



On-Campus Course Syllabus

MIN503.L1

Personal Evangelism

Spring 2025

Class Information

Day and Time: Monday: 7:30pm-10:00pm

Room Number: E206

Contact Information

Instructor Name: Dr. Bobby Worthington

Instructor Email: b.worthington@criswell.edu

Instructor Phone: 214 818-1362

Instructor Office Hours: **Tuesday and Thursday: 10:00am-11:00am and 2:00pm-3:00pm; Appointment by email with professor.**

Course Description and Prerequisites

Research in the principles of effective evangelism. Attention is given to the biblical foundation and mandate to evangelize, personal spiritual preparation for the task, problems encountered in witnessing, the role of prayer and the Holy Spirit in evangelizing, and methods of follow-up and discipleship for the convert.

Course Objectives

The student who successfully completes this course will demonstrate the ability to:

1. Biblical Studies: Outline the guidelines and principles used by the early church to evangelize the lost.
2. Applied Studies: Write his/her personal testimony in preparation for use in gospel conversations.
3. Biblical, Theological and Applied Studies: Analyze evangelism and discipleship methodologies for preparation of the task.
4. Integration: Research and evaluate the life of one ministry leader to assist the student in principles and application for evangelism in the twenty-first century.

Required Textbooks

Ashford, Bruce Riley and Heath A. Thomas, *The Gospel of Our King: Bible Worldview, and the Mission of Every Christian*, Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2019. ISBN: 9780801049033

Bock, Darrell, L., *Acts: Baker Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament*, Grand Rapids, Baker Academic, 2007. ISBN: 9781411200266

Coleman, Robert. *The Master Plan of Evangelism*, Second Edition Abridged New Spire Edition, Revell, 2010. (ISBN 978-0-8007-8808-7)

Course Requirements and Assignments

- 1. Class Participation (5%):** All students are required to come to class ready to participate actively in class discussion of lectures, reading assignments and case studies. Participation includes attendance.
- 2. Personal Testimony (10%):** The student is required to prepare a written personal testimony (3-5 pages double spaced) in preparation to effectively articulate his/ her personal testimony in gospel conversations. The testimony should be divided into three sections: 1) My life before Christ, 2) How I came to trust Christ as my Savior, 3) How my life has changed as a result. Write the testimony as if giving it to a non-Christian audience. Avoid using religious jargon. Submit written Personal Testimony in Canvas. Due Date: **01/28/25 @ 11:59pm.**
Note: Form and style: Kate L. Turabian's A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations, 9th ed., must be consulted for proper form. Spelling, grammar, and punctuation will be considered in the grading.
- 3. Evangelism Journal (25%):** All students are required to keep a weekly journal including:
 - (1) Prayer List:** Write an active prayer list of lost people for whom you are praying this semester (first name only).
 - (2) Relationship Building:** Write an active list of persons that you are building relationships for gospel conversations this semester (first name only).
 - (3) Gospel Conversations Summary:** Write one-page brief, summary of one or more gospel conversations with people this semester (first name only).
 - (4) Principles, Methods and Applications of Evangelism:** Write two principles of evangelism, two methods of evangelism and two applications of evangelism from assigned chapters of the Book of Acts, textbook readings, lectures, class discussions and research.
 - (5) Universal Questions to Assess Your Evangelism Methodology:** Write three universal questions to assess your evangelism methodology.
 - (6) Journal Assignments in Class:** Students are required to include written assignments in their weekly journal given by the professor during lectures each week.**Note: The Evangelism Journal should be a working document for students during the semester, but submitted in Canvas as one document uploaded with title page and page numbers.**
Evangelism Journal: Due 05/06/25 @11:59pm
Note: Graduating Seniors: Upload Evangelism Journal: (Due 04/22/25 @ 11:59pm)
Note: Form and style: Kate L. Turabian's A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations, 9th ed., must be consulted for proper form. Spelling, grammar, and punctuation will be considered in the grading.
- 4. Assigned Textbook Chapter Readings (5%):** Each student will be required to read all assigned chapters in course textbook, *The Master Plan of Discipleship*, by Robert Coleman. See Course outline for chapter reading assignments. Note: The student is required to read the assigned chapter each week. Report the percentage of the reading of the book in Canvas.
Submit Reading Report in Canvas. Due date: **02/25/25 @11:59pm.**
- 5. Assigned Textbook Chapter Readings (5%):** Each student will be required to read all assigned chapters in the course textbook, *The Master Plan of Evangelism*, by Robert Coleman. Note: The student is

