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MS 610 The Ministry of Evangelism

Robert G. Tuttle

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Syllabus

Course: MS610 O1 (SP 2009)
Title: The Ministry of Evangelism
Hours: 3.00
Published: Yes, on 11/05/2008
Prerequisites:

IS501

Department: Christian Mission
Faculty: Dr. Robert Tuttle



Email: robert.tuttle@asburyseminary.edu
 Office: FC
 SPO:

Meetings:

During 02/09/2009 to 05/22/2009 on Tuesday from 2: 30p to 5: 15p in EXLEXL.

Maximum Registration: 20

Catalog Description: Drawing on biblical, historical, and cultural foundations, this course enables students to clarify their understanding of and strengthen their commitment to the ministry of evangelism. Contemporary models and resources help students formulate a holistic plan for personal, congregational, and world evangelization. Fulfills the United Methodist ordination requirement in evangelism.

Objectives:

Ser. Evan.

MS610 (DL) A SYLLABUS AND GENERAL GUIDE FOR

"The Ministry of Evangelism"

Spring Semester, 2009

Tuesdays 2:30-5:15.

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)

Feb. 10: "Communicating the Christian Faith Today--Some General Characteristics of Growing Churches" (including a general introduction regarding expectations, ground rules, assignments, and some definitions).

Assignment: Begin the reading of the texts.

Feb. 17: "The Good News We Share"

(All weekly assignments are due at the beginning of class):

Assignment: Continue the reading. **First book critique.**

Feb. 24: "Equipping the Laity"

Tom Tumblin video tape

Assignment: Continue the reading. **First case study.**

Mar. 3: "Other Forms of Evangelism"

Assignment: Continue the reading.

Mar. 10: "Advocacy and Evangelism--The Great Commission in Light of the Great Commandment" (on the Wilmore Campus)

Assignment: Continue the reading. **Second book critique.**

Mar. 17: "Dynamic Equivalence--World (and Indigenous) Religions and Communicating Cross-Culturally"

Assignment: Continue the reading. **Second case study.**

Mar. 24: "Community--The Matrix of Natural, Spontaneous Evangelism"

Assignment: Continue the reading.

Mar. 30 to Apr. 3: Spring Reading Week

Apr. 7: "Introduction to Church Growth" (Wilmore Campus)

Assignment: Continue the reading. **Third book critique.**

Apr. 14: "Discipleship--Born Again, What Then?"

Assignment due: Continue the reading. **Third case study.**

Apr. 21: "Youth Evangelism"

Assignment: Continue the reading. Project outline (if needed).

Apr. 28: "The Holy Spirit as the Great Evangelist"

Assignment: Continue the reading. **Fourth book critique.**

May 5: "Communicating the Faith One on One" (Wilmore Campus)

"Planning an Evangelistic Worship Service."

Assignment: Continue the reading.

TERM PROJECT DUE!

May 12: The Invitation and Review.

May 18-22: 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 (800 pages in the required texts), and at least two texts from the collateral reading (for the remaining 400 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: 1. Four book critiques 40%

2. Three case studies 10% (not actually graded)

3. Term Report 40%

4. Class participation 10%

[ALL PAPERS MUST HAVE A **SELF ADDRESSED ENVELOPE** FOR THEM TO BE RETURNED VIA THE MAIL!]

V. Online Section Descriptions and Communication Guidelines

The Virtual Classroom is built upon the open-source Moodle platform. By logging into <http://one.asburyseminary.edu> and clicking on the Virtual Campus tab (upper right corner) you will have access to this course and be able to collaborate with participant-colleagues and me throughout the course. The following are functions with which you should familiarize yourself:

1. The **Course Information Center** contains many features to be used throughout the semester:

a) **Course News and Announcements**, where I will post items important for the entire class;

b) **Syllabus**, where a copy of the syllabus is provided;

c) **To Professor**, which is a way for you to post a message directly to me and we can discuss an issue privately;

d) **Course Questions**, which is a public forum where you can publicly post any questions you have regarding the course so others may see your message and respond. Anytime you have a question or comment about the course, the schedule, the assignments, or anything else that may be of interest to other participants and me you should post it to the Course Questions Forum;

- e) **Prayer Forum**, which is a public forum where you can post prayer concerns and praises for all to see. This is a way for us to build community;
 - f) **Open Forum**, which is a public forum where you can post anything that is not course-related for all to see. Examples include someone getting married, an upcoming birthday, discussions on topics not course-related, etc. This is a way for us to build community.
2. **Modules**, which are located below the Course Information Center, will contain forums where group discussions will take place, documents or other files to download or view online, and assignment links where you will post your assignments to me. Modules will be clearly labeled so you can follow along during the semester.

