

PROSPECTUS

PRTH 70223 Evangelism

Fall 2022

Three (3) Semester Hours

Instructor: Natalya Cherry

Prerequisites: None

Description of Content: “An exploration into the theology and methods of evangelism in mainline Protestantism, with focus on the development of a congregation’s evangelism ministry” (Brite Bulletin). Declaring the good news of Jesus Christ in the 21st century, amid dismal forecasts for mainline Protestantism, is a matter of mitigating the bitter invective polluting public discourse by listening to understand, at least as much as by proclaiming forgiveness. This course considers theologies, practices, models, and aesthetics of evangelism, as well as different perspectives on the contemporary situation of Christianity in North America. Through the use of critical reflection on resources, demographic study, creative exercises, multi-media experiences, and reflective structured dialogues, students will be able to understand biblical and theological foundations upon which to construct evangelism that is good news for all people, to analyze their context to develop holistic models of evangelism relevant to that context, and to become (and to train others to become) recipients as well as bearers of good news. This course is required of United Methodist students for ordination.

Class Procedures:

Lectures and informed discussions (in-class and online), creative exercises, papers, presentations, reflective structured dialogues.

Requirements:

1. Presence and informed participation in online asynchronous discussions and in-person weekly class sessions
2. In-class presentation of a critical and creative reflection paper on a film and text (5-7 pages)
3. Demographic study of the student’s ministry context (5-7 pages)
4. Final Project & Paper (8-10 pages written, plus variation from chosen media)

Texts:

1. Cherry, Natalya. *Believing INTO Christ: Relational Faith and Human Flourishing*. Waco: Baylor University Press, 2021. ISBN 13: 978-1481315432. Retail Price: \$39.99 (hardcover...contact Dr. Cherry for BUP discount code; also available for Kindle and other e-readers at a lower price)
2. Pope-Levison, Priscilla. *Models of Evangelism*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2020. ISBN 13: 978-0801099496. Retail Price: \$21.99 (paperback)
3. DiNovo, Cheri. *Queer Theology/Queer Evangelism*. Emmanuel College of Victoria University (Canada), ProQuest Dissertations Publishing, 2002.

NQ73453. (Free with TCU login, available online at <https://search.proquest.com/docview/305511688?pq-origsite=summon>)

4. Hancock, Justin and Jeremy Schipper. *The Julian Way: A Theology of Fullness for All of God's People (Missional Wisdom Library: Resources for Christian Community)* Eugene: Cascade, 2018. ISBN-13: 978-1532611599 Retail Price: \$19.00 (paperback)
5. Powe, Jr., F. Douglas. *New Wine, New Wineskins: How African American Congregations Can Reach New Generations.* Nashville: Abingdon, 2012. ISBN 13: 978-1426742224 Retail price: \$22.99 (paperback)
6. Stone, Bryan. *Evangelism after Pluralism: the Ethics of Christian Witness.* Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2018. ISBN-13: 978-0801099793 Retail Price: \$21.99 (paperback)
7. Session, Irie Lynne, Kamilah Hall Sharp, Jann Aldredge-Clanton. *The Gathering, A Womanist Church: Origins, Stories, Sermons, and Litanies.* Eugene: Wipf & Stock, 2020. ISBN 13: 978-1725274624 Retail Price: \$23.00 (paperback)

Numerous excerpts (including from some of the below recommended books) and tools, made available on TCU Online course site and via links in the syllabus.

Also Recommended (Students will select one of the following for reflection paper):

- Arias, Mortimer. *Announcing the Reign of God.* Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock, 2001 (originally Minneapolis: Fortress, 1984) ISBN 13: 978-0788099038 Retail Price: \$23.00 (paperback)
- Chilcote, Paul W. and Lacey C. Warner, eds. *The Study of Evangelism: Exploring the Missional Practice of the Church.* Eerdmans, 2008. ISBN: 978-0802803917. Retail Price: \$42 (paperback)
- Colliers-Thomas, Bettye. *Daughters of Thunder: Black Women Preachers and Their Sermons, 1850-1979.* San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 1998. ISBN 13: 9780787909185 Retail Price: \$29.95 (hardcover)
- Dinovo, Cheri. *Qu(e)rying Evangelism: Growing a Community from the Outside In.* Cleveland: Pilgrim Press, 2005. 978-0829816877 Retail Price: \$25.00 (paperback)
- Heath, Elaine. *The Mystic Way of Evangelism: A Contemplative Vision for Christian Outreach.* Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2008. ISBN 13:978-0801033254 Retail Price \$22.00 (paperback)
- Knight III, Henry H. and F. Douglas Powe, Jr.. *Transforming Evangelism: The Wesleyan Way of Sharing Faith.* Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 2006. ISBN-13: 978-0881774856 Retail Price: \$14.00 (paperback)
- _____. *Transforming Community: The Wesleyan Way to Missional Congregations.* Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 2016. ISBN-13: 978-0881777543 Retail Price: \$15.00 (paperback)
- May, Cedric. *Evangelism and Resistance in the Black Atlantic, 1760-1835.* Athens: University of Georgia Press, 2008. ISBN 13: 978-0820327983 Retail Price: \$41.95 (paperback)

- Stone, Bryan. *Evangelism after Christendom: The Theology and Practice of Christian Witness*. Grand Rapids: Brazos, 2006. ISBN-13: 978-1587431944 Retail Price: \$30.00 (paperback)
- Teasdale, Mark. *Evangelism for Non-Evangelists: Sharing the Gospel Authentically*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic. ISBN 13: 978-0830851669 Retail Price: \$19.00 (paperback)
- Wuthnow, Robert. *Creative Spirituality: The Way of the Artist*. University of California: 2003. ISBN 13: Retail Price \$30.00 (paperback)

Additional resources are listed (not solely for UM students) in *United Methodist Studies: Basic Bibliographies, Sixth Edition* (2014), ed. Christopher J. Anderson, [see especially Part 3 (History) subheading “Evangelism” (pp. 85-86)]. Available at http://s3.amazonaws.com/gcah.org/UMC_History/Bibliographies/UMStudies_Anderson_2014.pdf

Grading Procedures:

Presence, Preparation & Participation:	20%
Demographic Study:	25%
Reflection Paper & Presentation:	25%
Final Project & Paper:	30%