Course Syllabus Wycliffe College Toronto School of Theology

This description is intended to assist in the course approval process and to assist students in determining whether this course will help them achieve their educational objectives and the learning goals of their program. It is not a learning contract. The details of the description are subject to change before the course begins. The course syllabus will be available to the class at the beginning of the course.

Course Identification

Course Number: WYP2672HS

Course Name: Evangelism Remixed: Learning from Biblical Narratives of Conversion

Campus: St. George

Instructor Information

Instructor: Judy Paulsen Teaching assistant: Charles Meeks

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Office Hours: Monday to Thursday

Course Prerequisites or Requisites

None.

Course Description

An introduction to the theology and practice of evangelism in contemporary North American society. We will look critically at different evangelistic practices in the light of biblical narratives of conversion, and consider how healthy evangelism is cultivated and lived out in the life of the Church through the building of personal relationships, teaching, preaching, outreach and worship. Students will be introduced to the writings of key thinkers and practitioners of evangelism while being challenged to develop their own ability to share the gospel with others and to cultivate churches that are evangelizing communities.

Course Methodology

This course will require a weekly 3-hour class and will include lectures, readings, in-class exercises, reading notes, book reviews, field work & an integrative paper.

Course Outcomes

COURSE OUTCOMES	COURSE ELEMENT	PROGRAM OUTCOMES
By the end of this course, students	This outcome will be demonstrated through these course elements:	This course outcome corresponds to these aspects of Wycliffe's statements of outcomes (MTS, MDiv)
• will discuss ways in which the gospel transforms humanity;	In-class exercise, bible study project, integrative paper	MTS: 1.3, 1.6 MDiv: 1.3, 1.6
• will be able to clearly construct and describe, in language comprehensible to non-Christians,: (a) an overview of the Biblical story, (b) the gospel of Jesus Christ, and (c) the mission of the Church;	In-class exercises, bible study project, integrative paper	MTS: 1.1, 1.3, 2.1, 2.3 MDiv: 1.1, 1.3, 2.1, 2.3
• will employ and analyze a relational and contextual model of evangelism in contemporary society;	In-class exercise, bible study project, book review, integrative paper	MTS: 1.6, 2.1, 3.1 MDiv: 1.6, 2.1, 3.1
• will identify and interpret various components evident in evangelism as a process directed and empowered by the Holy Spirit;	In-class exercise, bible study project, book review	MTS: 1.6, 2.1, 3.1 MDiv: 1.6, 2.1, 3.1
• will demonstrate use of a variety of practices for sharing the Christian faith, and will assess how these relate to the life of established churches;	Integrative paper, book review	MTS: 1.6 MDiv: 1.6, 2.3, 2.4
• will construct several tools for sharing the faith in both individual and group settings.	Bible study project, Integrative paper	MTS: 2.1 MDiv: 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4

Course Resources

Required Course Texts

- Paul Chilcote & Laceye Warner, *The Study of Evangelism: Exploring a Missional Practice of the Church* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2008)—selections.
- Don Everts, Doug Schaupp & Val Gordon, Breaking the Huddle: How Your Community Can Grow Its Witness (Downers Grove, IL: Inter Varsity Press, 2016)
- **Either:** Francis Spufford, *Unapologetic*. (New York: Harper Collins, 2012) **OR** Holly Ordway, *Not God's Type* (San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 2014)

Course Website(s)

Quercus: https://q.utoronto.ca/

This course uses Quercus for its course website. To access it, go to the U of T Quercus login page at https://q.utoronto.ca/ and login using your UTORid and password. Once you have logged in to Quercus using your UTORid and password, look for the **My Courses** module, where you'll find the link to the website for all your Quercus-based courses. (Your course registration with ACORN gives you access to the course website in Quercus.) Information for students about using Quercus can be found at: https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10701.

Class Schedule

Week 1 (September 12). Evangelism in our present context; learning from biblical and contemporary conversion stories; the conversion of a man born blind; the experience of evangelism: the cultivation process

Part I: Foundations

Week 2 (September 19) The conversion of the Ethiopian eunuch.

What is the Gospel? What is mission?

• Reading notes due for *The Study of Evangelism*, chapters 2, 12 & 14.

Week 3 (September 26) The conversion of Andrew & Simon, Philip & Nathanael.

What is the Church? What is discipleship?

Book Review due on <u>either Not God's Type</u> (Ordway, 2014) <u>or Unapologetic</u> (Spufford, 2012).

Week 4 (October 3) The conversion of Cornelius.

What is conversion? What is evangelism?

• Reading notes due for *The Study of Evangelism*, chapters 1, 3 & 4.

Week 5 (October 10) The conversion of Naaman.

Why do Evangelism?

• Reading notes due for *The Study of Evangelism*, chapters 5, 6, & 9.

Week 6 (October 17) The conversion of a jailer.

What are the connections between evangelism and ecclesial practices?

• Reading notes due for *The Study of Evangelism*, chapters 15, 17 & 18.