required to read the assigned chapters each week. See Course Outline for Chapter Reading assignments. Report the percentage of the reading of the book in Canvas. Submit Reading Report in Canvas. Due date: **03/11/25 @11:59pm.**

6. **Book Review (20%):** The student is required to write a critical evaluation of *The Gospel of Our King: Bible, Worldview, and the Mission of Every Christian* by Bruce Ashford and Heath Thomas. The book review shall be 5-7 pages in length and include the following: 1) A summarization of each chapter,(3-4 pages), 2) The strengths and weaknesses of the book (be specific) (1-2 pages), and 3) An explanation how the book was helpful to you (1 page).

Submit Book Review in Canvas. Due date: **04/08/25 @11:59pm.**

Note: Form and style: Kate L. Turabian's A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations, 9th ed., must be consulted for proper form. Spelling, grammar, and punctuation will be considered in the grading.

7. **Research Paper (25%):** Students will research the life and ministry of Billy Graham, (or one other ministry leader, approved by the professor), and write ten to twelve pages double-spaced research paper. You should have at least 12 references including books and journal articles including proper footnoting for graduate level research. The following outline should be observed:

Title page: Due date: **01/21/25 @ 11:59pm**, *Bibliography:* Due date: **02/11/25 @11:59pm**, *Outline of Paper:* Due date: **02/25/25 @ 11:59pm**, *Research paper:* Due date: **05/13/25 @11:59pm.**

Note: Form and style: Kate L. Turabian's A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations, 9th ed., must be consulted for proper form. Spelling, grammar, and punctuation will be considered in the grading.

Note: Graduating Seniors: Upload Research Paper: (Due 04/22/25 @ 11:59pm

Note: Upload Title Page, Outline, Body of Paper and Bibliography all in one document.

The Outline of the Paper:

- I. Introduction with thesis statement (1/2 page)
- II. Body of Paper (9-10 page)
 - A. Brief Bio of Ministry Leader (2 pages)
 - B. Life and Work of the Ministry Leader (5-6 pages)
 - C. Evaluation of the Ministry Leader (2-3 pages)
- III. Conclusion (1/2 page)

8. **Assessment: Initial, Mid-semester & Final Definitions of Evangelism (5%).**

The student is required to write out his/her **initial, mid-semester and final personal definitions of evangelism. Each definition of evangelism (one sentence) and life application of evangelism (one paragraph)** will be due at the beginning, mid-semester and end of the semester in Canvas. Initial Definition of Evangelism due date: 01/21/25 @ 11:59pm in Canvas; Mid-Semester Definition of Evangelism due date: 03/11/25 @11:59pm in Canvas; Final Definition of Evangelism due date: 05/06/25 @11:59pm in Canvas.

Note: Graduating Seniors: Final Definition of Evangelism: Due 04/22/25 @11:59pm.

Each definition will be graded so that the student can develop his/her definition during the semester. The student will receive complete/incomplete grade for each definition. This assignment does not count as a percentage of student's final semester grade.

Each definition (of evangelism) and life application (of evangelism) will be graded based upon the following content and rubric scale:

1. Gospel Content: 1 - 2 - 3 - 4
 2. Missional Scope: 1 - 2 - 3 - 4
 3. Gospel Response: 1 - 2 - 3 - 4
 4. Church Involvement: 1 - 2 - 3 - 4
 5. Life Application: 1 - 2 - 3 - 4
- 1 - Weak
2 – Developing
3 - Acceptable
4. Excellent

Course/Classroom Policies and Information

(Student Success: Instructors work closely with the Student Success Manager. To help provide resources to students who may need it most, we will communicate the names of students who have two consecutive absences, low grades, or any other signs that they may be struggling. The Student Success Manager will reach out to these students and help find appropriate resources.

