



Nazarene Theological Seminary

1700 E Meyer Blvd • Kansas City, MO 64131 • 816/268-5400

Evg510— Evangelism through the Local Church
Mt. Vernon Nazarene University
October 17-21, 2011

Essential Information

Please refer to the following resources for information essential for the successful completion of courses and degree programs at Nazarene Theological Seminary. Links to these resources are available in the Essential Information section at <http://support.nts.edu>.

- NTS Mission Statement & Purpose Degree Objectives
- Tips for online learning success
- NTS library services
- NTS textbook information
- Online technical requirements and Moodle support information
- NTS Student Handbook including statements on quality of work, plagiarism, and academic probation
- *Handbook for Inclusive Language*

Instructor Information

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between 9:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m.

Catalog Description

The Christian worker will evaluate the strategies and methods of evangelism applicable to the local church. A variety of evangelistic methods will be explored. The focus of the class will be on practical experience in congregational and personal evangelism.

Course Narrative & Rationale

In order to contribute to the Biblical and denominational intent for the Church (Ephesians 3:10) to become a missional people and because humankind needs to be redeemed, “Evangelism” will challenge, inform and equip students to become full participants in Christ’s mission by overcoming personal fears and coping with cultural resistance.

The students will be God-called persons, seeking to be adequately prepared to be both personally involved and to lead others to involvement in Christian mission.

These learners usually have limited experience with evangelism and limited exposure to unsaved people; they have few if any unsaved friends. If learning is contained only in the classroom it will not be sufficient to gain the exposure, motivation and on-the-job-training which is critical to be adequately prepared to become a leader in the deliberate intention of the Church of the Nazarene to become missional.

Factors in both the state of society and of the Church contribute to the urgency and importance of “Evangelism”. As society, in general, is without a loving relationship with Christ, most people live in lawlessness and self-centered rebellion. Moral confusion and materialism are normative, and the threat of AIDS is either a present epidemic or a shadow of things to come, depending on the geographical or ethnic context.

The Church should be God’s agent for redemption and the source of hope, but its spiritual vigor has been sapped by relativism and apathy. Recently, the Church of the Nazarene is positioning itself to recapture its consciousness to fulfill its mission and to again become a movement, to become the “sent” people of God. The Church is asking: “Will the next generation have faith?” Trusting in a positive response, the Church is opening up to new structures for evangelism, contributing to the propensity of the moment for learners to become participants in this intent

Degree Objectives

This course will satisfy in part the following M.Div. degree objectives:

1. The cultivation of gifts for ministry into competent skills and practices in worship and preaching, teaching and discipleship, care and counseling, evangelism and missions, administration and servant-leadership.
2. The investigation of human society, thought and culture in order to articulate clear and coherent views of the context of the mission of the Church, and to develop an understanding of the Church as the community of faith with a passion for the gospel engaging in mission to different cultures.

Course Outcomes

At the completion of this module, the student will be able:

1. Develop a biblical understanding in order to: (Assignments 3,6)
 - a. Become Jesus-like in seeking and saving the lost and in discipling converts towards Christian maturity (CN 11).
 - b. Learn Scripture which contribute to the effective declaration of the Kingdom of God (CN 11).
 - c. Understand certain biblical passages as models of evangelism and church planting (CN 11).
2. Think missionally by: (Assignments 2,3,7,10)
 - a. Becoming a student of context in order to live relevantly to the needs around him/her (CP 19).
 - b. Accessing cultural openness and a variety of human needs (CP 19).
 - c. Understanding the mind and heart of the unbeliever (CP 19).
 - d. Identifying and examining the barriers to or enemies of effective evangelism and their appropriate remedies (CP 19, CP 22).
3. Prepare to preach and teach evangelistically by: (Assignments 3,4,5,7,8,9)
 - a. Effectively declaring the Kingdom of God (CP 20).
 - b. Developing his or her own spiritual formation so as to become a conduit of God’s Spirit (CP 20).
 - c. Acting in the power of God’s Spirit despite human fear and cultural resistance (CP 20).
 - d. Adopting a personally acceptable method of presenting the Gospel (CP 20).
 - e. Re-thinking and re-defining the Church in order to re-shape the Church as the “sent people” (CP 20, CP 21).
 - f. Relating the Church mission to God’s mission (CP 20, CP 21).

