
MIN-202 PERSONAL EVANGELISM & DISCIPLESHIP

(3 Credit Hrs.)

"Most of us go to our graves with our music still inside us" – Oliver Wendell Holmes

Term: Spring 2008
Hour: 8:30-9:45 T-R

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I) COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an introduction to the biblical principles and practice of personal evangelism and discipleship and how they apply to contemporary life. The course focuses on the development of skills and methodology for evangelism and discipleship, and the formation of a personal plan for ministry in this area.

II) COURSE RATIONALE

In light of the biblical declaration that God has chosen you to be his witnesses (Isaiah 43:10-12; Acts 1:8), and in grateful response to the reconciling work of Christ in your own life (2 Cor. 5:17-20), we offer this course to motivate and equip you as a believer, to naturally and effectively live out your Christian witness to the Gospel, and to fulfill your Savior's commission to follow in his example of discipling others (Matt 28:18-20).

III) OBJECTIVES

Together and in working groups, we will study the scriptural foundations, and the various biblical and contemporary principles and methodologies for implementing effective personal evangelism and discipleship. Class lectures and discussions will be coupled with field experiences in witnessing and discipleship in order to build both your confidence, and your competency, in leading people to Christ and establishing them in the Kingdom of God.

If you faithfully and prayerfully apply yourself to the overall course plan, by the end of the course you should be able to:

- 📖 Understand and embrace wholeheartedly, the biblical mandate for Christian witness and discipleship.
- 📖 Describe the characteristics of a disciple of Jesus Christ.
- 📖 Describe and demonstrate a variety of cognitive and lifestyle principles and processes for carrying out personal evangelism and personal discipleship.
- 📖 Recognize and confidently engage your own evangelism "style" in sharing your faith.
- 📖 Confidently establish and sustain focused relationships for spiritual formation.
- 📖 Articulate your personal goals and plans to disciple others.

IV) TEXTS

CORE REQUIRED READING (Student Copy Required)

The Holy Bible (NIV version) [Personal copy of a pocket-sized NIV New Testament required]

Hull, B. (2006). *The complete book of discipleship: On being and making followers of Christ*.

Hybels, B., and Mittelberg, M. (1994). *Becoming a contagious Christian*.

Mittleberg, M., Strobel, L., and Hybels, B. (2007). *Becoming a contagious Christian: Participant's Guide (Revised and Updated Edition)*.

Reed, J. and Reed, N. (2003). *Discipleship encounters (Version.3.5)*.
[available on the web at <http://www.northpark.edu/sem/discipleship/>]

VENNARD COLLEGE
COURSE SYLLABUS

ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDED READING (On Reserve in Library)

- Bonhoeffer, D. (1972). *The cost of discipleship*.
- Coleman, R.E. (1964). *The master plan of evangelism*.
- Dever, M. (2007). *The gospel and personal evangelism*.
- Foster, R. (2002). *Celebration of discipline: The path to spiritual growth*.
- Foster, R. (1985). *The challenge of the disciplined life: Christian reflections on money, sex & power*.
- Fryling, A. (1989). *Disciple-makers' handbook: Helping people grow in Christ*.
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- Ogden, G. (2007). *Discipleship essentials: A guide to building your life in Christ*.
- Peel, W. & Larimore, W. (2003). *Going public with your faith*
- Posterski, D.C. (1989). *Reinventing evangelism*
- Richardson, R. (2000). *Evangelism outside the box*
- Tuttle, R. G. (1999). *Can we talk?: Sharing your faith in a pre-Christian world*.

V) REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Course Participation* (reading, note-taking, and thoughtful engagement.) [See **Appendix 1**]
- 2) Scripture Memorization [See **Appendix 2**]
- 3) Personal Testimonies [See **Appendix 3**]
- 4) Evangelism Experience [See **Appendix 4**]
- 5) Discipleship Study Reflection Journal [See **Appendix 5**]
- 5) CATS (Five Continuous Assessment Tools) [See **Appendix 6**]

* *The Vennard College policy on classroom attendance will be honored.*

VI) EVALUATION STRUCTURE*

Description	Potential Points	% Tot
Course Participation / Reading	100	[10%]
Scripture Memorization (10 x 15 pts each)	150	[15%]
Personal Testimonies-Stories (2 x 50)	100	[10%]
Evangelism Experience	150	[15%]
Discipleship Study Reflection Journal	150	[15%]
CATs (1 x 50; 4 x 75)	350	[35%]