Recording: Students may not record class sessions in any media. If a student desires to record a class session, written permission must be obtained in advance of the recording. Please submit a written request explaining the purpose of recording and the extent of use of the recording. Under no conditions may recordings be duplicated, given, or lent to anyone who has not been granted permission by the instructor.

Textbooks: The selection of textbooks should not be interpreted as implying the instructor's endorsement of any of the views of the authors. Textbooks are selected for their perceived value in helping to meet the course goals and objectives.

Class Attendance

Students are responsible for enrolling in courses for which they (1) anticipate being able to attend every on-campus class session on the day and time appearing on course schedules, or (2) participating in academically related activities as identified in online-course schedules including synchronous class sessions conducted remotely by video, and then making every effort to do so. When unavoidable situations result in absence or tardiness, students are responsible for acquiring any missed information. Professors are not obliged to allow students to make up missed work. Per their independent discretion, individual professors may determine how attendance affects students' ability to meet course learning objectives and whether attendance affects course grades. Professors apprise students of such information in course syllabi.

Students receiving grants, loans, or scholarships must meet specified requirements of various departments at the college and should consult relevant sections of the *Academic Catalog*. To ensure such funds will not be forfeited, students are responsible for contacting the proper departments to ascertain any specific course participation requirements and consequences of not meeting such requirements. Students receiving grants, loans, or scholarships should consult the Financial Aid office.

While Criswell College is a non-attendance taking institution, it nevertheless must demonstrate that students begin their courses in order to comply with Federal Aid regulations. Accordingly, students must participate in academically related activities during census periods. Failure to meet this requirement will result in students being administratively dropped from courses.

Academically related activity is defined as any course-related activity that may be used as evidence of attendance. Examples include:

- physical presence in a classroom during a class session with the instructor present,
- participation in a synchronous remote video class session with the instructor present,
- submission of an academic assignment, quiz, or exam,
- participation in an interactive tutorial or computer-assisted instruction,
- participation in a study group or discussion board that is assigned by the instructor,
- documentation showing that the student and a faculty member corresponded about the academic subject of the course.

NOTE: Logging into a Canvas course alone and logging into a Synchronous Online class session without active participation or with the camera off are not considered attendance.

NOTE: A census period begins on the first day of a semester/term and runs through the end of the last day to drop courses. During the census period, attendance data is collected in order to demonstrate compliance with Federal Aid regulations. There is no census period for winter terms since there is no last day to drop courses.

Campus Closure

To ensure the health and safety of students and employees, college administrators may decide it is necessary on rare occasions to close the campus. Once this decision is announced, instructors will contact students to provide further details regarding the campus closure's impact on those courses. Students are responsible to watch for communication from their instructors and respond appropriately. (Unless otherwise specified by the instructor in this syllabus, this communication will be sent to the student's Criswell College e-mail account.)

In order to make progress toward the courses' objectives, instructors have the freedom during most campus closures to require students to participate in activities as alternatives to meeting on campus. An instructor may, for example, hold class remotely (through Zoom) at the scheduled time, provide a recording of a class or

presentation for students to watch independently, or assign other activities that students are to accomplish before returning to campus. Students are responsible for accomplishing these alternative activities as well as any course requirements listed in this syllabus during the period of the campus closure. If, during the period of the campus closure, personal circumstances prohibit a student from accomplishing these alternative activities or course requirements and assignment listed in the syllabus during the campus closure, the student is responsible for communicating with the instructor as soon as possible. Instructors will not penalize students who do not have the means to accomplish the alternative activities during the period of the campus's closure and will work with students whose circumstances during the campus closure prohibited their timely completion of course requirements and assignments in the syllabus.

Grading Scale

Assigning grade definitions (i.e., above average, average, below average) is optional. Please delete the last column below if not assigning definitions. Additionally, delete these instructions when completing syllabus.

