

COURSE 523: EVANGELISM
COURSE OF STUDY SCHOOL OF OHIO
Winter 2015

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This course analyzes the theology of evangelism and our faithfulness to God's call. It also examines various strategies for and approaches to the church's evangelistic task in the heritage of United Methodism, stressing the proclamation and the enactment of the gospel.

Objectives:

1. Significant reference to the biblical roots of evangelism, with particular attention to New Testament foundations as illustrated in the scriptures.
2. Interpretation of the Wesleyan heritage of evangelism
3. Survey of strategies and models for evangelism in the past, present, and future life of the church
4. Analysis of contemporary issues in evangelism, such as debates on church growth methodologies, the relationship of evangelism and mission, evangelism in relation to personal and social transformation, evangelization and liberation theologies, and revivalism
5. Focus on evangelism in and use for the local congregation, with emphasis on such issues as preaching evangelistically, organizing and training laity for evangelism, relating evangelism to Christian education (including evangelism in confirmation classes), and planning for long-range evangelistic efforts in communities
6. Critical analysis of and appreciation for electronic media as instruments of Evangelism

COS 523: Evangelism

Recommended:

- 1) Bryan Stone – *Evangelism after Christendom* (Brazos Press, March 2007, ISBN 978-1587431944)
- 2) David Kinnaman and Gabe Lyon – *Unchristian* (Baker Books, October 2007, ISBN 978-0801013003)

3) William J. Abraham - *Logic of Evangelism* (Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1989; ISBN 0802804330)

4) Stephen Gunter and Elaine Robinson, editors - *Considering the Great Commission: Evangelism and Mission in the Wesleyan Spirit* (Abingdon Press, 2005; ISBN 9780687493630)

Supplementary:

1) Mortimer Arias - *Announcing the Reign of God: Evangelization and the Subversive Memory of Jesus* (CSS Publishing Co., 2001; ISBN 0788099035)

Course Schedule:

Online Environment: **January 16, 2015**

This course begins with work online. Typical work online includes watching or listening to lectures, engaging in discussion groups, and/or writing reflections.

All online engagement will be complete by February 28, 2015

On Campus Weekend: **January 16 and 17, 2015**

™The On-Campus Weekend will begin at 2:30 on Friday and end by 2:30pm on Saturday. Friday class is 2:30 pm to 8:30 pm, with a dinner break at 5:00 pm; Saturday resumes at 8:30 am, with chapel at 11:15 am, lunch at noon, and class concludes at 2:30.

Final Semester Project: The student will work with the instructor to develop a topic for an 8-10 page final paper. The paper will deal with some aspect of evangelism in the Wesleyan tradition, preferably with a focus that will best serve the student in their local pastoral setting. The paper will be due by February 20th.

Grades will be handed into the COSSO office by no later than 30 days after the last day of class.

ACADEMIC HONOR POLICY

The Course of Study School of Ohio requires that all material submitted by a student in fulfilling academic requirements must be the original work of the student. Violations of academic honor include any action by a student indicating lack of integrity in academic ethics. Violations include, but are not limited to, cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes seeking, acquiring, receiving or passing on information about the content of an examination prior to its authorized release or during its administration. Cheating also includes seeking, using, giving or obtaining unauthorized assistance in any academic assignment or examination. Plagiarism is the act of presenting the published or unpublished words or ideas of another [including online resources] as if it were one's own work. A writer's work should be regarded as his or her own property. Any

person who knowingly (whether intentionally or unintentionally) uses a writer's distinctive work without proper acknowledgement is guilty of plagiarism. A student found guilty of a violation of the academic honor policy, after a review of the case, may be subject to one or more of the following actions:

- (1) warning
- (2) probation
- (3) suspension for the remainder of the course
- (4) dismissal from the Course of Study School of Ohio
- (5) failing grade for the course.

Regardless of the outcome, a letter will be sent to the student's District Superintendent and Board of Ordained Ministry.