* *All submitted assignments are due at the beginning of the class on the posted due date without exception beyond that of verifiable medical emergency or death in the immediate family. A 10% penalty per calendar day is assessed for late submissions. For any other absences, arrangements must be made for pre-submission before the due date. No make-up examinations are given except for certifiable emergencies and in accordance with college policies. All written submissions must be original work. Incidents of plagiarism will be handled in accordance with college policies.*

VENNARD COLLEGE
COURSE SYLLABUS

VII) COURSE SCHEDULE ¹ / READING ASSIGNMENTS ²

Wk	Dates	Unit	Topic	Reading	Pages.	Tot
1	Jan 10	On Being a Witness	Course Introduction / Do I Have a Witness? Project Assignments	---	---	---
2	Jan 15-17		Motivations / Relevancy Spiritual Economics / Witnessing: The Right to be Heard	Hybels	11-38	28
3	Jan 22-24	On Becoming a Contagious Christian	Benefits of Becoming a Contagious Christian Being Yourself—and Impacting Others	Hybels Hybels	39-50 119-132	11 13
4	Jan 29-31		Deepening Your Relationships and Conversations Telling Your Story	Hybels Hybels	95-117; 135-148 53-92	36 39
5	Feb 5-7		Communicating God's Message Helping Friends Cross the Line of Faith	Hybels Hybels	149-178 181-195	29 15
6	Feb 12-14	Evangelism Skills For Today's World	Classic (Cognitive) Models: How to be a Witness (4 Spiritual Laws / E.E. / Roman Road / Interrogative / etc.) Facing Modern Questions - Common Objections	(Hybels) ---	(197-221) ---	(24) ---
7	Feb 19-21		Contextualization: Discerning Pre-Christian Culture Evangelism Outside the Box: Connecting to Culture	---	---	---
8	Feb 26-28		Trans-cultural Evangelistic Communication Follow-up: The Need of Assimilation	---	---	---
9	March 4-6		Spring Break			
10	March 11-13	Foundational Principles / Qualities of Discipleship	The Nature of Discipleship The Biblical Basis of Discipleship	Hull Hull	15-21; 32-47 23-32	23 9
11	March 18-20		The Biblical Basis of Discipleship (Traditions of Discipleship)	Hull (Hull)	51-72 (73-110)	22 (38)
12	March 25-27		Marks of a Disciple Environment / Stages & Processes of Discipleship	Hull Hull	113-152 153-161; 163-184	40 30
13	April 1-3	Practical Implementation of Personal Discipleship	Spiritual Transformation – Elements and Disciplines Using Models of Classic Discipleship for Transformation	Hull Reed	187-207 i-ix; 1-30	21 39
14	April 8-10		Personal Discipleship: Coaching/Mentoring/Directing Establishing Discipling Friendships	Hull ---	209-224 ---	15 ---
15	April 15-17		Discipling Conversations: Object-Goal-Elements Pointers on Personal Discipleship	---	---	---
16	April 22-24		More Pointers on Personal Discipleship Into the World – Am I Able/Willing to Make Disciples?	---	---	---
17	Finals Week					391 (453)

¹ Subject to change at discretion of professor for the purpose of enhancing class learning.

² All reading assignments are to be completed **before** the scheduled class meeting. Students should be prepared to interact with the lecture material.

VENNARD COLLEGE
COURSE SYLLABUS

VIII) APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Course Participation

The format for learning in this class requires careful listening and critical reflection on *all* the written, visual, and oral sources utilized over the duration of the course. Your appropriate engagement in this class must translate into active participation based on studious reading of the written texts, and diligent note-taking from the lecture content, and the classroom presentations and discussions. You should complete the assigned readings for each week prior to the class meeting in order to benefit fully from the classroom presentations.

Having read the assigned texts, you can come to class well prepared to both *listen actively* (taking careful notes), and to *speak appropriately* (adding poignant insights and responses to questions), in order to fulfill this essential course component.

☞ Participation points will be based on the following rubric:

POINTS	Reading	Note Taking	Engaging	Responding
25	More than required	Thorough and integrative	Consistent synthetic comments	Consistently responds thoughtfully / integratively
23	All that was required	Thorough and reviewed	Occasional synthetic / Consistent on-topic comments	Usually responds thoughtfully / integratively
21	Most of the required	Thorough and complete	Consistent on-topic comments	Typically responds thoughtfully
19	Much of the required	Basic coverage / complete	Occasional on topic comments	Typically responds
17	Little of the required	Intermittent / incomplete	Intermittent and/or off-topic comments	Rarely responds
0	Read none of assignments	Few or no notes taken	Rarely or never spoke in class unless asked a direct question	Never responded

☞ You will submit a completed rubric (self-evaluation) at mid and end-term. Your points for class participation will be determined by a synthesis of your self-evaluations *and* my own evaluations, with the resultant synthesized mid-term and end-term scores averaged for a final grade.