			Grade Definitions (optional)
A	93-100	4.0 grade points per semester hour	
A-	90-92	3.7 grade points per semester hour	
B+	87-89	3.3 grade points per semester hour	
B	83-86	3.0 grade points per semester hour	
B-	80-82	2.7 grade points per semester hour	
C+	77-79	2.3 grade points per semester hour	
C	73-76	2.0 grade points per semester hour	
C-	70-72	1.7 grade points per semester hour	
D+	67-69	1.3 grade points per semester hour	
D	63-66	1.0 grade point per semester hour	
D-	60-62	0.7 grade points per semester hour	
F	0-59	0.0 grade points per semester hour	

Incomplete Grades

Students requesting a grade of Incomplete (I) must understand that incomplete grades may be given only upon approval of the faculty member involved. An "I" may be assigned only when a student is currently passing a course and in situations involving extended illness, serious injury, death in the family, or employment or government reassignment, not student neglect.

Students are responsible for contacting their instructors prior to the end of the semester, plus filing the appropriate completed and approved academic request form with the Registrar's Office. The "I" must be removed (by completing the remaining course requirements) no later than 60 calendar days after the close of the term or semester in which the grade was awarded, or the "I" will become an "F."

Academic Honesty

Absolute truth is an essential belief and basis of behavior for those who believe in a God who cannot lie and forbids falsehood. Academic honesty is the application of the principle of truth in the classroom setting. Academic honesty includes the basic premise that all work submitted by students must be their own and any ideas derived or copied from elsewhere must be carefully documented.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to:

- cheating of any kind,
- submitting, without proper approval, work originally prepared by the student for another course,
- plagiarism, which is the submitting of work prepared by someone else as if it were his own, and
- failing to credit sources properly in written work.

Course Policy on the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Here are some examples of AI-related functions you **may not use** without permission:

1. Text Generation – You may not use AI to generate text for use in any assignment.
2. Outline Generation – You may not use AI to generate an outline for an assignment.
3. Idea Generation – You may not use AI to generate ideas for an assignment.

Here are some AI-related tools you **may use** without permission

1. Spellcheck and grammar – built into Word, Pages, and Google Docs
2. AI re-writing tools – tools that take what you’ve written and help make it clearer, such as what Grammarly offers. However, you **must cite** Grammarly or other sources in your assignment/paper and submit both original draft of paper and the final paper.
3. AI research and summarize – tools that help you find sources to cite, such as the new AI tools built into Logos Bible Software.

Institutional Assessment

Material submitted by students in this course may be used for assessment of the college’s academic programs. Since programmatic and institutional assessment is done without reference to specific students, the results of these assessments have no effect on a student’s course grade or academic standing at the college. Before submitting a student’s work for this type of assessment, the course instructor redacts the work to remove anything that identifies the student.

Institutional Email Policy

All official college email communications to students enrolled in this course will be sent exclusively to students’ institutional email accounts. Students are expected to check their student email accounts regularly and to respond in an appropriate and timely manner to all communications from faculty and administrative departments.

Students are permitted to setup automatic forwarding of emails from their student email accounts to one or more personal email accounts. The student is responsible to setup and maintain email forwarding without assistance from college staff. If a student chooses to use this forwarding option, he/she will continue to be responsible for responding appropriately to all communications from faculty and administrative departments of

the college. Criswell College bears no responsibility for the use of emails that have been forwarded from student email accounts to other email accounts.

Disabilities

Criswell College recognizes and supports the standards set forth in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, and similar state laws, which are designed to eliminate discrimination against qualified individuals with disabilities. Criswell College is committed to making reasonable accommodations for qualifying students, faculty, and employees with disabilities as required by applicable laws. For more information, please contact the Student Services Office.

Intellectual Property Rights

Unless otherwise specifically instructed in writing by the instructor, students must neither materially nor digitally reproduce materials from any course offered by Criswell College for or with the significant possibility of distribution.

