



Nazarene Theological Seminary

1700 E Meyer Blvd • Kansas City, MO 64131 • 816/333-6254

EVG650 –NEW TESTAMENT EVANGELISM 6 week Online Summer 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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Catalog Description

A study of the evangelistic motivation, message, and methods revealed in the New Testament with particular attention given to the Book of Acts.

Course Narrative & Rationale

The New Testament records the evangelistic endeavors of Jesus and His disciples. The record of their effective ministry should shape our faith-sharing. Becoming proficient in biblical studies and the development of a theology of evangelism are building blocks for the practice of evangelism in our times. The discovery of New Testament principles and practice will invariably broaden our understanding and improve our ministry. Insights from Jesus and the Church will encourage cross-cultural ministry and serve as inspiration as leaders seek to reproduce themselves as agents of reconciliation.

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

1. To describe the Holy Spirit's work in evangelism throughout Acts (A3).
2. To implement evangelistic principles gleaned from one of the Gospels (A2, A3).
3. To develop a theology of evangelism faithful to scripture and relevant to local congregational ministry (A1, A2).
4. To integrate a variety of skills and spiritual gifts into an outreach ministry (A5).
5. To verbalize the tensions present in cross-cultural ministry as seen in the Bible (A5).
6. To preach evangelistically (A4).
7. To engage in evangelism while equipping others (A4).
8. To inspire others to evangelize with passion (A4).

Church of the Nazarene COSAC Competencies

- CP 12 Ability to prepare, organize, and deliver biblically sound sermons using appropriate techniques and skills and in culturally appropriate ways (A1, A2, A3, A4).
- CP 19 Ability to think globally and engage cross-culturally for the purpose of mission (A5).
- CP 20 Ability to preach evangelistically and to be engaged with and equip others in personal and congregational evangelism (A4).

Required Texts & Course Materials

- Brueggemann, Walter. Biblical Perspectives on Evangelism. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1993. 140pp
- Jones, Scott J. The Evangelistic Love of God & Neighbor. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2003. 230pp
- Green, Michael. Evangelism in the Early Church. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2003. 388pp
- Snyder, Howard A. Decoding the Church. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2002. 208pp

Moodle Posted Course Materials

- Pointer, Lyle, "What in the 'Word' Is Discipling?" Preacher's Magazine. (Mar.—May) 1982.
- Thomas, Gordon. "Holiness in Acts (1)" and "Holiness in Acts (2)"

Course Outline

- I. Introduction
- II. Jesus and Evangelism
 - A. Jesus' Teaching on Evangelism
 - B. Jesus' Example of Evangelism
 - C. Jesus' Discipleship Concepts

- III. Evangelism—The Work of God
 - A. Theology of Evangelism
 - B. Motivation for Evangelism
 - C. The Work of the Spirit
 - D. The Miraculous
- IV. The Church—The means of God
 - A. Its Nature
 - B. Its Mission
 - C. The Basic Strategy of Evangelism in Acts
- V. The Evangelists—People of God
- VI. Prayer as a Way of Life
 - A. A Common Pattern
 - B. The Causes of Prayer
 - C. Results of Prayer
- VII. A Fellowship of Love
 - A. Sharing Needs
 - B. United
 - C. Evangelism through Fellowship
 - D. Follow Up Procedures
- VIII. Personal Evangelism
 - A. Witness
 - B. The Manner of Personal Evangelism
 - C. Persecution and Opportunity
 - D. Natural Opportunity
- IX. Equipping for Evangelism
 - A. Leadership for the Future
 - B. First Century Outreach
- X. Evangelistic Preaching
 - A. Characteristics
 - B. The Power of the Word

Course Assignments & Requirements

1. **Forums** are interactive postings equivalent to class discussion. A minimum of five postings are required each week with an initial posting no later than Tuesdays and the last one by Saturday. Postings will be on Moodle's Forum under the designated titles for each week. Grades will be determined for forums beginning the end of the first week and then three more times throughout the course. Up to fifty (50) points will be awarded each time based on the quality, including:
 - a. Theological and practical observations on the assigned reading;

- b. Initiating conversation congruent with the topic being discussed;
- c. Initial posts will be at least 100 words and responses to others a minimum of 50 words;
- d. Correct grammar and spelling (200 total points possible).

Lectures serve as catalysts for most of the forums. The weekly lectures can be downloaded in Moodle. Navigate to the Course Resources topic heading. Click on the appropriate lecture link to download the file (CO 3, CP 12).

2. Questions--Answer the questions on Jones' The Evangelistic Love of God and Neighbor and Snyder's Decoding the Church on Wednesdays (Twenty-five questions @ 4 pts. each =100 pts per text). Your answers should be a minimum of 50 words per question. Questions for Jones' text are posted on Moodle. Questions for Snyder's text are at the end of each chapter of his book. (CO 2, 3)

Submit your answers in Moodle within the Assignments topic area. Under Assignments click the appropriate link for each week. On the screen that appears click the **Browse** button, select your file, click **Open**, and then click **Upload this file**.