- Notes for this class should be neatly arranged in a single binder (along with your BACC Participant’s Guide) for evaluation at mid-term and end of term. The more organized your notes, the more likely these reviews will detect your thoroughness.
- In-class reading verification checks will be conducted periodically to support this evaluation.

☞ **Due Dates:** Mid-Term: **February 26, 2008** / Final-Term: **April 22, 2008**

Appendix 2 – Scripture Memorization

The purpose of this assignment is to practice the spiritual discipline of “hiding the Word in your heart,” and to equip you with foundational scriptures that can build your confidence for sharing your faith with non-believers, and for discipling fellow believers.

You will memorize the approximately 20 verses of scripture listed on the “Scripture Memory Handout” distributed the first day of class, and be evaluated as follows:

☞ You will be asked to write out (print, not script) the NIV Bible scripture(s) from memory. The first week will require new verses. Each subsequent week will require at least one new verse and at least one verse from a previous week. In this way, your memorization will be cumulatively evaluated. **There will be no make-up Memorization Quizzes.**

- Each word-perfect Memorization Quiz is worth 15 points. (1 error = 10 pts. / 2 errors = 0 pts)

☞ **Due Dates:** Every Tuesday class period, beginning February 12th

VENNARD COLLEGE

COURSE SYLLABUS

Appendix 3 – Personal Testimonies - Stories

The purpose of this assignment is to honor I Peter 3:15 by requiring you to organize and present your spiritual story in a clear fashion. Toward that end, you will present two separate written testimonies of 1-2 pages each (typed, double-spaced) as follows:

📖 Testimony-Story #1

- Write out your personal testimony in a way that could be shared with another person to whom you may be witnessing. This is your story, relating your coming to faith in Christ.
 - = Evaluation will be based on authenticity, clarity, and style.
 - = **Due Date: January 15, 2008**

📖 Testimony Story #2

- Write out your personal story in the way you would now relate your Christian experience to someone you are witnessing to, in light of your learning from the BACC training.
 - = Evaluation will be based on authenticity, clarity, coherence, form, and style.
 - = **Due Date: February 12, 2008**

Appendix 4 – Evangelism Experience

The purpose of this assignment is to overcome natural evangelistic entropy and develop competence by engaging in activities that require you to make application of classroom theory in the real pre-Christian world. You may achieve this purpose through either of the following assignments:

A) Out of the Bunker Covenant

- Begin by identifying a person (a non-relative) from among your potential network of pre-Christian friends, associates, and neighbors.
(If you do not have an identifiable pre-Christian friend, associate, or neighbor here in Osky, consult with me for strategies to begin relationships outside your Christian bunker.)
 - = Determine (as best as possible) the spiritual receptivity of that person. Develop and submit an intentional plan of *appropriate* Christian witness for that person.
Your plan is due by **February 7, 2008**.
- Spend time (at least four meaningful/personal encounters) developing a redemptive relationship with your pre-Christian friend. The purpose is to build an authentic relationship that will earn you the respect and trust to naturally share your faith in Christ with that person in a meaningful way.
 - = You will submit a report detailing the time you spent developing the relationship and being a witness for Christ to them.
- Evaluation will be based on your appropriateness of plan, degree of personal engagement (not “conversion rate”), the quality of reflective analysis in your report, and your own self-assessment which is to be submitted with your report. (You will give yourself a % grade.)
- **Due Date: April 3, 2008**

B) Evangelism Encounters (Evaluative Journal)

- Spend a minimum of 6 hours visiting with an evangelism team or pastor of a local church. (Record your times!) This time must be spent in: a) prayer and preparation, b) participation with the team, and c) **at least on one occasion, personally sharing a verbal witness with a non-believer** in an appropriate way.
- You must keep an Evaluative Journal of all Evangelism Encounters in which you participate. Describe the experience of the team and yourself (including dates and times involved.) Evaluate the effectiveness of the team and your participation in their evangelistic outreach.

VENNARD COLLEGE
COURSE SYLLABUS

Critique what was done, how it could have been improved, and what you would do differently. Reflect on your own participation and witness experiences through these encounters. What emotions were evoked, what feelings were experienced, and what conclusions drawn from your personal evangelistic encounters?