- g. Becoming a leader of a people who are invested in evangelism, in mission, who pastor, structure and staff the local church and district church to effectively accomplish this end (CP 21).
- h. Understanding the process of conversion (CP 21).

Church of the Nazarene COSAC Competencies

- CN 11 Ability to identify the significant elements of the message of Jesus and Paul.
- CP 19 Ability to think globally and engage cross-culturally for the purpose of mission.
- CP 20 Ability to preach evangelistically and to be engaged with and equip others in personal and congregational evangelism.
- CP 21 Ability to lead the church in discipling and assimilating new converts into the church.
- CP 22 Ability to identify social and congregational factors that influence church growth.

Required Texts & Course Materials

- Drummond, Lewis A. Reaching Generation Next. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2002.
- Mittelberg, Mark. Building a Contagious Church. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2007.
- Pointer, Lyle and Jim Dorsey. Evangelism in Everyday Life. Kansas City: Beacon Hill Press, 1999.

Course Outline

- Section I Inhibitors of the Harvest
 - Overcoming Barriers to Christian Witnessing
 - Enemies of Evangelism
 - The Mind of the Unbeliever
 - The Heart of the Non-Christian

- Section II Understanding Evangelism
 - Spiritual Decision-Making
 - Grace before Faith
 - Jesus as Evangelist
 - Paul as Evangelist and Church Planter
 - Andrew, Peter and Philip as Evangelists
 - Body Life Evangelism
 - Encounter with God that Empower

- Section III The Church on Mission
 - The Church as Seeker
 - The Church in Ministry
 - The Church in Fellowship
 - The Church in Celebration
 - The Church Proclaiming
 - Leading an Evangelistic Church

- Section IV A Theology of Evangelism
 - The Character of God
 - The Mission of Jesus
 - The Holy Spirit as Grace-Giver

Holiness as Motivation for Evangelism
Evangelism as Introduction to Relationship
Praying for Unbelievers

Section V Sustaining Believers
The Folly of Follow Up
Developing Devoted Disciples

Course Assignments & Requirements

Pre-module

1. Post under **Bio Forum** information helpful to others knowing something about you by Thursday, Sept. 8. Write about your present ministry assignment, future plans and your present interest, education and knowledge about evangelism. Interact with at least two entries by your fellow students before Sunday. Does this assignment have any point value? There is none assigned in the Course Grading?
2. Respond to questions at the end of each chapter of Building a Contagious Church. Two chapters are due every Thursday beginning September 22-October 20. Post your answers to the questions on **Contagious Forum**. Interact each week to the postings of two (2) other students. (Course Outcome 2)
3. Select and read two articles on evangelism posted on Moodle. Write a three page paper outlining the main ideas of each article, evaluating the content and suggesting possible applications by Thursday, Sept. 22. (Course Outcomes 1,2,3)
4. Write a 2-3 page experience paper describing the Holy Spirit's work in your life by Thursday, Sept. 29. Respond to the following topics:
 - a. Your experience(s) of being filled with the Spirit (sanctified wholly);
 - b. A sense of inner purity, cleansing, holiness or deliverance from self-centeredness;
 - c. A new power to witness given to you by God;
 - d. A specific incident illustrating your newfound power or cleansing;
 - e. What the Holy Spirit is doing in your life at the present time.Suggestion: If for some reason you cannot report you are filled with the Holy Spirit, analyze the reasons you are not. Describe the power and purity you expect to experience. Tell of a specific witnessing situation and how the power of the Holy Spirit in your life would have made a difference.

(Course Outcome 3)

5. Write a 2-3 page experience paper about your prayer life or spiritual formation by Thursday, Oct.
6. Respond to these topics:
 - a. A discipline that has helped your prayer life.
 - b. Principles of prayer that are part of receiving God's answers.
 - c. A quotation from your prayer journal or devotional reading.
 - d. An incident when God spoke to you or you received an answer to prayer.
 - e. How your prayer life relates to bringing people to faith in Christ.

(Course Outcome 3)

Module

6. Scripture memory exam--Memorize the following and specify the version if it is other than NIV or KJV: I Thess. 5:23-24; Romans 3:23; Eph. 2:8-9; I John 1:9; Rev. 3:20; Acts 15:8-9; Rom. 6:23; II Peter 3:9; John 1:1, 14; John 1:12; John 6:47; Eph. 4:11-12; Is. 53:6; James 2:19.

