

**FALL TERM 2017**  
**COURSE SYLLABUS**  
Department: Mission and Evangelism  
**Course Title: ME 600—*Mission and Evangelism in Church Planting***  
**Credit Hours: 3**  
**Monday's 8:30 am to 12:00 noon**

The Rev. Dr. Rodger Woodworth  
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**I. Course Description**

ME 600 (Mission and Evangelism in Church Planting) provides instruction, encouragement and to equip the student for God's mission in the local church through church planting. At the heart of the teaching will be a study of the Gospel as articulated in the New Testament and its relevance and importance in today's culture. Methods in which the Gospel can be contextualized in a meaningful way in various ministries and in church planting will be examined, as well as the cross-cultural aspects of the evangelistic task. Included is an introduction to church planting as the best method of evangelism today. The student will be expected to put this teaching into practice through exercises and participation in an evangelistic exercise.

**II. Course Objectives**

The objectives of this course are as follows:

- A. The student will have an understanding of various evangelistic methods that can be used in the context of God's Kingdom and parish ministry.
- B. The student will know what the basic Gospel outline is and will be able to share that outline with others.
- C. The student will be equipped to teach an understanding of God's mission and evangelism in the local congregation and a church planting context.
- D. The student will understand what it means to think missionally in a strategic manner as they study and develop contextual and cultural applications of the Gospel within the reality of church planting.
- E. The student will be able to discern their own gifts in this area and will also be able to discern those gifts in others and to equip them as potential core group members and for the ministry of evangelism in a church plant.
- F. At an introductory level, the student will be familiar with the basic foundations of church planting as a Missional and Evangelistic strategy.

**III. Student Outcomes**

**MDiv**

- (1) The student will recognize and identify the biblical theology evident in the course work.
- (2) The student will be able to articulate an Anglican understanding of biblical, historical, systematic, and pastoral theology.
- (3) The student will be able to communicate effectively the Christian message to a diversity of people in order to advance the mission of God.
- (4) The student will be prepared to effectively lead in a variety of Christian communities, including the principles behind planting a church.

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- 4) The student will be equipped to apply scholarship to the life of the church in his or her chosen theological discipline.

## **IV. Course Texts**

### **A. Required Texts:**

Kinnaman, David, and Gabe Lyons. *Good Faith: Being a Christian When Society Thinks You're Irrelevant and Extreme* (Baker Books, 2016) ISBN: 978-0-8010-1317-1

Packard, J. I. *Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God* (IVP, 2008) ISBN: 978-0-8308-3799-1

Frost, Michael. *Incarnate: The Body of Christ in an Age of Disengagement* (IVP, 2014) ISBN: 978-0830844173

Stetzer Ed. *Planting Missional Churches: Your Guide to Starting Churches that Multiply* (B&H Academic 2nd, 2016) ISBN: 978-1433692161

### **B. Recommended Texts:**

Pippert, Rebecca. *Out of the Saltshaker and into The World: Evangelism as a Way of Life*. (IVP, 1999)

Green, Michael. *Compelled by Joy: A lifelong passion for evangelism*. Nottingham: IVP, 2011. ISBN: 978-1-84474-542-5

Gibbs, Eddie, *Churchmorph: How Megatrends are Reshaping Christian Communities* (Baker Academic, 2009) ISBN 978801037627

Guder, Darrell L., Ed., *Missional Church: A Vision for the Sending of the Church in North America* (Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing, 1999) ISBN 978-0-80284-350-6

Richardson, Rick. *Evangelism Outside the Box: New Ways to Help People Experience the Good News*. Downers Grove: IVP Books, 2000. ISBN: 978-0-83082-276-8 \$15.00

Richardson, Rick. *Reimagining Evangelism*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2006. ISBN: 978-0-83083-342-9 \$15.00

Stone, Bryan. *Evangelism after Christendom: The Theology and Practice of Christian Witness*. Grand Rapids: Brazos Press, 2007. ISBN: 978-1-58743-194-4

Tourneau, Gregory Allen. *Evangelizing Post-Modern Pre-Christians Through Holistic Cells & Liturgical Celebration*. Newburgh, IN: Trinity Press Publishing, 2012. ISBN: 978-1-93706-425-9

Green, Michael, *Evangelism Through the Local Church* (Hodder and Stoughton, 2001) ISBN: 0340561262

Scazzero, Pete, *Introducing Jesus: Starting an Investigative Bible Study* (InterVarsity Press, 1991) ISBN 0830811745

Searcy, Nelson and Kerrick Thomas, *Launch: Starting a New Church from Scratch* (Regal, 2006) ISBN 9780830743100

Watson, David, *I Believe in Evangelism*, (William B. Eerdmans' Publishing, 1976) ISBN 0802816878

Hunter III, George G., *The Celtic Way of Evangelism*, (Abingdon Press, Nashville, TN, 2000) ISBN 0687085853

Green, Michael, *Evangelism in the Early Church*, (Revised Edition June, 2003) (Kingsway Communications, UK) ISBN 1842911341

Allen, Roland, *Missionary Methods: St. Paul's or Ours?* (Eerdmans', Grand Rapids, MI, 1998) ISBN 0802810012

Newbigin, Leslie, *The Gospel in a Pluralist Society* (SPCK (Eerdmans', Grand Rapids, MI, 1994) ISBN 028104435

