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Duke University Divinity School
June 30-July 25, 2008

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THIRD YEAR STUDIES (Take off 20% unless otherwise noted, prices subject to change)

COS 313: The Mission of the Christian Church

Textbooks:

Required Texts

- ____ Brueggemann, Walter, *Biblical Perspectives on Evangelism*, \$16.00
____ Jones, Scott, *The Evangelistic Love of God and Neighbor*, \$20.00
____ Hunter III., George G., *The Celtic Way of Evangelism*, \$15.00
____ Mortimer Arias, *Announcing the Reign of God: Evangelization and the Subversive Memory of Jesus*, \$17.95

Recommended Text

- ____ Elaine Robinson & Steve Gunter, eds. *Considering the Great Commission*, \$33.00
____ Kallenberg, Brad, *Live to Tell: Evangelism for a Postmodern World*, \$14.00 (no discount)

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COS 313: Our Mission from God: Evangelism

July 2007

Instructor: Rev. Kevin Baker
919.286.5722 (office)
kevin@rumcdurham.org

Course Description:

This course will explore the biblical and theological foundations for evangelism with critical reflection on the history of evangelism in Church tradition, including contemporary debates. Attention will be given to how one can develop a holistic approach to evangelism in the local church setting.

Course Requirements and Grading:

1st Book Report 30%

Pre-course assignment due first day of class on Scott Jones' book: "The Evangelistic Love of God and Neighbor." See Book Report Guidelines for this paper below (please be concise and succinct).

Mid-Term Quiz 30%

There will be a quiz midway through the course with one or two essay questions based on the course readings and lectures to date.

1 Final Paper 30%

A 6-8 page paper due near the end of July where each student develops a holistic plan for evangelism to enhance ministry in a local church setting. Paper should interact with the Bible, course readings, and class lectures.

**All papers should be typed, double spaced, twelve point font, one inch margins in New Times Roman. Pages should be numbered. Please do not exceed page limits (strive to be clear and concise).*

Class Preparation and Participation 10%

All students must complete all the required reading and will be expected to come to each class period prepared to share in class discussion. In addition to the Jones' pre-course assignment, students are encouraged to read as much of the other required texts as possible prior to the first day of class.

Required Texts

Brueggemann, Walter, *Biblical Perspectives on Evangelism*

Jones, Scott, *The Evangelistic Love of God and Neighbor*

Hunter III., George G., *The Celtic Way of Evangelism*

Mortimer Arias, *Announcing the Reign of God: Evangelization and the Subversive Memory of Jesus*

Additional articles and readings will be handed out in class

Recommended Text

Elaine Robinson & Steve Gunter, eds. *Considering the Great Commission*

Kallenberg, Brad, *Live to Tell: Evangelism for a Postmodern World*

COS313

Our Mission from God: Evangelism

Syllabus COS313

Week 1 **Biblical and Theological Foundations**

6/30 Introduction: What Evangelism Is

Pre-class papers due.

7/1 Biblical and Theological Foundations of Evangelism
Read Brueggemann Intro and chs. 1 & 2

7/2 Biblical and Theological Foundations of Evangelism
Read Brueggemann chs. 3 & 4

7/3 Biblical and Theological Foundations of Evangelism
Read Arias, Intro and 1 & 2

7/4 Biblical and Theological Foundations of Evangelism
Read Arias 3 & 4

Week 2 **Historical and Theological Foundations**

7/7 What Evangelism is Not
Read Arias 5 and Long, "God is Not Nice"

