  
September 28 – December 7, 2015  
Mondays: 7:00- 9:40 p.m.  
Dr. Robert J. Price Jr.  
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Course Description  
Karl Barth reminded us to read the Bible in one hand and the newspaper in the other hand. This challenge from Barth means that effective evangelism requires both exegesis of the Bible and the rapidly changing secular culture. The purpose of this course is to develop critical awareness in order to ensure relevant communication of the Gospel in postmodern contexts. Principles utilized by missionaries to exegete culture will be integrated. This course will identify and challenge assumptions about traditional methods of evangelism and explore alternative ways of thinking and action in ministry. This course will equip church leaders as evangelists with the ability to contextualize the Gospel through friendship evangelism and to reconcile seekers to God.

Course Goals  
1. To articulate and discuss the Missio Dei as the biblical and theological basis for evangelism and mission.

2. To examine the processes of incarnation, indigenization, and contextualization as it relates to mission and evangelism.

3. To develop skill in the presentation of the Gospel using the Gospel of John and evangelism tools like the Bridge Illustration.

4. To develop conviction and skill in witnessing using personal testimony.

5. To integrate missiological theory as a tool for evangelism.

6. To develop skills for Christian social and cultural analysis as necessary aspects of evangelism and mission.
Required Readings


Bounded Sets, Centered Sets Articles
http://www.christianitytoday.com/le/2010/june-online-only/categoryconfusion.html - 3 pages
http://images1.wikia.nocookie.net/ministry/images/9/9e/Bounded_and_Centered_Sets.pdf - 14 pages


Bibliography

Webber, Robert. *Ancient-Future Faith: Rethinking Evangelism in a Postmodern World*.

Course Requirements

1. Thoroughly read and re-read the Gospel of John (10%)

2. Class attendance and participation (15%)
3. The class will break up into small groups. These groups will provide structure and interaction for testimonies and gospel presentations. Each person will present a 5-7 minute testimony and practice presenting an evangelistic tool like the Bridge Illustration. Always be ready to give an account for the hope that is in you (1 Peter 3:15). (15%)

4. Master’s Course Requirements

Two 7-10 page papers designed to make the course material practical and contextually relevant to your situation specific experience with praxis or the circular relationship of action and reflection in mind. The main point of the two papers is (a) to help you reflect on the cultural context of ministry and (b) the correlation of the Gospel in evangelism. (60%)

a. Write a paper in which you articulate a cultural exegesis (read the culture) as it relates to a cultural context of ministry. The subject of this paper is a situation-specific audience you hope to reach with the Gospel; develop a practical theological approach that is contextually relevant integrating principles from the readings. Due: December 2, 2015

b. Write a biblical exegesis (read the Word) based on an in-depth study of a chapter or passage from the Gospel of John that integrates with your context of ministry paper. Ideally, your scriptural selection will correlate with the contextual issues that surface in the context paper. Due: December 2, 2015

Grading Scale

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Course Schedule – A more detailed schedule will be given the first day of class

September 28 - Orientation - What is evangelism?
October 5 - Return of the Prodigal Son
October 12 - Return of the Prodigal Son
October 19 – Reaching Out
October 26 – Reaching Out
November 2 – Anthropological Reflections
November 9 – Anthropological Reflections
November 16 – Perspectives
November 23 – No class
November 30 – Perspectives
December 2 – Perspectives – Papers Due
POLICIES FOR ALL MASTERS CLASSES

NOTE: All communications from the seminary will go to your seminary email account. Contact ithelpdesk@seminary.edu if you need help forwarding your seminary email address to your personal email address.

As a seminary community we hold integrity/hospitality as core values. Individuals are able to do their best work and thinking when their peers are fully present and engaged. We expect each person to both participate in class and carefully listen to others with the belief that everyone’s contribution is equally important. Therefore, the following policies have been established in order to provide clarity in regard to attendance expectations and relationships in the classroom.

Class Attendance Policy
It is expected that students will attend and participate in all class sessions. Failure to attend at least 80% of class sessions is grounds for automatic failure. A professor may set other attendance expectations. Students are always expected to communicate with a professor in advance if they will be absent. Attendance expectations are higher for online and intensive courses (see syllabus for specific requirements).

Class Tardiness Policy
The third time a student is late to the start of class, it will be counted as a class absence. It is also expected that students will return from a break by the time specified by the professor.

Late Work Policy
If a student cannot complete the work for a course by the due date listed on the syllabus, they must submit a “Request for a Grade of Incomplete” form to the Registrar by 4:30 of the last day of the term. The form must be signed by the instructor and Dean of Students. The professor may set stipulations and grade reductions. In the absence of a formal request form, the student will receive a grade based upon work completed by the last day of the term.

Turabian Format
All papers, including footnotes and bibliography, must be submitted in the correct format according to Kate L. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 8th ed., 2013.

Plagiarism
Plagiarism is the act of passing off as one’s own the words or ideas of someone else without providing proper acknowledgement or documentation. See the “Academic Honesty Policy” in the Seminary Catalog for more information on plagiarism and how to avoid it.
**Electronic Format**
Unless otherwise specified by the professor, all work submitted electronically must be in a Word document format (.doc, .docx).

**Technology Use in the Classroom**
Unless it is directly tied to note-taking or research for the class, students are expected to refrain from using cell phones, laptops, or other electronic devices during class.

**Course Evaluation in Moodle**
Students must complete an online course evaluation using the seminary Moodle system at http://moodle.seminary.edu in order to receive a final grade for the course. The evaluation will be open for one week starting the last day of the term. If you need assistance connecting to Moodle or accessing the evaluation, please send an email to ithelpdesk@seminary.edu.