(Course Outcome 1)

Post-module

7. Write three additional 2 - 3 page experience papers. All papers must reflect incidences only within September - December module time frame and submitted according to the course calendar. (Course Outcomes 2, 3)

The three papers will be written from the following a-g options:

a. Dealing with a seeker at the altar (or in a counseling setting). Report, explain and evaluate your approach in:

- Getting his/her name.
- Determining his/her need.
- Use of scripture.
- Explanation of what the seeker sought.
- Prayer.
- Assurance (both what the seeker said to indicate assurance and what you, the worker, said to encourage assurance).

b. Building a prospect relationship. Report, explain and evaluate:

- The condition of your first meeting with the prospect (give date).
- Building a bridge of friendship on a common need or interest (identify the need or interest).
- The structure used to build the friendship (athletic night, dinner together, share group, etc.).
- Details of at least two of the friendship contacts with this prospect besides the first meeting (give the dates of these contacts, too).
- What makes him/her a good prospect?
- How may you approach him/her in personal evangelism based upon the bridges you have built?

Suggestion: This report must give evidence of your personal initiative in building the relationship more than time spent visiting on the job, e.g., the time you invited him/her home to dinner, the time you took him/her to a ballgame, the cake and coffee you provided after church.

c. Attempt to bring someone to Christ through personal evangelism. Relate and evaluate:

- How did you develop rapport?
- Did you use a plan?
- How did you ask for a decision (your actual question)?
- Give some of the conversation or dialog such as the use of questions, testimony, or transitional sentences.
- What follow-up provisions were made (whether or not there was a conversion)?

Suggestion: This report may be an attempt by you personally or an attempt by a calling team of which you were a part. This is not necessarily a report on a conversion or even a full presentation of the Gospel, but you must go to the person with the specific intent of leading him/her to Christ. You are responsible for setting up your own call with your pastor, evangelism director or lay witness.

d. An evangelistic (inviting sinners to repent) sermon and public invitation. Tape-record your message and public invitation. Listen to it and then report, discuss and evaluate:

- Type of message.
- Clarity of invitation.
- Positive or urgent aspects of the invitation.
- Your effort to close the invitation on a note of victory.

e. Witness report. Cultivate the habit of witnessing regularly. You should record the name of the persons you witness to, the dates of the witnessing, and a brief statement indicating what you said and how the prospect responded. Attempt to witness once every week, for this report is on a minimum of 10 witness attempts.

Suggestion: Witnessing may occur at many levels, although usually a witness means to tell another person what Christ has done for you. You may witness by letter, email, text or public testimony. At least half the witnesses are to be direct and verbal to an unsaved or backslidden individual. Count your witnessing experience based on the number of times you witness, not on the number of people who hear you.

f. A friendship call. Make a call as a representative of your local church on an individual who is new to your church (or an absentee) and, as far as you know, unsaved. You may make this call alone or as a part of a calling team. Report, explain and evaluate:

- How did you introduce yourself and the purpose of the call?
- What secular information did you discuss with the individual and why?
- What discussion of a spiritual nature was there? Why or why not?
- What arrangement did you make for future contact?
- What do you foresee as the way to reach this person for Christ?

Suggestion: Sometimes a thwarted personal evangelism call may be written up as a friendship call and a second personal evangelism call may be attempted. However, be careful about hoping for a second personal evangelism call if the semester is nearly ended.

g. Discover local church evangelism strategies. Interview three pastors or staff members of separate churches to discern how congregations attempt to reach lost people. Define their methods, identify the number of people involved in outreach, and evaluate organizational structures and their effectiveness. Find out how many new visitors on average attend each Sunday. Ask about follow-up on the new visitors and determine the retention rate. Ask: What brings people the first time? What gets them to return a second time? What assures their continued worship with this congregation?

8. Develop a personal evangelism presentation or talking points by Thursday, Nov. 3. Provide the actual content you will use to lead someone to the Lord. Cite the rationale and Scripture supporting your particular approach. If you choose to adapt an existing evangelism presentation, please give the full content of the original presentation and why and how you modified it as you did. (Course Outcome 3)
9. Develop a one-hour teaching/learning seminar for the laity, by Thursday, Nov. 10, from the following list of topics: Expanding Evangelistic Effort; Starting Spiritual Conversations; Identifying Potential Disciples; Conditioning the Congregation for Evangelism; Decoding Our Culture; Unlocking our Disciple-Making Potential; Developing a Passion for the Lost; Inviting the Unchurched; Jump-Starting the Established Church.