Research and Writing Standards

The default writing style for written assignments in Criswell College Courses is the latest edition of *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses and Dissertations* by Kate Turabian. However, instructors are free to require alternative writing styles in their courses. These styles include but are not limited to the American Psychological Association (APA), Chicago Manual of Style, Modern Language Association (MLA), and Society of Biblical Literature (SBL) writing guides.

Resources and Supports

Canvas and SONIS: Criswell College uses Canvas as its web-based learning tool and SONIS for student data. Students needing assistance with Canvas should contact the Canvas Help Support line at (844) 358-6140. Tech support is available at this number, twenty-four hours a day. Students needing help with SONIS should contact the Campus Software Manager at studenttechsupport@criswell.edu.

Student Services: The Student Services Office exists to foster and encourage success in all areas of life—physical, intellectual, spiritual, social, and emotional. Students are encouraged to reach out for assistance by contacting the office at 214.818.1332 or studentservices@criswell.edu. The Student Services Office also works with local counseling centers to ensure that every student has access to helpful mental health resources. More information is located on the college website at [Criswell College Mental Health Resources](#), and students may contact the Director of Student Services if they have any questions.

Wallace Library: Students can access academic resources and obtain research assistance by contacting or visiting the Wallace Library, which is located on campus. For more information, email the Wallace Library at library@criswell.edu. Login credentials are emailed to students near the beginning of the semester.

Tutoring Center: Students are encouraged to consult with tutors to improve and enhance their skills and confidence. Tutors have been recommended by the faculty to ensure that the tutor(s) are qualified to serve the student body. Every tutor brings experience and expertise in an effort to provide the proper resources for the

subject matter at hand. To consult with a tutor, students can schedule an appointment through Calendly (<https://calendly.com/criswell-tutoringcenter>) or by visiting the Tutoring Center located on the second floor in room E203. For questions, call 214.818.1373 or email at tutoringcenter@criswell.edu.

Course Outline/Calendar

Course Outline, Reading Assignments and Due Dates:

- WEEK 1 (01/21/25) Introduction to the Course and Syllabus
1. Read Acts: Chapters 1-2
 2. Read Acts Commentary by Bock: Introduction and Chapters 1-2
 3. Read Master Plan of Evangelism: Introduction and Chapter 1
 4. Read Master Plan of Discipleship: Introduction and Chapter 1
 5. Work on Assignments in Evangelism Journal.
 6. Upload Title Page Research Paper in Canvas (Due: 01/21/25 @11:59pm)
 7. Upload Initial Definition of Evangelism in Canvas (Due 01/21/25 @11:59pm)
- WEEK 2 (01/28/25) Lecture One: Definition of Evangelism
1. Read Acts: Chapters 3-4
 2. Read Acts Commentary by Bock: Chapters 3-4
 3. Read Master Plan of Evangelism: Chapter 2
 4. Read Master Plan of Discipleship: Chapter 2
 5. Work on Assignments in Evangelism Journal.
 6. Upload Personal Testimony (Due 01/28/25 @ 11:59pm)
- WEEK 3 (02/04/25) Lecture Two: The Importance of Listening in Gospel Conversations
1. Read Acts: Chapters 5-6
 2. Read Acts Commentary by Bock: Chapters 5-6
 3. Read Master Plan of Evangelism: Chapter 3
 4. Read Master Plan of Discipleship: Chapter 3
 5. Work on Assignments in Evangelism Journal.
- WEEK 4 (02/11/25) Lecture Three: Five Styles of Communication
1. Read Acts: Chapters 7-8
 2. Read Acts Commentary by Bock: Chapters 7-8
 3. Read Master Plan of Evangelism: Chapter 4
 4. Read Master Plan of Discipleship: Chapter 4
 5. Work on Assignments in Evangelism Journal.
 6. Upload Bibliography for Research Paper (Due 02/11/25 @11:59pm)
- WEEK 5 (02/18/25) Lecture Four: Evangelism Approaches
1. Read Acts: Chapters: 9-10
 2. Read Acts Commentary by Bock: Chapters 9-10
 3. Read Master Plan of Evangelism: Chapter 5
 4. Read Master Plan of Discipleship: Chapter 5
 5. Work on Assignments in Evangelism Journal.

