



BIBL 2512 – Personal Evangelism (Bible Study & Teaching)

Winter Term 2015 (Jan 5 – Mar 20)

Thursday 5:30-8:30pm

Instructor: Jason Swick, MA

Office Hours: Friday 8:00-11:00am
By appointment

Office: 541-753-4310

Mobile: 541-207-2777

e-mail: jason@osucc.com

Course Description:

This course prepares students to share their Christian faith in their unique context. Students will learn tools and methods of Bible study that enable them to grow in their faith, create culturally relevant lessons, and answer common questions encountered in personal evangelism.

Course Objectives:

1. Students will be able to share an overview of the Bible as God's story culminating in Jesus and how this has impacted his/her life.
2. Students will know how to effectively prepare lessons and communicate the Gospel and God's Word to non-Christians in individual and group contexts.
3. Students will be able to define the biblical basis for evangelism and explain the various techniques and principles used in reaching non-Christians.
4. Students will be able to identify and write a brief statement explaining each of the basic steps in the total discipleship process.
5. Students will identify and briefly describe the basic teachings of several prominent religions and ways to respectfully interact.
6. Students will be able to intelligently answer major theological and cultural questions that arise in an evangelistic Bible study or conversation.

Required Texts:

1. ESV Study Bible, Crossway, 2008. **ISBN-13:** 978-1-4335-0241-5
2. Coleman, Robert E. The Master Plan of Evangelism. Grand Rapids: Revel, 1963. **ISBN:** 0-800-78808-7
3. Everts, Don. I Once Was Lost: What Postmodern Skeptics Taught Us About Their Path to Jesus. Downer's Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2008. **ISBN-13:** 978-0-8308-3608-6

Recommended Texts:

1. Chan, Francis. Multiply: Disciples Making Disciples. Colorado Springs: David C Cook, 2012. **ISBN-13:** 978-0-7814-0823-3
2. Keller, Timothy. The Reason for God: Belief in an Age of Skepticism. New York: Dutton Adult, 2008. **ISBN-13:** 978-0-5259-5049-3

Course Requirements

1. Book Reviews (10%):

Students will write a book review on both The Master Plan of Evangelism and I Once Was Lost. Each book review will be 2 pages long. Guidelines and requirements will be handed out on the first day of class.

2. Reasons for Faith Paper (10%):

Students will engage two contemporary reasons for not becoming a Christian in a 4-8 page paper. Examples of these reasons can be found in The Reason for God and Surprised by Scripture and UnChristian. Students should choose reasons they anticipate confronting or have confronted in evangelistic conversations.

3. Personal Interactions with Non-Christians Report (20%):

Students will interview four non-Christians: one international student, one family/friend, one student in another class, one individual of your choice. After each interview, students will write a 2 page reflection report. The report will include answers to the questions and insights learned about non-Christians in general. The interview questions and format will be handed out in class.

4. Evangelistic Study (20%):

Students will design an original evangelistic study for leading someone to Jesus that they plan to use in the future. The study must be theologically sound, creative, and relevant. Ideas for this study include:

- a. A teaching outline
- b. A web presentation (website, blog, widget, Facebook, app, etc.)
- c. A video presentation

The study will include information on the student's plans to make this a reality and how to implement it in a local church.

5. Exams (30%)

There will be two exams. These exams will cover in-class material and readings. They will be multiple choice, matching, short answer, and essay. The MidTerm is worth 15% of the course grade. The final exam will be comprehensive and is also worth 15% of the course grade. Students must bring a blue essay book to the exams.

6. Attendance & Participation Policy (10%):

Students are expected to attend and actively participate in discussions, debates, and/or other activities. Excellent participation requires perfect attendance and a demonstrated knowledge of assigned readings. Each unexcused absence will result in a 5% reduction in the final class grade. Excused absences include genuine sickness, University related absences (sports, performances, etc.), and genuine emergencies. For an absence to be excused a written note explaining the reason of the absence must be turned in within one week of the absence.

Grading Scale:

A = 100-90 B = 89-80 C = 79-70 D = 69-60 F = 59 and below

Course Policies

1. Academic Honesty Policy:

Academic honesty is expected of all students. Any form of cheating, copying, or dishonesty is unacceptable. These include: helping another student on an exam, using unauthorized aids during exams, falsely claiming authorship on an assignment, and plagiarizing material. Ultimately, this only hurts you as it destroys your opportunity to learn about God and grow as a disciple in this course.

Plagiarism is the use of another's words and/or ideas without giving the author the credit. If you have questions about this, go to the following webpage for a brief description with examples: www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml. Academic dishonesty will result in a "0" for the assignment and following the process outlined in the current OC academic catalog.

2. Late Work Policy:

Assignments will be considered late if not turned in to me at the beginning of class on the day it is due. Assignments that are late will be deducted 5% of the grade for each day that it is late (excluding Sundays). Work that is more than 7 days late will not be accepted for any points.

Exams: The opportunity to make up exams will not be granted automatically and are only available at my discretion. Make-up exams may be entirely essay. If the make-up exam is not completed within the specified time the student will receive a "0" for the exam. There are two legitimate reasons for missing an exam: extreme illness and urgent personal emergency. Both must be verified by an outside source (i.e. written doctor note). Please note that travel arrangements for holidays, attending weddings or family gatherings, or attending performances are *not* acceptable reasons for missing an exam.

3. Classroom and Electronic Etiquette Policy:

Students are expected to be on time to class and actively engaged to create a healthy learning environment. I view this as being respectful of both myself and your fellow students.

- d. Tardiness is disruptive and reduces your participation grade.
- e. Cell phones are to be turned off. Texting and calls destroy a healthy learning environment.
- f. Laptops can be used for note-taking but NOT for surfing the web, email, completing assignments, or other distracting activities.

Engaging in disrespectful and distracting things during class will negatively impact your participation grade. You may also be asked to leave class.

Mission Statement: Courses taught in The Campbell Institute for Theological Education are accredited by Oklahoma Christian University. The mission statement of Oklahoma Christian University is "to be a premier Christian institution of higher learning and higher calling".

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA/504) Statement:

If you have a diagnosed disability and need special accommodations, please notify Amy Janzen (425-405-5907) before or immediately after your first scheduled class meeting. After your disability has been verified, I will work with you, with Amy Janzen, and with the Oklahoma Christian University Office of the Vice President of Academic Affairs to provide reasonable accommodations to ensure that you have a fair opportunity to perform in the course.

Copyright Policy:

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Course Schedule

Class Date	Topic	Assignment
January 8	Course Introduction Mission of God Bible as Foundation	
January 15	Becoming a Disciple Maker How to Study the Bible	
January 22	Biblical Foundation for Evangelism Theology of Conversion	Book Review for “Master Plan of Evangelism”
January 29	Knowing Yourself Knowing Your Context	Personal Interactions Report
February 5	Midterm Exam Gregg Strawn “Evangelism as Life”	
February 12	Evangelism Strategies 1	Book Review for “I Once Was Lost”
February 19	Evangelism Strategies 2	
February 26	Common Questions 1	Reasons for Faith Paper
March 5	Common Questions 2	
March 12	Follow-up Discipleship	Evangelistic Study
March 19	Final Exam	