Include Scriptural support, possible scripts and scenarios, methods, and opportunities for the laity to engage their unchurched friends in conversation. The teaching material must include a leader's guide, participant's handouts, and a PowerPoint presentation. Be creative. (Course Outcome 3)

10. Write a ten (10) page paper on "Developing an Evangelistic Strategy for Our Local Congregation." Use Drummond's text Reaching Generation Next as a resource assessment of your church. Evaluate your church's characteristics and approach to outreach. At least 3 pages of the ten will describe how to improve your church's ministry to the unchurched. Write with the Church and Sunday School Ministries Boards as your readership. Be gentle and honest. Post on **Strategies** by Thursday, Dec. 1.
11. Write a 5 page interactive review of your conversations and contacts with unchurched people (not reported in another assignment) and the contents of Evangelism in Everyday Life by Thursday, Dec. 8. (Course Outcome 2)

Distribution of Student Learning Hours

	pre-module hours	module hours	post-module hours
Face-to-face Class Sessions		32	
Online Participation in forums, groups, etc.	8		0
Reading	7	0	9
Writing	17	0	35
Other Assignments and Learning Activities	0	0	19
Exams & Quizzes	2	1	0
TOTAL	34	33	63

Method for Submitting Assignments

All assignments should be submitted on Moodle through the corresponding link in the Learning Unit. Assignments should not be submitted by hardcopy, fax or email.

Form and Style Expectations

Use Turabian for the 10 page paper.

Inclusive Language

NTS is committed to the equality of women and men. Recognizing that people have often used the English language in ways that imply the exclusion or inferiority of women, NTS urges students, faculty, and staff to avoid sexist language in public discourse, in classroom discussions, and in their writings. All written work presented to meet course requirements must use gender inclusive language.

Policy Regarding Late Work

Each paper will receive a 91% without comment if it meets the requirements. Grades lower than 91% will be accompanied with rationale as to the lower grade. Exceptional work will earn a grade higher than 91% with commendations.

All research/project work is due 11:59 PM of the date assigned. Late posts receive a 10% daily reduction the week of the assignment. Postings after the assigned week will not be graded. No work will be accepted beyond seven (7) days of the due date.

Course Grading

Assignments will be posted in Moodle under the specified title found in the Course Calendar. The assignments are worth the following points:

Experiential Reports (5 @ 50 pts.)	250
Scripture memory test	50
Chapter Questions (10 pts. Per 9 chapters)	90
Developing an Evangelistic Strategy	200
Articles/Report	60
Interactive review of Evangelism in Everyday Life	100
Personal Evangelism Talking Pts.	100

Teaching/learning seminar

150

Total 1000

Grading will be based on the following scale:

910-1000 = A

810-909 = B

710-809 = C

610-709 = D

000-609 = F

Grading and evaluation will be based on the rubric found in “What Makes a Good Post”:

http://support.nts.edu/index.php/What_Makes_a_Good_Post%3F_%28posting_rubric%29

In accordance with the provisions of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, NTS is committed to providing students with disabilities the opportunity to participate and benefit from its programs and activities, Accordingly NTS will make reasonable modifications to its programs and activities to accommodate otherwise qualified students with disabilities, unless such modifications would impose an undue burden on the operation of the particular program or activity or would fundamentally alter the nature or purpose of the program or activity. Students needing accommodations should contact the Office of the Registrar. They also should contact the instructor no later than the end of the first class session to discuss learning needs and adaptive strategies which have been beneficial for the student in the past.

Class Attendance

Attendance at classes is essential for realizing the maximum benefit of your education. If you must be absent because of extenuating circumstances, contact the professor as soon as possible to discuss the situation.

If a student is absent for 8 hrs of the pre/post module, the professor may automatically fail the student.

Daily attendance records must be reported for those obtaining V.A. and Department of Education benefits. Students must make the professor aware if their attendance must be recorded.

Course Calendar

Date	Week	Assignment
Sept. 5-11	1 Pre-module	Forum-- Post under Bio Forum information helpful to others knowing something about you by Thursday, Sept. 8. Write about your present ministry assignment, future plans and your present interest, education and knowledge about evangelism. Interact with at least two entries by your fellow students before Sunday.
Sept. 12-18	2	Reading —Respond to questions at the end of each chapter of <u>Building a Contagious Church</u> . Two chapters are due every Thursday beginning Sept 15. Post your answers to the questions on Contagious Forum 1 . Interact each week to the postings of two (2) other students.
Sept. 19-25	3	Reading —Respond to questions from chapters 3 & 4 and post on Contagious Forum 2 by Thursday, Sept. 22.