- WEEK 6 (02/25/25) Lecture Five: Prayer in Acts
1. Read Acts; Chapters 11-12
 2. Read Acts Commentary by Bock: Chapters 11-12
 3. Read Master Plan of Evangelism: Chapter 6
 4. Read Master Plan of Discipleship: Chapter 6 and Afterword
 5. Work on Assignments in Evangelism Journal.
 6. Upload Reading Report: Master Plan of Discipleship (Due 02/25/25 @11:59pm)
 7. Upload Outline of Research Paper (Due 02/25/25 @11:59pm)
- WEEK 7 (03/04/25) Lecture Six: Linking Prayer and Personal Evangelism
1. Read Acts: Chapters 13-14
 2. Read Acts Commentary by Bock: Chapters 13-14
 3. Read Master Plan of Evangelism: Chapter 7
 4. Work on Assignments in Evangelism Journal.
- WEEK 8 (03/011/25) Lecture Seven: Mission of God, Christian Mission, Mission of the Early Church and Great Commission
1. Read Acts: Chapters 15-16
 2. Read Acts Commentary by Bock: Chapters 15-16
 3. Read Master Plan of Evangelism: Chapter 8 and Epilogue
 4. Work on Assignments in Evangelism Journal.
 5. Upload Reading Report: Master Plan of Evangelism (Due 03/11/25 @ 11:59pm)
 6. Upload Mid-Semester Definition of Evangelism (Due 03/11/25 @11:59pm)
- 03/17-21/25) NO CLASS: SPRING BREAK
- Week 09 (03/25/25) Lecture Eight: Mission in Luke/Acts (Part One)
1. Read Acts: Chapters 17-18
 2. Read Acts Commentary by Bock: Chapters 17-18
 3. Work on Assignments in Evangelism Journal.
- Week 10 (04/01/25) Lecture Nine: Mission in Luke/Acts (Part Two)
1. Read Acts: Chapters 19-20
 2. Read Acts Commentary by Bock: Chapters 19-20
 3. Work on Assignments in Evangelism Journal.
- Week 11 (04/08/25) Lecture Ten: The Holy Spirit in Acts
1. Read Acts: Chapters 21-22
 2. Read Acts Commentary by Bock: Chapters 21-22
 3. Work on Assignments in Evangelism Journal.
 4. Upload Book Review: The Gospel of Our King (Due: 04/08/25 @ 11:59pm)
- Week 12 (04/15/25) Lecture Eleven: Witnesses in Acts
1. Read Acts: Chapters 23-24
 2. Read Acts Commentary by Bock: Chapters 23-24
 3. Work on Assignments in Evangelism Journal.
- Week 13 (04/22/25) Lecture Twelve: Witnessing Encounters (Part One)

1. Read Acts: Chapters 25-26
2. Read Acts Commentary by Bock: Chapters 25-26
3. Work on Assignments in Evangelism Journal.

Note: Graduating Seniors:

(1) Upload Evangelism Journal and (Due 04/22/25 @ 11:59pm)

(2) Upload Final Definition of Evangelism (Due 04/22/25 @11:59pm)

(3) Upload Research Paper: (Due 04/22/25 @11:59pm)

Note: Upload Title Page, Outline, Body of Paper and Bibliography all in one document.

Week 14 (04/29/25) Lecture Thirteen: Witnessing Encounters (Part Two)
1. Work on Evangelism Journal

Week 15 (05/06/25) Lecture Fourteen: Evangelism Analysis (SWOT) and Universal Questions To Assess Your Evangelism Methodology
1. Read Acts: Chapters 27-28
2. Read Acts Commentary by Bock: Chapters 27-28
3. Upload Evangelism Journal (Due 05/06/25 @11:59pm)
4. Upload Final Definition of Evangelism (Due 05/06/25 @11:59pm)

Week 16 (05/13/25) Research Paper
1. Upload Research Paper (Due 05/13/25 @ 11:59pm.
(Note: Upload Title Page, Outline, Body of Paper and Bibliography all in one document.)