ME 501 The Servant as Evangelist

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Prospectus for the Course  
ME 501  
"The Servant as Evangelist"  
A Core Course in Mission/Evangelism

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

The ME 501 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. Students will conduct field interviews to explore the dynamics of Christian conversion, and principles of church growth will be examined to learn how congregations grow. This is a basic course for all seeking to serve Christ and his Church with a global consciousness and a local effectiveness.

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES

A. Biblical
Students will gain from key Old and New Testament texts and images a clearer understanding of and motivation for the effective extension of the gospel of Jesus Christ to all peoples.

B. Historical
Students will recognize and appreciate through historical review, with special attention to the Wesleyan revival, the key ingredients of theology and strategy repeatedly used by the Holy Spirit to renew the Church and enable individuals and congregations to be effective instruments of evangelization both intra-culturally and cross-culturally.

C. Cultural
Students will learn to identify several key elements in a viable definition of culture and learn to recognize, appreciate and utilize indigenous cultural forms as aids to prevenient grace and essential ingredients in communication of the gospel with clarity and power.

D. Strategic
Students will acquire greater understanding, confidence and skill in the use of evangelistic strategies both as individuals and as servant leaders in congregational efforts to win persons to Christ and enlist them as faithful disciples in the world-wide evangelistic task of the Church.

III. PROCEDURE AND COURSE REQUIREMENTS
Class instruction will involve lectures, discussions, films, class reports, and experiential learning. Required and collateral reading, field research and a report, and a project or final examination round out the requirements of the course.

A. READING REQUIREMENTS:
Of the 1200 pages of reading required, 990 pages are assigned as required texts and articles. The remaining pages may be selected from (1) the recommended "collateral" texts, (2) materials approved by the professor, and/or (3) evangelism/church growth audio/video tapes in the media section of the library--counted at the rate of one hour of listening/viewing equivalent to 25 pages for 4 hours or "100 pages" maximum. A READING REPORT form attached, must be signed and turned in no later than the end of the final exam and must include all texts and reading credit to be counted, including any make-up credit needed for absences. Some reading will be assigned for particular class sessions, especially from the Selected Articles packet; however, reading the required texts in the order listed below will be most helpful for class preparation. Approximately 100 pages a week must be read to stay current. Reading counts 20% of the final grade. One point will be deducted for every 50 pages not completed.

A one page single spaced review (following a form provided) of each of the Required Readings will need to be turned in on the date listed. Each report will count 1 point.

Required Readings
9/21  1. "ME 501 Selected Articles Packet" (120 pages).
10/5  2. To Spread The Power, George Hunter III (200 pages).
10/26  3. The Church Is Bigger Than You Think (300 pages).
11/30  5. Turnaround Strategies for the Small Church, Ron Crandall (160 pages)

TOTAL . . . .990  Pages

Collateral Texts
All students must read at least one of the following texts not read previously or being read for other courses.


Additional texts recommended for completing the reading assignment include:
17. Wesleyan Theology and Evangelism, ed by

Other Special Reading
Books, articles and AV resources (total not to exceed the 4 hour limit) recommended by the professor or other ESJ faculty related to their lectures or your second project will be counted as collateral reading toward the 1200 page requirement, or may be counted as extra credit.

Attendance
Students are required to record their own attendance on an attendance sheet. Missing more than two class periods will require 50 extra pages read for each additional class missed up to five. Further absences will reduce the grade for the course one gradation for each additional absence. You are responsible to report the number of classes missed on your READI/Glyph1197G form and identify the pages read as "make up."

B. PROJECTS and REPORTS:
One class report will be required of every student and a second project may be selected from the list of electives in place of the final exam. All papers should be typed double-spaced and follow Form and Style 10th ed., by Slade. Papers will be graded on: Composition, Clarity, Thoroughness, Objectivity and Perception - equal points for each.

Required Research and Report--Each student will be required to interview five persons following an outline provided to discover "How Persons Become Christians" or "Who Are the Unchurched?" Do not interview seminary students or persons previously interviewed for this ME 501 project. ASK! Your interview forms (or copies) must be turned in paper-clipped to your 8-10 page report. This paper will be due Thursday, Oct. 7th. Late papers will be accepted but with a one point penalty per weekday up to five days. This project will
be worth 25 points (5 points for each of the five areas--C, C, T, O, P--above), and counts 30% of the final grade. A grading assistant will be working with the professor on grading these papers. Using headings and subheadings, (Form and Style, 10th ed. p. 45), construct your report as follows:

1. Use a title page–not numbered (See Slade, Form and Style, 10th ed. p. 30).
2. Include an introductory paragraph describing the project and the major sections and design of the paper (1/2 page).
3. Compose a one paragraph description of each subject (use pseudonym) interviewed except for the subject in #4 below--referring to information from each section of the interview survey (2-3 pages.)
4. Write a more in depth analysis of one subject telling his or her story in greater detail and reflecting on why you selected this subject and what you have learned from the experience (3-4 pages).
5. List several implications and/or applications for your future ministry based on insights from sections 3 and 4 above (1 page).
6. List any emerging issues this study has raised for you which need additional clarification, study, research, etc. (1/2 to 1 page).
7. A concluding paragraph (1/2 page).