Week 7 (October 24) Reading Week.

Part II: Practices

Week 8 (October 31) The sending of the seventy two.

How can we cultivate churches that are evangelizing communities?

Book Review due on Breaking the Huddle (Everts, Schaupp & Gordon, 2016).

Week 9 (November 7) The conversion of Samuel.

Welcoming and discipling explorers & young families

Week 10 (November 14) The conversion Saul (x3).

The challenges of translation. Sharing experiences of the Bible Study Project.

• Bible Study Project due.

Week 11 (November 21) The conversion of Lydia.

Evangelistic teaching. Humble apologetics.

Week 12 (November 28) The conversion of three thousand.

Evangelistic preaching.

Week 13 (December 5) The Great Commission revisited.

The Mixed Economy of Church: established churches, church reboots, church planting, and Fresh Expressions of church

• Integrative Project due.

Evaluation

Requirements

1) Engagement = preparation + participation Weight: 10%

Preparation:

- Reading (prior to class) the biblical passage to be explored that day and coming ready to discuss it.
- Reading notes: short chapter summaries

Write succinct chapter summaries for the selected chapters in *The Study of Evangelism*. These will be submitted in four sets, at the beginning of class on the dates on which these chapters will be discussed. The summary of each chapter should be approximately ½ page and include: (1) the primary thesis (one sentence), (2) 3 to 5 key ideas in bullet form, and (3) your response, and possible application (2 or 3 sentences).

Dates due:

Set #1 (ch. 2, 12 & 14), September 19th Set #3 (ch. 5, 6 & 9), October 10th Set #2 (ch. 1, 3 & 4), October 3rd Set #4 (ch. 15, 17 & 18), October 17th

Length: 1/2 to 3/4 page for each chapter

Participation: Attending classes (email me if you need to miss) and participating in exercises and discussions.

2) Critical Book Review #1

Please read and report on one of the following:

Unapologetic, by Francis Spufford or Not God's Type, by Holly Ordway.

** Please see the **guidelines** (found below) for writing a critical book review.

Length: 1000 words Weight: 10% Date due: September 26th

3) Critical Book Review #2

Please read and report on *Breaking the Huddle*, by Everts, Schaupp & Gordon.

Length: 1000 words Weight: 10 % Date due: October 31st

4) Bible Study Project

Choose from the gospels three encounters Jesus had with people. Plan a short (30 to 45 minute) study on <u>each</u> passage and then invite <u>one</u> person you know, who isn't a Christian, to read and talk about these encounters with you. Write a paper based on the conversations that occurred during these studies.

The first part of the paper should briefly describe what passages you studied, why you chose these passages, and the questions you chose to discuss together. Next, reflect and comment on the conversation that occurred during each of these sessions. How did you feel they went? What was your friend's response? Were their surprises for you? What did you learn from the conversations? Say something about each of the studies.

Finally, reflect on these conversations in the light of the course material. *Reports will be shared and discussed in class on November 14th.*

Length: 1500 words Weight: 30% Date due: November 14th

5) Integrative Project

This project should integrate material you've learned throughout the course. It will be composed of **two parts** and will be 11 pages long in total:

Part 1. Write a 5 page, double spaced, *sermon* to be given at the funeral for a twenty-something (sporadically attending) member of your church killed in a car accident, whose funeral will be attended by many of their *non-Christian* friends.

Part 2. Devoting 2 pages per session, plan *three evening sessions* for *members of your church* wanting to learn better how to share the Christian faith. Total of six pages. Describe your pedagogical approach (i.e. Lecture, bible study, prayer, discussion, reflective exercise, case-study, role play) and tools (i.e. narratives, a/v aids, packaged programs), and a lesson plan for each session that includes learning goals (i.e. Linking prayer and evangelism), key points, biblical texts, exercises.

Length: approximately 3500 words (11 pages) Weight: 40% Date due: December 5th

**Guidelines for writing a critical book review (4 to 5 pages)

- 1. Begin by writing a succinct summary of the author's key thesis. Describe in one or two sentences what this book is about. This section should be about ½ to ¾ of a typewritten page, and will give the reader a roadmap for where you'll be taking them in the report.
- 2. Follow this with a description of the most important key ideas the author presents and discusses, in support of their central thesis. What are the essential ideas presented? You would normally touch on at least four or five key ideas. This section should typically comprise 1 ½ to 2 pages.
- 3. Next you need to reflect critically and engage with the author's key ideas. *What* is your assessment (agreement or disagreement) with what you have read, and more importantly, *why* did you come to this assessment? Be sure to devote greater emphasis to the second part of this question. This section should typically comprise 1 to 1 ½ pages.
- 4. Finally, reflect critically on how the ideas you've engaged with have impacted you, both personally and corporately. How has what you've read changed, enriched, stretched you? How will it impact your ministry in the Church? This section should typically comprise 1 page, and should end with a short concluding paragraph.

