



ERSKINE
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

For Christ and His Church

PM 507G Greenville
Evangelism
Saturday 2/18; 3/4; 3/31; 4/28
9:00 to 5:00 P.M.
Toney C. Parks, D. Min

Office Hours: Please call to schedule appointments.

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Course Description

This course is a study of the nature and practice of evangelism in the Christian Church. Attention is given to the Biblical basis of evangelism, the theology and historical development of evangelism, spiritual development, principles in evangelism, and methods of developing evangelism as a part of the total mission of the congregation. *Required for M. Div. and M.A.E.M. students. Three hours.*

This course is intended to be a practical study of the theory and practice of evangelism in the local church that gives students workable principles that will make them thoughtful and passionate evangelists and make their ministries more effective.

Course Objectives

The mission of Erskine Theological Seminary is to educate persons for service in the Christian church. As part of that mission, the Seminary offers this course in evangelism for the Master of Divinity (M.Div.) and M.A.E.M. degrees. This course implements the following goals:

1. The student will be able to present a full explanation for the gospel message, including an introduction, an organized outline of gospel content, attendant Biblical references and illustrations, a conclusion and a follow-up strategy.
2. The student will gain greater motivation and compassion for reaching the lost.

3. The student will grow in personal confidence and courage for sharing the gospel.
4. The student will learn to view his/her ministry in light of the Church's mission as to the importance of worship, following, bearing witness to, and serving Jesus Christ.
5. The student will learn methods by which to communicate the Bible's message through preaching and evangelism, so as to make clear that its meaning is relevant for today.

In keeping with these goals and objectives, it is intended that by the end of the course term, students will be able to:

1. Articulate a Biblical philosophy of evangelism that takes into account both the teaching of the Bible and the worldview of individuals.
2. Understand the process of conversion, including the Holy Spirit's role as well as the role of a redeemed individual.
3. Demonstrate skill in diagnosing where people are spiritually.
4. Understand the content of the Gospel, and how to apply the Gospel both before and after conversion.
5. Understand evangelistic principles and develop a strategy for mobilizing the whole church in evangelism.
6. Model personal evangelism for a congregation by using their God-given gifts, background, training, and passions in sharing their faith.
7. Glorify God by enjoying the process of learning to build relationships, of seeing people meet Jesus, and assisting people to mature in their faith.
8. Use concepts that can be transferred to others by example, preaching, and training to help the church fulfill the Great Commission.

Required Texts (*The Holy Bible is assumed as a required text in all classes*):

Reid, Alvin, and Thom S. Rainer. *Evangelism Handbook: Biblical, Spiritual, Intentional, Missional*. Nashville: B&H Publishing, 2009. ISBN 9780805445428

McIntosh, Gary, and Glen Martin. *Finding Them, Keeping Them: Effective Strategies for Evangelism and Assimilation in the Local Church*. Nashville: B&H Publishing, 1991. ISBN 0-978-8054-6051-9

Supplemental Readings:

Coleman, Robert E. *Master Plan of Evangelism*. Grand Rapids: Baker Publishing, 1993. ISBN 0-8007-5467-0

Guidelines/Requirements for Assignments:

1) Theology of Evangelism Paper: After reading the entire Book of Acts, you are to develop a theological understanding of evangelism and articulate your philosophy of evangelism in a 3 to 5 page concise summary of your readings. (Paper due March 3rd)

2) Successful Evangelistic Portrait: Identify a successful modern evangelical ministry that has successfully embraced evangelism as a ministry. Identify the ministry, its leader, and the type of evangelistic model used by this ministry. Please respond to the items mentioned above. (Paper due March 31st)

3) Evangelistic Ministry Model: After reading the assigned books, you are to use the various strategies and concepts mentioned in the reading, to develop an evangelistic ministry model designed to reach unsaved and un-churched individuals. From your reading and class lectures, you are expected to use the various terms, strategies and principles mentioned as you develop this evangelistic ministry model. You will present your ministry model and discuss it with your peers during the last class period. You are welcome to use Power Point presentations, or handouts. Your project is to be 7 to 10 pages in length. The oral presentation of the project is to be no more than 10-15 minutes. (Paper due April 21st -- No exceptions)

Content of the model should include the following points:

- a. What specific model/s do you plan to use?
- b. Give scriptural passages to support your evangelistic plan.
- c. Where and who is your target audience?
- d. What role will you and your members play in this model?
- e. Develop a plan/process with identifiable steps to reach un-churched people.
- f. After you find them, what are your plans to keep them?

4) Ministry Skills Demonstration: Students will be expected to integrate their ministerial skills by using Scripture and material for lectures and reading materials, discussions and writing assignments.

The professor will observe these skills while students are interacting in small groups and class discussion. Students should demonstrate their progress in acquiring and honing some of the basic ministerial skills of evangelism (i.e., one-to-one witnessing, discipleship skills, accurate use of Scripture during evangelistic witnessing, and the ability to develop and implement an evangelistic ministry model in the local church.

Course Grading

Attendance and appropriate, active participation in class are assumed for a passing grade. The absence of regular attendance and active participation will affect one's final grade. Otherwise, the final grade will be calculated on the standard seminary scale as follows:

- a. Attendance and Class Participation 10%
- b. Theology and Philosophy of Evangelism 30%
- c. Evangelistic Ministry Model 30%
- d. Evangelistic Portrait 20%
- e. Final Exam (Oral Presentation) 10%

Course Schedule

February 18th Introduction to Class Participants & Course, Lectures – Jesus as the Evangelist (Read the Book of Acts prior to class)

1. Lecture on the role of evangelism in the Book of Acts
2. Discuss scripture related to Discipleship and Evangelism
3. Discuss Ministry Model

March 3rd Lecture “Evangelism Handbook”

1. Components of an Evangelistic/Mission focus Church(Acts Model)
2. What makes a Church effective at evangelism?
3. Theology & Philosophy of Evangelism”

March 31st Lecture “Finding Them and Keeping Them” (Evangelistic Portraits Due)

1. Class activity (Practice On-on-One, group witnessing)
2. Class time to review and discuss Evangelistic Ministry Model outline.

April 21st Evangelistic Ministry Model Presentation (Assignment Due)

Content of your Ministry Model should discuss the following points:

1. Title your model, define your purpose and state your intended objectives.
2. Identify a theological statement by which your ministry will operate. (Scripture Reference)
3. What evangelistic concepts will you use in your model, and what evangelistic process will you use to reach un-churched people?
4. What role will you play in the execution of this Ministry Model?
5. After you find them, how do you plan to keep them?

All assignments are to be posted on to the Eden website prior to class arrival, failing to post assignment on time will result in loss of letter grade.

SEMINARY POLICIES: Click this link and read carefully as part of this syllabus contract: [http://seminary.erskine.edu/content_policies/SeminaryPoliciesforETSSStudent .pdf](http://seminary.erskine.edu/content_policies/SeminaryPoliciesforETSSStudent.pdf)