3. **Assignments** are due on Thursdays. Assignments will be submitted in Moodle within the Assignment topic area under the designated title each week. In addition to the weekly assignments, there are three major assignments that will reported as designated throughout the course:
 - a. Evangelistic principles from one of the Gospels (150 pts.) On the first day of class you will be assigned a Gospel. You will work with three others assigned a separate Gospel looking for Jesus' principles of evangelism. You will then do a comparative study of the four Gospels. You will turn in separate assignments (100 pts.) reflective of your individual work and then a comparative analysis comprised of your group work (50 pts.). The person assigned Mark's Gospel will write the comparative analysis (CO 2, 3).
 - b. Original outline of the Book of Acts (250 pts). Grades will be based on noting the purpose statement; logical major and paragraph headings; clarity of the overall outline; significant insights; consistent outlining procedures (every 1 is followed by 2; every a by b); scriptural references; grammar and spelling (CO1; CP 12).
 - c. Read Michael Green's text, Evangelism in the Early Church. Write a nine page paper on your reading. Submit a half sheet summary for each chapter, the introduction and the epilogue (six pages). The last three pages will consist of your interaction with the text and a description of the formative and useful concepts you gathered from Green.

Two assignments, a theology on II Corinthians 4 and Green's text, will be due after the six week course.

4. **Activities** are reported on Fridays (Six activities @ 50 pts each = 300 pts). Activities will have an assigned title posted on the gradebook in Moodle. Activities will require advanced preparation, so plan immediately to carry out the following activities:
 - a. Share with a group the evangelistic principles gleaned from the Gospels (CO 6, 8; CP12, 20).
 - b. Print and distribute four bulletin inserts on evangelism (CO 8);
 - c. Share what you are learning about evangelism with the church board, a Sunday School class or small group (CO 3, 4; CP 20);
 - d. Spiritual multiplication--Make three evangelistic attempts taking someone with you (CO 7, 8; CP20);
 - e. Preach evangelistically (CO 6; CP 12, 20);
 - f. Host a party or share a meal with an unchurched person (CO 4, 7; CP 20).
5. A final exam over Brueggemann's text will be given the last Friday of the course (CO 4, 5; CP 19).

Distribution of Student Learning Hours

	Hours
Online Participation in forums, groups, etc.	24
Reading	41
Writing	37
Other Assignments and Learning Activities	23
Exams & Quizzes	7
TOTAL	132

Method for Submitting Assignments

All assignments for online courses will be submitted using the corresponding location within the Moodle course. Assignments should not be submitted by hardcopy, fax or email.

Form and Style Expectations

Use Turabian as a template for form and style.

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 & Missed Exams

All research/project work is due 11:55 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

Grading will be based on:

910-1000 = A

810-909 = B

710-809 = C

610-709 = D

000-609 = F

Course Attendance

Students are expected to attend classes as part of the learning experience. Interaction and involvement in discussion makes up a significant portion of the course. Students are graded on the frequency and level of participation. The Forum assignments represent class time.

Course Calendar

Date	Week	Assignment
May 16-22	1	Forum —By Tuesday post information helpful to others knowing something about you. Write about your present ministry assignment, future plans and your present interest and knowledge about evangelism.

		<p>Read the lecture notes, “Jesus’ Teaching on Evangelism” and respond to these questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How does an evangelistic minister find a balance between randomly scattering seeds and discerning where spiritual receptivity exists? 2. How do you keep focus on the harvest with so many weeds? <p>Read the Bible study on John 4:1-42, “One Example of Jesus’ Ministry of Evangelism.” Answer the questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A Jewish man possessed much more authority than a Samaritan woman in conversation. What are some of the power differentials in our society? How are they overcome? 2. How can you arouse curiosity and maintain interest as you witness? 3. In personal conversation how do you deal with sin in the life of unbelievers? 4. How often do you tell accounts of witnessing to other Christians? <p>Questions—Answer question 1 from the Introduction and 2-4 on chapter 1 of Jones’ text.</p> <p>Assignment—Report your observations about the evangelistic principles of Jesus on chapters 1-10 of your assigned Gospel. Cite each evangelistic principle and the scriptural reference containing that principle.</p>
May 23-29	2	<p>Forum— Read the lecture notes “John’s Gospel—a Pattern of Evangelism.” Answer these questions: 1. How can/do you use questions in witnessing? 2. How well do you paint a vision for people thinking about following Jesus? How can you improve that aspect of your witnessing?</p> <p>Read the lecture notes, “Jesus’ Concept of Discipling” and the article “What in the ‘Word’ Is Discipling?” Initiate discussion on the topic of discipleship and respond to two other students’ posts.</p> <p>Questions—Answer questions 5-6 on Jones chapter 2, questions 7-13 on Jones chapter 3, questions 14-16 on Jones chapter 4 and 17-19 from Jones chapter 5.</p> <p>Assignment—Report evangelistic principles on chapters 11-20 from your Gospel. (Yes, Mark ends with chapter 16.)</p>
May 30- June 5	3	<p>Forum—Read the lecture notes “The Work of the Spirit.” Give testimony to the work of God’s Spirit in your own life. Read “Re-Minting Christian Holiness” 1 & 2. Write five (5) discussion questions. Answer one of your own questions and one question someone else wrote.</p> <p>Read the lecture notes “The Spirit’s Evangelistic Activity” and “The Spirit-filled Life as Normal Christian Experience.” Give seven (7) reasons to preach or teach on being filled with the Holy Spirit. Interact with the thoughts of other students.</p> <p>Questions-- Answer questions 20-21 from Jones chapter 6 and 22-25 from Jones chapter 7. From <u>Decoding the Church</u> answer questions 1, 3, 5 at the end of chapter 1 and questions 3, 4 from chapter 2.</p> <p>Assignment-- Report evangelistic principles on chapters 21 through the last chapter from your Gospel.</p> <p>Activity—Decide together with your Gospel team members the evangelistic distinctive of each Gospel.</p>
June 6-12	4	<p>Forum—Read the lecture notes, “The Church—The Means of God.” Discuss Newbigin’s three understanding of the New Testament Church.</p> <p>Analyze the following quotation, “Every Christian should have a Paul, a Barnabas and a Timothy in his/her life.” The purpose of this shared learning experience is to focus on advancing the Kingdom of God through relationship building, rather than programs.</p>