7/8 What Evangelism is Not

- 7/9 *Read Arias 6 & 7*
 Historical and Theological Foundations of Evangelism
Read Arias 8 and conclusion
 7/10 Historical and Theological Foundations of Evangelism
Read Hunter 1 & 2
 7/11 Historical and Theological Foundations
Read Hunter chs. 3 & 4
 Week 3 **Evangelism in Context**
 7/14 **Mid term exam** (on all readings and lectures to date)
 7/15 Evangelism as survival? Exploding the Myth of a Declining Church.
Read Jenkins handout, p. 1-14 and p. 79-105
 7/16 Evangelism in a multicultural context
Read Hunter 5-6
 7/17 Evangelism in a multicultural context
Read Hunter 7
 7/18 Worship as Evangelism?
Read handout
 Week 4 **Toward a Practice of Evangelism**
 7/21 Evangelism and Ecumenism
Read Webster handout, chs. 5 & 6
 7/22 Plundering the Egyptians
Read Jones appendix
 7/23 Toward a practice of Evangelism
Review Jones appendix
 7/24 Toward a practice of Evangelism
Review Jones appendix
 7/25 Toward a practice of Evangelism: Conclusions
Final Paper Due

BOOK REPORT GUIDELINES

The purpose of this book report is to enter into a dialog with the material, that is to say, the person or community that has communicated their thoughts, feelings, and actions to you. Reflection, therefore, is an exciting adventure, a conversation, a means of growth. It is one of the important ways by which we can explore our own “inner world” and become open to God’s transforming power in our lives as we encounter others with whom we both agree and disagree.

The Book Report in this course has a prescribed format. **It should be four pages (typed and double-spaced) and divided into four distinct sections (one page each), headed with the titles, ABSTRACT, ANALYSIS, ANECDOTE, and APPLICATION**

ABSTRACT (Readers’ Digest Summary). Simply summarize the content of the assigned reading in your own words. There should be no personal commentary or attempt to evaluate the content of the material. Summarize what the author says. Include as many of the key concepts and ideas as you can. Strive to be both comprehensive and concise. The summary should be stylistically correct, coherent and clear. Communicate the essence of the author’s work in your own language and symbols. If and when you do quote directly from the source (which should be extremely minimal, if at all), use explicit and visible quote marks. (Page One)

ANALYSIS. What questions came to mind as you worked your way through the material? It would be helpful to you if you were to keep a rough note sheet at hand as you read so you can write them down. In this section, list and briefly engage two or three of these central questions. Questions may be critical in nature, emerging out of spontaneous curiosity, essentially informational, or related to a serious plumbing of the depths of issues involved. Whatever the nature of your questions, make sure that they relate directly to the material content of the reading. (Page Two)

ANECDOTE. Describe one or two personal experiences which reading this material has brought to mind. Here is your chance to be a storyteller. Relate the experiences in “first person,” describing action, quoting exact words you remember hearing or saying. Be as specific and concrete as possible. Interface these memories directly with the material. Why are these memories related to the reading? What is it that has elicited this memory? If possible, here is an excellent opportunity to draw your experiences out of vocational circumstances. How do the “pastoral memories or accounts” relate to the issues that arise in the reading. The presupposition here is that if you can connect what you are reading and hearing with what you have previously lived or observed, you will be profoundly changed in the process. Here is where genuine insight can occur most meaningfully. (Page Three)

APPLICATION. So what are you going to do about all of this, anyway? Learning that is related to ministry must lead to “acts of piety and mercy,” whether these are transformative actions for your inner person or acquired skills and methods that have an impact on the lives of other people. In this section, describe what you feel called to do in response to what you have discovered in this reflective process. What has the Lord laid upon your heart? How can you translate that “word” or “call” into concrete action? To use a metaphor to help explain the ideal; you need a MAST upon which to attach this new sail into which the Spirit can blow. Whatever your action is, it should be Measurable, Attainable, Specific, and able to be accomplished within a given Timeframe. To provide a specific example, “For the next month during my times of prayer, I will meditate on a different attribute of God for five minutes.” Here is another opportunity to relate your learning to some specific aspect of your vocation or setting of ministry as well. Do not feel compelled to fill this final page, but some reflection upon why this action is necessary will be helpful to you. (Page Four)