Kennedy, D. James, *Evangelism Explosion*, 4<sup>th</sup> Ed. (Tyndale House Publishers, Carol Stream, Illinois, 2002) ISBN 0842307648

Coleman, Robert, *The Master Plan of Evangelism* (Revell Books, Grand Rapids, MI, 1994) ISBN 0800786246

McGrath, Alister, *Evangelism and the Future of Christianity* (InterVarsity Press, 1995) ISBN 0830816941

Augustine of Hippo (Canning, Raymond, trans.), *Instructing Beginners in the Faith (De catechizandis rudibus)* (New City Press, Hyde Park, NY, 2007) ISBN 9781565482395

## V. Course Evaluation

- **Submit a four page reflection paper** on each of the following books:
  - a. *Good Faith* - due **September 26**
  - b. *Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God* - due **October 24**
  - c. *Incarnate* – due **November 7**
  - d. *Planting Missional Churches* – due **November 21**
  
- **Keep a journal** of conversations with at least one person who is not a practicing Christian. This will be printed and submitted to the professor in class on **December 4**. You will demonstrate an understanding of the basic components of the Gospel by keeping a written journal of a conversation or series of conversations with one person. To assist you, time will be given in class to learn *Two Ways to Live* which is a simple

Gospel outline that can be modified or adapted to various situations and contexts. In addition a you will:

1) Pray for the Holy Spirit to lead you into a relationship with at least one non-Christian or lapsed Christian individual, whether that be through participation in a group or activity that is not specifically Christian, such as a special interest group, fitness class, recreational sports team, or some other community activity. This could be a friendship or relationship that you have already, or it could be a new relationship with someone from your community.

2) During the development of the relationship, you are to be open for opportunities to share your faith and relate the Gospel to that person. This could occur through several encounters.

3) A journal will be kept of these ongoing encounters that will provide the following information:

- a. The time, location, and length of the encounter
- b. A summary of the conversation
- c. Identification and listing of any part of the meeting that involved the Christian faith or the Gospel
- d. An evaluation of the relationship at the end of the term and a discussion on whether or not the person made a commitment to Christ or grew closer to making such a commitment. If there is no measurable response, then you should give an analysis of that person's interaction with the Gospel – or lack thereof and possible reasons why.
- e. You are encouraged to invite that person to attend a worship service in a local congregation as part of the process – if that is appropriate.

• **Participate in class discussions** and exercises (*practica*) and do a satisfactory presentation of your testimony and *Two Ways to Live*.

• **Final reflection paper** of 3 - 4 pages on one of the following three options:

- 1) Interview a church planter (in person or by phone) and discuss how they are doing mission and evangelism.
- 2) Pick one significant cultural issue today (politics, abortion, gay rights, sex trafficking, race, etc.) and discuss how you would address the issue as a church planter from a Missional stand point.
- 3) Make your case for where you think, contextually/geographically, the greatest need is for planting a church.

There is neither a mid-term nor final examination for this course.

## **VII. Attendance**

Attendance in all classes is required unless there are special or extraordinary circumstances. You are expected to discuss the circumstance of any absence with the professor. If you are absent for more than three classes (without special permission from the professor), you will fail the course.

### VIII. Course Structure

The class will be made up of lecture and discussion as well as small group or individual time for the *practica* assignments.

### IX. Grading

- A. Each (4) book response paper is worth 12.5% of the final grade
- B. Evangelistic conversation/journal: 20%
- C. Class participation: 10%
- D. Final Paper: 20%

### X. Course Outline

Date	Lecture/discussion	Reading	Practica
September 11	Introduction: syllabus and course work. Mission/Evangelism in church planting	Begin <i>Good Faith</i>	Presentation of various evangelism outlines
September 18	Evangelism and the Kingdom of God		Work on evangelism outlines <i>Two Ways to Live</i>
September 25	Personal Witness and Testimony	Finish <i>Good Faith</i> response paper due by <b>September 26</b>	Work on personal testimonies
October 2	Evangelism Across Varying Cultures		Continue personal testimonies
October 9	Developing a church missional strategy	Begin <i>Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God</i>	Two by Two street praying

October 16	<b>No class - reading week</b>		
October 23	Post-Christian and Entry Points for the Gospel	Finish <i>Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God</i> response paper due <b>October 24</b>	Small group discussion: sharing and proposing different strategies
October 30	The Gospel and culture	Begin <i>Incarinate</i>	
November 6	Church Planting I	Finish <i>Incarinate</i> response paper due on <b>November 7</b> Begin <i>Planting Missional Churches</i>	We will visit a local church plant on one or two of the three mornings assigned to church planting. <b>Date TBD</b>
November 13	Church Planting II		
November 20	Church Planting III	Finish <i>Planting Missional Churches</i> response paper due <b>November 21</b>	
November 27	Strategies for Reaching a Secular Culture I	Article on <i>Principled Pluralism</i>	Small groups on engaging in political dialogue today
December 4	Strategies for Reaching a Secular Culture II		Journal of Evangelistic Conversations due on <b>December 4</b>
December 11	Discipleship and Catechesis: Follow-up for New Believers		
Final paper			Final reflection paper due on <b>December 19</b>