Grading System

Letter Grade	Numerical Equivalents	Grade Point	Grasp of Subject Matter
A+	90-100%	4.0	Profound & Creative
A	85-89%	4.0	Outstanding
A-	80-84%	3.7	Excellent

B+	77–79%	3.3	Very Good
В	73–76%	3.0	Good
B-	70–72%	2.7	Satisfactory
FZ	0-69%	0	Failure

Grades without numerical equivalent:

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CR	Designates credit.	ная по пинсі	icai cuuivaiciii o	or grade point value

NCR Designates failure; has no numerical equivalent, but has a grade point value of 0 and is included in the GPA calculation

Standing deferred (a temporary extension)

INC Permanent incomplete; has no numerical equivalent or grade point value

WDR Withdrawal without academic penalty

AEG May be given to a final year student who, because of illness, has completed at least 60% of the course, but not the whole course, and who would not otherwise be able to convocate; has no numerical equivalent and no grade point value

Policy on Assignment Extensions

Basic Degree students are expected to complete all course work by the end of the term in which they are registered. Under **exceptional circumstances**, with the written permission of the instructor, students may request an extension (SDF = "standing deferred") beyond the term. An extension, when offered, will have a mutually agreed upon deadline that does not extend beyond the conclusion of the following term. An SDF must be requested no later than the last day of classes of the term in which the course is taken. The request form is available on the college website or from the Registrar's office.

One percentage point per day will be deducted on the course grade if an extension has not been requested by the stated deadline.

Course grades. Consistently with the policy of the University of Toronto, course grades submitted by an instructor are reviewed by a committee of the instructor's college before being posted. Course grades may be adjusted where they do not comply with University grading policy (http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/Assets/Governing+Council+Digital+Assets/Policies/PDF/grading.pdf) or college grading policy.

Policies

SDF

Accessibility. Students with a disability or health consideration are entitled to accommodation. Students must register at the University of Toronto's Accessibility Services offices; information is available at http://www.accessibility.utoronto.ca/. The sooner a student seeks accommodation, the quicker we can assist.

Plagiarism. Students submitting written material in courses are expected to provide full documentation for sources of both words and ideas in footnotes or endnotes. Direct quotations should be placed within quotation marks. (If small changes are made in the quotation, they should be indicated by appropriate punctuation such as brackets and ellipses, but the quotation still counts as a direct quotation.) Failure to document borrowed material constitutes plagiarism, which is a serious breach of academic, professional, and Christian ethics. An instructor who discovers evidence of student plagiarism is not permitted to deal with the

situation individually but is required to report it to his or her head of college or delegate according to the TST Basic Degree Handbook (linked from http://www.tst.edu/academic/resources-forms/handbooks and the University of Toronto Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters

http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm), a student who plagiarizes in this course. Students will be assumed to have read the document "Avoidance of plagiarism in theological writing" published by the Graham Library of Trinity and Wycliffe Colleges

(http://www.trinity.utoronto.ca/Library Archives/Theological Resources/Tools/Guides/plag.htm).

Other academic offences. TST students come under the jurisdiction of the University of Toronto Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters (http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm).

Writing Style. The writing standard for the Toronto School of Theology is Kate L. Turabian, A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses and Dissertations, 7th edition (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2007).

Bibliography

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- Fulwiler, Jennifer. Something Other Than God: How I Passionately Sought Happiness & Accidentally Found It. San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 2014.
- Groome, Thomas H. Sharing Faith: The Way of Shared Praxis. New York: HarperCollins, 1991.
- Hunter, George G. III. The Celtic Way of Evangelism: How Christianity Can Reach the West Again. Nashville: Abingdon 2000.
- Kallenberg, Brad J. Live to Tell: Evangelism for a Postmodern Age. Grand Rapids: Brazos Press, 2002.
- Ordway, Holly. Not God's Type: An Atheist Academic Lays Down Her Arms. San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 2014.
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- Reese, Martha Grace. Unbinding the Gospel: Real Life Evangelism. St Louis MO: Chalice Press 2007.
- Richardson, Rick. Reimagining Evangelism: Inviting Friends on a Spiritual Journey. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press 2006.
- Spufford, Francis. *Unapologetic*: New York: Harper Collins, 2012.
- Stackhouse, John G. Humble Apologetics: Defending the Faith Today. Oxford: Oxford University Press 2002.
- Stanley, Andy & Ronald Lane Jones. Communicating for a Change. New York: Multnomah Books, 2006.
- Stone, Bryan. Evangelism after Christendom: The Theology and Practice of Christian Witness. Grand Rapids: Brazos Press, 2008.
- Teasdale, Mark R. Evangelism for Non-Evangelists: Sharing the Gospel Authentically. Downers Grove: Inter Varsity Press, 2016.

On-line source: "A Spectrum of Spirituality", Angus Reid Institute, http://angusreid.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/2017.04.12 Faith Wave 1 Part 1.pdf, published April 13, 2017, accessed June 6, 2018.