ALL PAPERS MUST HAVE A SPO # FOR THEM TO BE RETURNED VIA THE SPO!

Elective Project--Each student may select from the following list an elective project which will require a 10-12 page paper due Tuesday, Dec. 7th. This project will count 50% of the final grade. Sign-up sheets for all projects will be available the second week of class. The use of footnotes, endnotes, or MLA style parentheses (following the seminary standard, Form and Style 10th ed. by Slade) reflecting integration of course material and special research for your project will be expected. Please single space indented quotations of five lines or more.

1. **Participate in Operation Appreciation**, an evangelistic ministry in Louisville, providing counseling and follow-up to military personnel involved in basic training at Fort Knox. At least three trips will be required--leaving Saturday afternoon and returning late Saturday night. You should include in the paper: a brief description of the program, your experience, evaluation of your investment, evaluation of the program, and lessons and applications for ministry. A similar outline could be used for persons involved in other programs of personal evangelism and witnessing--street witnessing, church visitation programs, campus evangelism programs (see item #2), prison ministries, etc.

2. **Participate in Campus Evangelism** at EKU (Richmond) working with Ken Southgate, Director of the Wesley Foundation on campus (606) 623-6846/ 623-7213/ 623-2990 (hm). This will primarily involve working late Thursday evenings as EKU students “stream” past the Wesley Foundation to and from area bars. At least three Thursdays would be required.

3. **Study a growing church** (or church unit) successful at reaching new persons for Christ.
Gather and graph the data of its recent growth. Using some combination of observation, historical analysis, questionnaires, and/or especially interviews—identify the chief causes of effective evangelism and growth noting principles from material in class and texts read for the course. Identify problems or barriers and/or additional strategies which could inform even greater growth in the future. Include any significant personal insights gained. May be done as a team project with two to five persons participating, each writing a separate paper. (See workbooks on reserve.)

4. **Visit three ethnically diverse congregations** (Black, Korean, Chinese, Japanese, Greek, Hispanic, etc.) and/or ethnically mixed congregations in the Lexington area and describe in your paper the special possibilities, problems, challenges and opportunities of ethnic and multi-ethnic evangelism in America today. Information on congregations will be provided.

5. **Other projects** may be approved after consultation with and agreement by the professor.

C. **FINAL EXAMINATION:**
A final examination given Tuesday, Dec. 14th from 1-3 p.m. will cover the entire course lectures and some directed areas of study from the texts. A study guide will be handed out near the end of the semester for those planning on the exam. It will be short answer, multiple choice and short essay. Some questions will allow for choosing one of two or three options. The exam counts 50% of the final grade and replaces the second project and paper.

D. **GRADE FOR THE COURSE:**
The grade for the course will be determined as follows: 20 points for the reading, 5 points for the reading reports, 25 points for the first paper, 50 points for the second paper (or) the final exam, for a total of 100 points. Extra credit may be earned through additional reading (1 point per 100 pages) and/or leading one brief (2-5 minutes) devotional at the beginning of class (one point). Not more than 2 points of extra credit can be earned, and no amount of extra credit can raise a grade more than one standard division (e.g. a "B" could become a "B+"). The grading scale normally consists of: A's (92-100), B's (81-91), C's (71-80), D's (61-70), F (60 and below).
ME 501 AREAS OF STUDY

- Orientation
Focus I. - Evangelism Definitions
Focus II. - Biblical Texts/Images and the Evangelistic Task
Focus III. - Our Wesleyan Heritage in Evangelism
Focus IV. - Communicating the Gospel Cross-Culturally
Focus V. - World Religions
Focus VI. - World Evangelization
Focus VII. - Personal Evangelism
Focus VIII. - Evangelism with Youth
Focus IX. - An Introduction to Church Growth
Focus X. - Research and Planning for Local Church Evangelism
Focus XI. - Strategies for Evangelistic Outreach
Focus XII. - Strategies for Supportive Faith Community
Focus XIII. - Strategies for Growth in Discipleship

Lecture Outlines for the course are on reserve in the library.

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DUE DATES
First Paper Due Tuesday, Oct. 12, 1999 (late after class is over)
Second Paper Due Tuesday, Dec. 7, 1999 (late after class is over)
Final Exam Tuesday, Dec. 14, 1999 (1:00-3:00 p.m.)
Reading Report Tuesday, Dec. 14, 1999 (by 3:00 p.m.)

PAPERS/REPORTS

Any late papers/reports not turned in during class should be hand delivered to the ESJ Office Secretary, Pat Richmond, on the third floor of McPheeters’ Center (Room MC 306) - not sent through SPO or left under the door.

OFFICE HOURS

Dr. Crandall's office is MC 312. Office hours are Tuesday 11:00-12:00, Wednesday 10:00-12:00., Thursday 11:00-12:00, or you may arrange for a special appointment.