**Wayland Baptist University**

Virtual Campus

School of Religion & Philosophy

**RLED/RLGN 5308 VC 01 Evangelism**

Summer 2018

Dr. Hal N. Ostrander

**Wayland Mission Statement**

Wayland Baptist University exists to educate students in an academically challenging,   
 learning-focused and distinctively Christian environment for professional success and   
 service to God and humankind.

**Catalog Description**

Research into the history and methods of evangelism with special attention to contemporary expression.

**Prerequisites**

RLGN 1301 & RLGN 1302

**Required textbooks & resource material**

Carson, D. A., General Editor. *Telling the Truth: Evangelizing Postmoderns.* Grand Rapids,

MI: Zondervan, 2000.

Packer, J. I. *Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God*. Downers Grove, IL. IVP Books, 2012.

**Optional materials**

* Stark, Rodney. *Discovering God: The Origins of the Great Religions and the Evolution of Belief.* New York, New York: HarperCollins, 2007.
* Stiles, J. Mack. *Evangelism: How the Whole Church Speaks of Jesus*. Wheaton, Illinoi: Crossway, 2014.
* Hiebert, Paul G. *Transforming Worldviews: An Anthropological Understanding of How People Change*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2008.
* Finney, Charles G. *Lectures on Revival*. Minneapolis, Minnesota: Bethany House Publishers, 1988.
* Phillips, Timothy R., and Okholm, Dennis L., editors. *Christian Apologetics in the Postmodern World*. Downers Grove, Illinois: InterVarsity Press, 1995.

**Course outcome competencies**

After this semester the student should be able to:

* Identify and explain the main models of evangelism prevalent in history, beginning with the canon.
* Identify and explain the main models of evangelism globally prevalent today.
* Articulate a theology of self and interface this with a theology of other.
* Articulate a biblical apologetic for eight major areas of debate between Christian faith claims and the claims of other religions and faith systems and ideologies.
* Demonstrate an effective evangelistic method based on one’s personal style.
* Explain and demonstrate the rudiments of church planting.

**Course requirements & grading criteria**

1. **Reading Quizzes (25%):** Expect weekly quizzes covering assigned readings. Ten

quizzes in total will be given, and three quizzes will be dropped on the basis of lowest

scores. Missed quizzes cannot be taken at a later time. ***Notes taken on the read-***

***ings may be used on the quizzes!*** See the ***Tentative Course Schedule*** below

below regarding what pages to read from the textbook in order to prepare.

An important note about the readings:

RLGN/RLED 5308 is a Masters level course. As such, each reading must be done care-

fully and critically. You aren’t expected to agree with everything you read and are

encouraged to mark those issues with which you take exception or find interesting.

**2. Research Paper (25%):** Write a paper following the guidelines of the *Wayland*

*Baptist University School of Religion and Philosophy Style Guide.* A minimum of 15

pages of text, excluding cover page, table of contents, appendices, and bibliography.

The paper must be double-spaced using New Times Roman, 12-point font and be

formatted with 1” margins on all sides. The topic may be chosen from any normative

aspect of evangelism studies. The professor can help the student in selecting and

refining the topic, if need be. Important dates are:

* June 9 ꟷ Topic due
* June 16 ꟷ Research bibliography due
* June 30 ꟷ Research outline due
* August 4 ꟷ Research rough draft due
* August 11 ꟷ Research final version due

Suggested topics include:

* Global evangelizations: Eastern, Western, or Hybrids
* Evangelism among Muslims
* Evangelism and Church Planting
* Paul’s Methods of Evangelism
* The Contrast of Spurgeon’s and Whitefield’s Methods
* Are All Called to Evangelism?

The research paper will be graded using the following metric:

**Form**: The grade on form is determined by matters such as spelling, grammar, syntax, writing style, neatness, and proper technical form.

**Presentation**: Includes the clarity of the definition of the task, the organization of the content, the arguments and logic used, and the completeness with which the assignment is carried out.

**Research methods:** The final draft must demonstrate a thorough use of books and articles as listed in the bibliography, a minimum of seven books and five print or electronic articles.

**3. Final Examination (30%):** Two exams will be given, a mid-term and final, each

worth **15%.** The final exam will not be comprehensive, and thorough exam reviews

will be provided. If students master everything listed in the review, they should do

well. The exam will only be over the term’s lecture materials, not the textbook

readings, the content of which is covered by the quizzes.

1. **Witnessing Encounters (20%):** Students will submit two 2-pg papers, each

worth **10%** documenting their attempts to share the gospel with an individual with whom they may or may not be acquainted. The best way in which to find the right persons is, of course, *as the Lord leads!* The papers should include particulars like the background of the person (who may remain anonymous); their outlook on life; the way in which you introduced the topic of the person and work of Jesus; the response you provided to any objections they raised; the success or lack of success, as you see it, of your witnessing encounter; and any other information you consider relevant.