		Reading —Read two articles on evangelism posted on Moodle. Write a three page paper outlining the main ideas of each article, evaluating the content and suggesting possible applications. Post on Articles by Thursday, Sept. 22.
Sept. 26- Oct. 2	4	Assignment —Write a 2-3 page paper describing the Holy Spirit’s work in your life. Post on Spirit’s Working by Thursday, Sept. 29 your responses to the following topics: 1. Your experience(s) of being filled with the Spirit (sanctified wholly); 2. A sense of inner purity, cleansing, holiness or deliverance from self-centeredness; 3. A new power to witness given to you by God; 4. A specific incident illustrating your newfound power or cleansing; 5. What the Holy Spirit is doing in your life at the present time. Suggestion: If for some reason you cannot report you are filled with the Holy Spirit, analyze the reasons you are not. Describe the power and purity you expect to experience. Tell of a specific witnessing situation and how the power of the Holy Spirit in your life would have made a difference. Reading —Respond to questions from chapters 5 & 6 and post on Contagious Forum 3 by Thursday, Sept. 29.
Oct. 3-9	5	Assignment —Write a 2-3 page paper about your prayer life or spiritual formation by Thursday, Oct. 6. Post on Prayer Life your responses to these topics: 1. A discipline that has helped your prayer life. 2. Principles of prayer that are part of receiving God’s answers. 3. A quotation from your prayer journal or devotional reading. 4. An incident when God spoke to you or you received an answer to prayer. 5. How your prayer life relates to bringing people to faith in Christ. Reading —Respond to questions from chapters 7 & 8 and post on Contagious Forum 4 by Thursday, Oct. 6.
Oct. 10-16	6	Reading —Respond to questions from chapters 9 and post on Contagious Forum 5 by Thursday, Oct. 13.
Oct. 17-21	7 Module	MVNU Module Scripture exam Thursday, Oct. 20.
Oct. 24-30	8 Post-module	Assignment —Write a 2-3 page paper on a topic from a-g listed above in Course Assignments. Post to Experience Paper 3 by Thursday, Oct. 27.
Oct. 31- Nov. 6	9	Assignment —Develop a personal evangelism presentation or talking points. Provide the actual content you will use to lead someone to the Lord. Cite the rationale and Scripture supporting your particular approach. If you choose to adapt an existing evangelism presentation, please give the full content of the original presentation and why and how you modified it as you did. Post to Talking Points by Thursday, Nov. 3.
Nov. 7-13	10	Assignment —Develop a one-hour teaching/learning seminar for the laity from a list of topics listed under Course Assignments. Include Scriptural support, possible scripts and scenarios, methods, and opportunities for the laity to engage their unchurched friends in conversation. The teaching material must include a leader’s guide, participant’s handouts, and a PowerPoint presentation. Be creative. Post to Seminar by Thursday, Nov. 10.
Nov. 14-20	11	Assignment —Write a 2-3 page paper on a topic from a-g listed above in Course Assignments. Post to Experience Paper 4 by Thursday, Nov. 17.
Nov. 21-27	12	Assignment —Write a 2-3 page paper on a topic from a-g listed above in Course Assignments. Post to Experience Paper 5 by Thursday (Happy Thanksgiving☺ Nov. 24.

Nov. 28- Dec. 4	13	Assignment —Write a ten (10) page paper on “Developing an Evangelistic Strategy for Our Local Congregation.” Use Drummond’s text <u>Reaching Generation Next</u> as a resource assessment of your church. Evaluate your church’s characteristics and approach to outreach. At least 3 pages of the ten will describe how to improve your church’s ministry to the unchurched. Write with the Church and Sunday School Ministries Boards as your readership. Be gentle and honest. Post on Strategies by Thursday, Dec. 1.
Dec. 4-8	14	Assignment —Write a 5 page interactive review of your conversations and contacts with unchurched people (not reported in another assignment) and the contents of <u>Evangelism in Everyday Life</u> . Post on Conversations by Thursday, Dec. 8.

Bibliography

See Moodle for an evangelism bibliography.