- Evaluation will be based on your degree of evangelistic participation (not “conversion rates”), quality of reflection and critique in your Journal, and your own self-assessment which is to be submitted together with your Evaluative Journal. (You will give yourself a percentage grade.)
- **Due Date: April 3, 2008**

Appendix 5 – Discipleship Study Reflection Journal

The purpose of this assignment is to create a discipling relationship in which spiritual formation can occur. Toward that end, you will pair up with another same-gender classmate for the length of the term, to “spur one another on” through study and application of a text on spiritual formation.

☞ Your discipleship pair, and book selected for study, must be reported to me by **January 24, 2008**.

- You should divide your book readings and discussions appropriately in order to pace your progress over the course of 12 weeks. You must complete the entire book, and you must meet at least five times in five different weeks.

☞ You will submit a journal that chronicles what insights you have gained from each chapter of the book covered, as well as what you learn together as a discipling team. The Journal will consist of three components:

- **Chapter Reflections:**

Each chapter of the book should have a written reflection in your journal, no longer than 1 page in length. (It may be handwritten only if legible and neat.) At the top of each chapter entry, indicate the date, the book title, and the chapter read. Do not put more than one chapter on a single page of your journal.

Comment on ideas that stand out to you, or trouble you, or cause you to stretch your faith.

- **Meeting Reflections:**

For each meeting with your discipling partner, record a sequentially numbered journal entry (up to one page in length) indicating at the top: the meeting number, the date, the time and duration of the meeting, and the book chapters discussed.

Include in these entries any new insights, commitments, questions, or clear progress made in your spiritual journey as you work together to appropriate the content of the book into your own personal spiritual development.

- **General Reflections:**

Independent journal entries pertaining to anything related to your spiritual formation during the course of the semester, and in particular, to the discipling process with your class partner with whom you have limited accountability, and the opportunity for mutual sharing in the growth process.

For example: What are you learning about transparency and accountability by meeting regularly with another believer to discuss spiritual disciplines in your life? How are you helping your partner in their growth? How are they helping you? What problems are you encountering?

☞ Evaluation of your journal will be based on degree of project engagement:

Thorough, thoughtful, and therapeutic/pertinent	150 points
Partial, shallow, and extraneous/irrelevant	100 points
Not Submitted	Zero points

VENNARD COLLEGE

COURSE SYLLABUS

📖 Book Choices:

Foster: *Celebration of Discipline*

Bonhoffer: *The Cost of Discipleship*

Foster: *The Challenge of the Disciplined Life*

Ogden: *Discipleship Essentials*

📖 **Due Date: April 17, 2008**

Appendix 6 – CATS: Unit Quizzes

The purpose of this assignment is to evaluate your ongoing comprehension of the principle course content. Toward that end, you will complete five Continuous Assessment Tools (CATS) as described:

- 📖 CATs will be non-cumulative examinations based on the material covered up to the current examination date. They will cover lecture material, video presentations, text readings, and handout materials. Be prepared for these examinations by regularly reviewing all your course materials and asking questions where you are uncertain of the material.
- 📖 Each CAT will be a take-home examination. You will be given 48 hours to complete the examination and submit it at the beginning of the subsequent class period. You may submit it prior to the 48 hour period, but you may **not** submit it after the subsequent class meeting. (With the exception of the final CAT, which will be submitted five days later, during finals week.)
- 📖 Format of the CAT's will be objective, short answer, and essay questions.
- 📖 **Due Dates:**

CAT	DISTRIBUTED	SUBMITTED	VALUE
CAT #1	1/22/08	1/24/08	50 pts
CAT #2	2/12/08	2/14/08	80 pts
CAT #3	3/11/08	3/13/08	80 pts
CAT #4	4/8/08	4/10/08	80 pts
CAT #5	4/24/08	4/29/08	80 pts

VENNARD GRADING SCALE

Marks Earned	Percentage Grade	Letter Equivalent	Grade Point
940-1000	94 – 100	A	4.00
910-939	91 - 93	A-	3.67
880-909	88 – 90	B+	3.33
850-879	85– 87	B	3.00
820-849	82 - 84	B-	2.67
790-819	79 - 81	C+	2.33
760-789	76 – 78	C	2.00
730-759	73 – 75	C-	1.67
700-729	70 – 72	D+	1.33
670-699	67 – 69	D	1.00
660-669	66 – 66	D-	0.67
Below 660	0-65	F	0.00

VENNARD COLLEGE
COURSE SYLLABUS

IX) BIBLIOGRAPHY

Authors in **Bold type** indicate highly relevant sources for the course.

