



MISS5330 Christian Missions
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Division of Church Ministry
Summer 2022 (July 18-22)

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Mission Statement

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College prepare servants to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.

Course Description

In this course students are introduced to Christian missions through a brief examination of biblical and theological foundations and a historical overview. Attention is given to the International and North American Mission Boards of the Southern Baptist Convention, including their administration and programs. Particular attention is given to strategic concerns affecting the future of the mission enterprise.

Student Learning Outcomes

In order to help fulfill the Great Commission, the students, by the end of the course, should:

1. Be able to apply their knowledge and comprehension of the biblical, theological, historical, and cultural foundations of Christian Missions to the process of mobilizing the church for missions.
2. Develop an understanding and appreciation of missions history while identifying helpful and unhelpful missionary approaches.
3. Consider, analyze, and evaluate missions strategies and their impact on the future of missions based on partnership with SBC missions organizations.
4. Be able to accomplish the following:
 - a) Participate in missions experiences and advocacy
 - b) Advocate for the Great Commission and develop missions partnerships among Southern Baptists.

Course Teaching Methodology

A variety of teaching methods will be utilized such as class presentations by the professor using Power Point and handouts. Other teaching methods include small and large group discussion, multi-media presentations, utilization of missions related websites, and other communication mediums. A Blackboard shell for the class will be utilized extensively as a resource for students. Students will be expected to be thoroughly prepared for class discussions through readings and the Blackboard weekly unit supplements.

Textbooks

In addition to the Bible as a course text, the following are required:

Akin, Daniel L., Benjamin L. Merkle, and George G. Robinson. *40 Questions About The Great Commission* (Grand Rapids, Kregel, 2020).

Moreau, A. Scott, Gary R. Corwin, and Gary B. McGee. *Introducing World Missions: A Biblical, Historical, and Practical Survey*. 2nd ed. (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2015).

Payne, J. D. *Apostolic Imagination: Recovering a Biblical Vision for the Church's Mission Today* (Grand Rapids, Baker Academic, 2022).

Missionary Biography of Your Choice. This biography should be pre-approved before completing the assignment. Some possible missionary biographies include: Hudson Taylor, Adoniram Judson, David Brainerd, Lottie Moon, James Fraser, John Paton, and Jim Elliot.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. **Required Reading** The student will read all assigned course textbooks and other assigned readings within the class.

For the 40 Questions Text. Students will read *40 Questions About The Great Commission*. Students will keep a journal composed of the following: Answering at least 1 of the questions at the end of each chapter in *40 Questions*, reflect on one insight/challenge/thought and how you might communicate this topic to those in your churches (congregation, small group, children, etc.). **Due via Blackboard by 11:55p on July 27, 2022.**

Sample Declarative Sentence Entry

I read (number) % of the assigned book for the book review. (sign your name)

2. **Missional Assessment Paper.** Students are to write a 1-2 page, single-spaced paper responding to these questions:
 - “What is my understanding of the biblical/theological basis for missions?”
 - “What is present status of my life’s practice when it comes to praying for and sharing the gospel with my neighbors and the nations?”
 - “What motivates me to engage personally the nations locally and globally?”
 - “What currently hinders me from going to the nations?”

This assignment is an introspective paper. It can be written in first person. No title page is needed. Be sure to include your name and student ID on the first page. **This is due via Blackboard on Monday, July 18 by 11:55pm**

3. **Response to Missionary Biography:** Students will read 1 missionary biography or autobiography and write a **3 page, double-spaced** evaluation of the book. In the evaluation, students should analyze the missionary’s mission and evangelism strategy. Be

sure to include a concluding paragraph or two regarding how the lessons learned might be applicable to your current and/or future ministry context. The goal of this paper will be to investigate the spiritual motivation and missionary insights which can be learned from reading about the lives of others. Professor must approve the biography.

Please email the professor by July 1 with your intended biography. The response is due on Wednesday, July 20 via Blackboard by 11:55pm.

