

YF 503: YOUTH OUTREACH AND EVANGELISM. (4 UNITS) Chapman Clark, Associate Professor of Youth, Family, and Culture; Online Facilitation by Cheryl Crawford, Adjunct Instructor in Youth Studies

DESCRIPTION:

This course explores the biblical mandate to "go and make disciples" as it relates to the adolescent subculture. Students will learn how to articulate and pass on to others a biblical, theological and practical understanding of evangelism and outreach. Through readings, lecture, projects, and discussion, students will learn how to design an incarnational ministry program as well as relational ministry program, which take seriously Christian care and evangelism with unbelieving young people. Issues covered are: the content and message of the Gospel as it relates to an age-specific population, contemporary models of youth evangelism, and the partnership and networking of local parishes and the parachurch.

RELEVANCE FOR MINISTRY:

As a result of this course the student will be able to articulate and pass on the biblical principles which influence outreach and evangelism as well as a biblical and theological view of evangelism and outreach. The student will be given the tools to assess and critique contemporary youth ministry models and develop a biblically sound, culturally relevant, and practically feasible theology of youth outreach and evangelism. Upon this theological base the student will design an incarnational as well as relational ministry program which takes seriously Christian care and evangelism in contemporary adolescent culture. The student will develop an appreciation for the thoughts and motivation of the secular person, and an understanding of how the Spirit works in the lives of those we are trying to reach.

COURSE FORMAT:

The class will be conducted on the Internet using a 10-week lesson program aligned with Fuller's academic calendar. Each week students and the instructor will interact with the material examining key themes associated with evangelizing the youth culture through journaling, threaded discussions, and web-based research.

REQUIRED READING:

- Brueggemann, Walter. *Biblical Perspectives on Evangelism: Living in a Three-Storeyed Universe*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1993
- Clark, Chap. *Hurt: Inside the World of Today's Teenagers*. Baker Academic, 2004
- Kallenberg, Brad J. *Live to Tell: Evangelism for a Postmodern Age*, 2002.
- Peace, Richard. *Conversion in the New Testament*. Eerdmans, 1999. (pp. 1-125, 285-346)
- Posterski, Donald. *Reinventing Evangelism*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1989.
- Van Gelder, Craig, ed. *Confident Witness Changing World: Rediscovering the Gospel in North America*. Eerdmans, 1999
- *Theology, News and Notes* Fuller Theological Seminary. Fall, 2004 (available online)
- There is also a required reader that will be available through the Fuller bookstore

RECOMMENDED READING:

- Arias, M. and Johnson, A. *The Great Commission: Biblical Models for Evangelism*. Nashville, TN: Abingdon, 1992.
- Chafer, L. S. *True Evangelism: Winning Souls by Prayer*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1975.
- Dockery, David S. (Ed.) *The Challenge of Postmodernism: An Evangelical Engagement*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1997.
- Guder, Darrell. *The Missional Church*. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1998.
- Hauerwas, Stanley. *With the Grain of the Universe: The Church's Witness and Natural Theology*. The Gifford Lectures delivered at the University of St. Andrews in 2001. Grand Rapids: Brazos Press, 2001.
- Klaiber, Walter. *Call and Response: Biblical Foundations of a Theology of Evangelism*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1997.
- Kreider, Alan. *The Change of Conversion and the Origin of Christendom*. Chicago: Trinity Press, 1999.
- * McLaren, Brian. *A Generous Orthodoxy*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2004.
- Okholm, Dennis, ed. *The Gospel in Black and White: Theological Resources for Racial Reconciliation*. Grand Rapids, MI: InterVarsity, 1997.
- Packer, J. I. *Evangelism and Sovereignty*. Chicago: InterVarsity, 1961.
- Pipher, M. *Reviving Ophelia: Saving the Selves of Adolescent Girls*. New York: Ballantine, 1994.
- Richardson, Rick. *Evangelism Outside the Box: New Ways to Help People Experience the Good News*. Downers Grove (IL): InterVarsity Press, 2000.
- Rudnick, Milton. *Speaking the Gospel Through the Ages: A History of Evangelism*. Concordia Press: 1984.
- Salter, Darius. *American Evangelism: Its Theology and Practice*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1984.
- Schultze, Q., et al *Dancing in the Dark*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1991.
- Stott, John. *Christian Mission in the Modern World*. Downers Grove (IL): InterVarsity Press, 1978.
- Strommen, M. *Five Cries of Youth*. San Francisco: Harper and Row, 1974.
- Wuthnow, Robert. *After Heaven: Spirituality in America Since the 1950's*. University of California Press, 1998.

ASSIGNMENTS: The final grade for the course will be assessed from the following assignments: -

1. Completion of five Reading Reports. (10 points each)
2. Projects: Cultural observation, analysis of a youth outreach organization, and development of an outreach program. (25 points each)
3. Threaded discussions involving feedback to lectures, readings, and related questions. (40 points)
4. Comprehensive Content Exam (35 points)

PREREQUISITES: None.

RELATIONSHIP TO CURRICULUM: Required course for M.A./M.Div. Youth Ministries concentration; Meets M. Div. Core requirement in Evangelism (MIN 3); Elective in MA in Global Leadership.

FINAL EXAMINATION: Comprehensive Content Exam.

Last updated January, 2005.