**NO LATE ASSIGNMENTS CONCERNING THE**

**FOUR COURSE REQUIREMENTS OUTLINED ABOVE WILL BE ACCEPTED!**

**Grading Criteria**

The grading scale of the university catalog is followed in this course:

A 90-100% CR for credit

B 80-89% NCR no credit

C 70-79% W for withdrawal

D 60-69% I for incomplete

F below 59% X no grade given

IP in progress

**Tentative Course Schedule**

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| **DATES** | **TOPIC** | **READINGS/QUIZZES** |
| Week 1:  May 28-Jun 2 | The gospel:  Its biblical basis  Its forms  Its Old Testament foundation, Abraham  Its universality | Carson,  Preface & Part 1: Opening Plenaries  Chapters 1 & 2: Zacharias  Packer, Fore, Pref & Intro  Quiz 1 |
| Week 2:  Jun 4-9 | New Testament bases for evangelism:  Definitions & paradigms  Evangelistic styles ꟷ Assertive/Direct  **Research Topic Due on JUN 9** | Carson, Part 2:  The Challenge  Chapter 3: Netland, et al  Quiz 2 |
| Week 3:  Jun 11-16 | Spiritual gifts & evangelism  Evangelistic styles ꟷ Analytical/Intellectual  **Research Bibliography Due on JUN 16** | Carson, Part 3:  Critical Topics  Chapter 5: Sire  Chapter 6: Jenson, et al  Packer, Chapter 1  Quiz 3 |
| Week 4:  Jun 18-23 | Paul’s model of evangelism  Evangelistic styles ꟷ Storytelling/Testimonial | Carson, Part 3:  Critical Topics  Chapter 7: Smith  Chapter 8: Fernando  Quiz 4 |
| Week 5:  Jun 25-30 | Historical examples of evangelism:  George Whitefield  John Wesley  Charles Finney  Evangelistic styles ꟷ Relational/Interpersonal  **Research Outline Due on JUN 30** | Carson, Part 3:  Critical Topics  Chapter 9: Dever  Chapter 10: Andrus  Packer, Chapter 2  Quiz 5  Witnessing Encounter 1 |
| Week 6:  Jul 2-7 | Contemporary models of evangelism  Evangelistic styles ꟷ Invitational/Appeal  **MID-TERM EXAMINATION** | Carson, Part 4:  Crucial Passages  Chapter 11: Nyquist  Chapter 12: Smith  Quiz 6 |
| Week 7:  Jul 9-14 | Christian apologetics:  Premodernism  Modernism   Postmodernism  Evangelistic styles ꟷ Incarnational/Serving | Carson, Part 5  Chapter 13, Jensen, et al  Chapter 14, Gauthier  Packer, Chapter 3  Quiz 7 |
| Week 8:  Jul 16-21 | Christian apologetics:  Theology of creation & fall | Carson, Part 5  Chapter 15, Gilmer  Chapter 16, Cha & Jao  Quiz 8 |
| Week 9:  Jul 23-28 | Christian apologetics:  Theology of redemption & end times | Carson, Part 6  Chapter 17, Hecht  Chapter 18, Coleman  Packer, Chapter 4  Quiz 9 |
| Week 10:  Jul 30-Aug 4 | Church planting  **Research Rough Draft Due on AUG 4** | Carson, Part 8  Chapter 27, Fernando  Chapter 28, Carson  Quiz 10  Witnessing Encounter 2 |
| Week 11:  Aug 6-11 | **FINAL EXAMINATION**  **Research Final Version Due on AUG 11** |  |

**Instructor’s Perspective**

This course is being taught at a Baptist university by a Baptist instructor. The student should realize the course will reflect the instructor’s point of view on issues related to biblical inter-pretation. Students aren’t obligated to agree with my understandings or interpretations; however, I do insist the student reflect upon and consider various understandings of the Bible and evangelism as presented in this course. Since this is a senior-level class, major scholarly opinions on important issues will be presented. I encourage students to develop their own informed perspective. Students will be awarded grades only on the basis of academic achieve-ment, mastery of the material, and the ability to articulate knowledge about the subject matter.

**Very important note**

The syllabus serves as a starting point for the course and all assignments pertaining to it. The online system known as Blackboard will be the delivery mechanism for the course. In addition, Blackboard will serve as the location for detailed instructions and further expectations with respect to all course requirements, namely, reading assignments, papers, quizzes, and exams.

**Academic Honesty**

“University students are expected to conduct themselves according to the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, forgery, or plagiarism. Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one’s own work. It is the student’s responsibility to be familiar with penalties associate with plagiarism.” (WBU Catalog)

**Classroom Conduct**

“Students who disrupt class will be directed to leave immediately and report to the campus dean,   
who will discuss with the student the cause of the disruption. The student will only return to the class with the permission of the campus dean and the faculty member involved.” (WBU Catalog)

**Special Needs**

“In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), it is the policy of   
Wayland Baptist University that no otherwise qualified person with a disability be from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any educational program or activity in the university. The Coordinator of Counseling Services serves as the coordinator of students with a disability and should be contacted concerning accommodation requests at (806) 291-3765. Documentation of a disability must accompany any request for accommodations.” (WBU Catalog)