		<p>Read the lecture notes, “Praying as a Way of Life.” Describe ways to keep your prayer life fresh. Note ways your church’s prayer focus can be improved. How is evangelism advanced through prayer?</p> <p>Question—From <u>Decoding the Church</u> answer questions 2, 3 from chapter 3; questions 2, 4 from chapter 4; questions 3, 6 from chapter 5 and 9, 10 from chapter 6.</p> <p>Assignment—Outline Acts 1-8</p>
June 13-19	5	<p>Forum—Read the lecture notes, “A Loving Fellowship” and “Evangelizing a Lost World through Social Ministries.” Evaluate the strength of fellowship in your congregation. How does it affect the evangelism taking place in your church? How does your community view your congregation’s ministry of care?</p> <p>Read lecture notes, “Leadership in Church Evangelism” and “Leadership for the Future.” Describe how you develop evangelistic leadership in your congregation. Answer this question: What motivates people to witness? Post your exposition assignment and discuss your findings.</p> <p>Questions—From <u>Decoding the Church</u> answer question 1 in chapter 7; questions 3, 8 in chapter 8; questions 4, 6, 7 in chapter 9; questions 3, 7 in chapter 10.</p> <p>Assignment—Outline Acts 9-16. Write an exposition on II Corinthians 5:11-6:8. Post also on exposition assignment. Discuss your findings.</p> <p>Activity—Host a party or share a meal with an unchurched person. Report the conversation. How did you show Jesus to that person(s)?</p>
June 20-26	6	<p>Forum—Read lecture notes, “Evangelistic Preaching,” “Evangelizing through Worship and Preaching” and “The Power of the Word.” Respond to the three questions in “The Power of the Word.” What relevant needs did you address in your last two sermons?</p> <p>Read lecture notes, “Numerical Growth,” “The Basic Strategy of Evangelism in Acts” and “Persecution and Opportunity.” Respond to these questions and to two other students’ responses. What is the reality and response of Christians in your country to persecution? What is your congregation’s strategy for evangelism?</p> <p>Read lecture notes, “Conclusion.” What are your “take-aways” from the Book of Acts? What New Testament principles of evangelism will you apply?</p> <p>Questions—From <u>Decoding the Church</u> answer questions 2, 4 in chapter 11; questions 2, 3 in chapter 12 from <u>Decoding the Church</u>.</p> <p>Assignments—Outline Acts 17-28. On the basis of II Corinthians 4 write a 3-5 page theology of evangelism.</p> <p>Activities—Report your session(s) with a group informing them of what you have learned from this course in evangelism.</p> <p>Exam—Take a final test on <u>Biblical Perspectives</u>.</p>

	<p>One assignment or activity is due every Friday after class for five weeks.</p>	<p>Assignment--On the basis of II Corinthians 4 write a 3-5 page theology of evangelism.</p> <p>Activity--Report on your evangelistic preaching. Post your sermon (manuscript or complete sentence outline) and evaluate the results of inviting people to make a decision for Christ.</p> <p>Activity--Host a party or share a meal with an unchurched person. Report the conversation. How did you show Jesus to that person(s)?</p> <p>Activity--Report on your spiritual multiplication--three evangelistic visits with another Christian. Name the person you took with you and their phone number, including area code. Tell the first name of the person visited. Report how you established rapport, what was said, how you discussed the Gospel and what were the results. What did you talk about with the person you took with you before and after the visit?</p> <p>Assignment--Read Michael Green's text, <u>Evangelism in the Early Church</u>. Write a nine page paper on your reading. Submit a half sheet summary for each chapter, the introduction and the epilogue (six pages). The last three pages will consist of your interaction with the text and a description of the formative and useful concepts you gathered from Green.</p>
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