VI. Virtual Support Contact Information

For **technical support, library research support, library loans, and Virtual media** contact Information Commons:

Info_Commons@asburyseminary.edu Phone: (859) 858-2233; Toll-free: (866) 454-2733

For **general questions and administrative assistance regarding the Virtual program**, contact Dale Hale:

ExL_Office@asburyseminary.edu Phone: (859) 858-2393

Accessing Information Commons Materials

1. General Questions:

a. The Information Commons is a "one-stop shop" for all student research, circulation and technical needs. The Information Commons hours are posted here: <http://www.asburyseminary.edu/information/hours.htm>

2. Materials Requests:

a. To search the library catalog for available materials, click here:

<http://www.asburyseminary.edu/information/index.htm>

b. Virtual Students may request books, photocopies or emailed attachments of journal articles/portions of reference books from Asbury Seminary's Library. Please allow 3-10 business days for all requests to be filled. Contact the Information Commons for costs and instructions on how to make requests.

c. Virtual students are encouraged to make use of local library resources. Students who live within a 50 mile radius of either the Florida or the Kentucky campus should come to campus to obtain their materials.

3. Research Questions:

a. Virtual students are encouraged to contact the Information Commons for research assistance including help determining the best sources to use for a paper, finding book reviews, or research questions about using the online databases or any other library materials.

4. Online Databases:

a. To access the online library resources including the library catalog and full-text journal databases, go to

<http://www.asburyseminary.edu/information/index.htm> and enter your 10-digit student ID# number in the login box. Your student ID# is provided on the biographical information section of the student registration webpage. Add a 2 and enough 0's to the front to make a 10-digit number (20000XXXXX where XXXXX = your student id).

Copyright Policies

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VII. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Required Texts:

1.
 1. Turnaround Strategies for the Small Church, Ron Crandall (160 pp.).
 2. The Celtic Way of Evangelism. George Hunter, III, Abingdon Press (140 pp.).
 3. Preaching for a Response, Bristol Books, 2008, Lathem/Dunn (162 pp.).
 4. The Story of Evangelism, Abingdon Press, 2006, Robert Tuttle, Jr. (424 pp.).
 5. Can We Talk?, Abingdon Press, Robert Tuttle, Jr. (110 pp.).

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

The Heart of Youth Ministry, Goddard and Acevedo.

To Spread the Power, George Hunter, III (200 pp.).

How to Reach Secular People, George Hunter, III (Abingdon, 1992).

New Testament Evangelism, Michael Green, OMF Literature, 1979).

Becoming a Contagious Christian, Hybels and Mittelberg (221 pp.).

A Song of Ascents, E. Stanley Jones (Abingdon, 1979).

Tell It Well, J. T. Seamands.

Shortening the Leap, from Honest Doubt to Enduring Faith, Robert Tuttle, Jr. (Bristol House, 2007).

Recommended Reading: (I forbid you to freak on this. You've got the rest of your life to read all of these.)

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.
- 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, Alistair 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.
- Stebbins, Tom, Evangelism by the Book, Christian Publications, 1991.
- 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.
- _____, Sanctity without Starch, Bristol House, 1992.
- 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

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:

á **Content:** The intent here is to provide you with a working tool to take to your local church or organization.

4. Each report should contain a brief description of the church or organization in question (history, location, particular problems, etc.).

3. State your program (be specific, do not try to spread yourself too thin).

á State your resources (how do you plan to implement the program).

á Project a time line (this part of the program should be completed by É).

á Describe your desired results.

á **Style:** Keep it simple.

á Watch your syntax and grammar (proof read your paper).

á Avoid run on sentences (Why did God invent the semicolon?).

á Feel free to use headings.

á Double space with ample margins for the instructors comments.

á **Documentation:** Some of this can be omitted from the copy presented to the church or organization.

á Footnotes (identify your sources).

á Bibliography.