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- Aldrich, J.C. (1988). *Gentle persuasion: Creative ways to introduce your friends to Christ*. Portland, OR: Multnomah.
- Aldrich, J.C. (1981). *Life-Style Evangelism: Crossing Traditional Boundaries to Reach an Unbelieving World*. Portland,OR: Multnomah.
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- Armstrong, R.S. (1979) *Service Evangelism*. Philadelphia: Westminster.
- Arn, W. and Arn C. (1982) *The master's plan for making disciples: How every Christian can be an effective witness through an enabling church*. Monrovia, CA: Church Growth Press.
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- Barna, G.** (1995). *Evangelism that works: How to reach changing generations with the unchanging gospel*. Ventura, CA: Regal Books.
- Beaudoin, T. (1998). *Virtual faith: The irreverent spiritual quest of generation X*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.
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- Bonhoeffer, D.** (1972). *The cost of discipleship*. New York, NY: Macmillan.
- Bowen, J.P. (2002). *Evangelism for "normal" people: Good news for those looking for a fresh approach*. Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress.
- Brueggemann, W. (1993). *Biblical perspective on evangelism: Living in a three-storied universe*. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press.
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- Celek, T. and Zander, D. (1997). *Inside the soul of a new generation: Insights and strategies for reaching busters*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan.
- Clapp, R. (2000). *Border crossings: Christian trespasses on popular culture and public affairs*. Grand Rapids: Brazos.
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- Coleman, R.E. (Ed.) (1986). *Evangelism on the cutting edge*. Grand Rapids, MI: Fleming H. Revell.
- Coleman, R.E.** (1990). *Nothing to do but to save souls: John Wesley's charge to his preachers*. Wilmore, KY: Wesley Heritage Press.
- Conn, H. (1982). *Evangelism: Doing justice and preaching grace*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.
- Coppedge, A.** (1989). *The biblical principles of discipleship*. Grand Rapids, MI: Francis Asbury Press.
- Costas, O. (1989). *Liberating news: A theology of contextual evangelization*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans.
- Crandall, R.** (1999). *The contagious witness*. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press.
- Davis, D. M. (2007). *Talking about evangelism*. Cleveland, OH: The Pilgrim Press.
- Dever, M.** (2007). *The gospel and personal evangelism*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books.
- Dyrness, W. (1989). *How does America hear the gospel?* Grand Rapids: Eerdmans.

VENNARD COLLEGE
COURSE SYLLABUS

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- Foster**, R. (1985). *The challenge of the disciplined life: Christian reflections on money, sex and power*. New York, NY: Harper Collins.
- Foster**, R. (2002). *Celebration of discipline: The path to spiritual growth (20th anniversary edition)*. New York, NY: HarperOne.
- Fryling**, A. (1989). *Disciple-makers' handbook: Helping people grow in Christ*. Downer's Grove, IL: IVP.
- Graham, B. (1984). *A biblical standard for evangelists*. Minneapolis, MN: World Wide Publications.
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VENNARD COLLEGE

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VENNARD COLLEGE

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Periodicals

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| <i>Christianity Today</i> | <i>Leadership Journal</i> |
| <i>Decision Magazine</i> | <i>Ministry Today</i> |
| <i>Discipleship Journal</i> | <i>Sojourners</i> |
| <i>Evangelical Journal</i> | <i>Outreach Magazine</i> |

Helpful Internet Resources

- Acts 29 Ministries at <http://www.a29.com/>
- Alpha USA at www.alphana.org (1-800-426-6596)
- American Tract Society at <http://www.atstracts.org/>
- Billy Graham Evangelistic Association at <https://www.billygraham.org/default.asp>
- Dare 2 Share at www.dare2share.org (Greg Stier, Founder)
- Doable Evangelism at <http://doableevangelism.com/>
- Discipling Another at <http://www.disciplinganother.com/>
- Evangelism Explosion International (and Multiply magazine) at <http://www.eeinternational.org/index.html>
- Evangelism Toolbox at <http://www.evangelismtoolbox.com/>
- The Foundation for Evangelism at www.evangelize.org (UMC site)
- G.I.G.S. via InterVarsity's 2100 Productions at www.intervarsity.org/2100 (1-608-274-9001)
- Grow Magazine at www.growmagazine.org/default.asp (Nazarene Site)
- Omega Discipleship Ministries at <http://www.omega-discipleship.com/>
- Outreach Incorporated at www.outreachmagazine.com
- Outreach & Evangelism Today Newsletter at www.christianitytoday.com/outreach
- Servant Evangelism Networking at www.servantevangelism.com (1-888-KINDNESS)
- Willow Creek Association at <http://www.willowcreek.com/>