- 4. Final Essay** - the student will write a **5-6 page, double-spaced** essay evaluation is due for the final exam in this course. This essay is a philosophy of missions essay The essay is due on **Sunday, July 31 via Blackboard at 11:55pm.**

Some points to consider:

- Please provide your biblical-theological understanding of missions. Yes, you can include insights from your reading, but this is to be *YOUR* understanding of missions.
- This essay should be your comprehensive understanding of the *missio Dei* and how it relates to mission and missions.
- At the top of the first page of your paper, please include a declarative sentence with the percentage of course reading you have completed at the time of paper submission.
- The final page of the essay should address how you might go about teaching your philosophy of missions in a local church or discipleship context.

EVALUATION/GRADING:

Assignments for this course will be evaluated according to the following criteria. However, please refer to the grading rubrics for each assignment, posted on Moodle.

1. Does the work illustrate the student's grasp of basic concepts, definitions, and principles related to...?
2. Does the student demonstrate clear and specific interaction with the assigned reading material and class discussion?
3. Is there evidence of the student's personal reflection on the topics discussed? Does the work illustrate the student's independent research and learning?
4. Does the work reflect the student's responsibility to prepare both academically and practically (i.e., has the student attempted to apply the material to his/her ministry setting or to the local church in general)?
5. Does the work fulfill the assignment by the required date? Because ministry itself demands discipline, students are expected to meet established deadlines for submitted work.
6. Is the assignment written at a level appropriate for master's level work? Does the work follow proper style?

COURSE GRADING WEIGHT:

- Class Participation and Reading: 15%
- Missional Assessment: 10%
- Missionary Biography Paper: 25%
- 40 Questions Journal: 25%
- Final Philosophy of Missions Essay: 25%

COURSE GRADING:

A = 93-100; B = 85-92; C = 77-84; D = 70-76; F = below 70.

Technical Assistance

For assistance regarding technology, consult ITC (504-816-8180) or the following websites:

1. Selfserve@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the Selfserve.nobts.edu site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)
2. BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Blackboard Learning Management System NOBTS.Blackboard.com.
3. ITCSupport@nobts.edu - Email for general technical questions/support requests.
4. www.NOBTS.edu/itc/ - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

Attendance

Students are expected to attend all of the in-person classes. Absence of one day will result in a failing grade. Any student missing a half day of class will receive a one letter grade reduction in his or her grade. Tardiness will impact grades. In the event that the normal NOBTS schedule is impacted due to a natural event or epidemic go to the seminary website for information. Our class will continue though our Blackboard site. Please note announcements and assignments on the Blackboard site in the event one or more of our classes is cancelled.

Academic Integrity

Each student is responsible for the academic integrity of his/her work. The following are examples of violations of academic integrity: cheating on an exam, plagiarism, turning in work done by someone else, and submitting a paper which has been submitted in another class. These and other violations of academic integrity may result in failure of the course.

Help for Writing Papers at “The Write Stuff”

NOBTS maintains a Writing Center designed to improve English writing at the graduate level. Students can receive writing guides, tips, and valuable information to help in becoming a better writer.

Plagiarism on Written Assignments

NOBTS has a no tolerance policy for plagiarism. Plagiarism in certain cases may result in expulsion from the seminary. See the NOBTS Student Handbook for definition, penalties, and policies associated with plagiarism.

Writing Style Guide

Writing assignments should follow the NOBTS/Leavell College Manual of Form and Style (revised August 2019). A copy of the approved NOBTS Style Guide can be found in the course Blackboard shell, or can be located online at the Writing Center’s page on the seminary website at <https://www.nobts.edu/resources/pdf/writing/StyleGuide.pdf>

MISSIONARY BIOGRAPHY EVALUATION RUBRIC

	Possible Points	Points Earned
Title Page	10	_____
Bibliographical Entry (top of first page)	10	_____
Declarative sentence	10	_____
Summary of book	20	_____
Purpose/Goal of book		
Grasp of concepts		
Clarity of description		
Organization		
Missional Methods Evaluation	30	_____
Grasp of concepts		
Critical analysis of concepts (+ / -)		
Ministry Context	15	_____
Application for ministry		
Form/Style	05	_____
Spelling		
Grammar		
Clarity		
Writing style		
TOTAL (Paper)	100	_____
Subtraction for not reading entire book		_____

FINAL GRADE	/100	_____