

**Introduction to Evangelism 06PT5200 (Summer, 2024)**  
**Revised 02/10/24**

Instructor:

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Class Schedule:

Monday, June 10, 2024 through Thursday, June 13, 2024 – 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Additional Class Time Requirements: Have 6 evangelistic conversations with 6 individual non-Christians before August 1, 2024. (see details below)

I. Purpose of the Course

As per RTS catalog:

This course is designed to give you an introductory overview of the ministry of evangelism. The emphasis will be on helping you develop a more biblical and theological understanding of evangelism and equipping you to be more effective in your personal evangelism and in your ministry leadership roles as an equipper and facilitator of evangelistic ministries.

In addition to what the catalog says, I add:

This course is designed to help you think biblically about the gospel, what it is and what it is not. It also aims to help you wrestle with how to proclaim it in ways that remain faithful to the scriptures while being appropriate for your ministry setting. The course also seeks to develop skills in evangelism and in training members of the church to do the work of evangelists.

II. Course Objectives

- A. To develop biblical thinking about evangelism.
- B. To grow in practical skills of evangelism.
- C. To begin to develop a philosophy of ministry for training the church in evangelism.

### III. Course Format

The course involves:

- 1) pre-course reading (Packer and Newman *Mere Evangelism*) and writing response reports
- 2) classroom sessions of lectures and discussion
- 3) post-class reading (Keller and Newman *Unlikely Converts*) and writing response reports
- 4) post-class evangelistic conversations and writing an evangelism journal report

**Because the class involves discussion and processing of theology, missiology, ecclesiology, and complex issues, no electronic devices will be allowed in class (computers, phones, iPads, iAnything). Since evangelism involves conversation of the deepest kind, development of skills in this area will begin in class by avoiding technological distractions like email, Facebook, ESPN, etc. And, yes, I know this is unusual and, perhaps, a sign of the professor's mental illness.**

Because the class time is so concentrated and limited, attendance (and promptness) of all class sessions is required.

### IV. Course Texts

Keller, Timothy, *Center Church: Doing Balanced, Gospel-Centered Ministry in Your City* (Zondervan, 2012)

Newman, Randy, *Mere Evangelism: 10 Insights from C. S. Lewis to Help You Share Your Faith*  
(The Good Book Company, 2021)

Newman, Randy, *Unlikely Converts: Improbable Stories of Faith and What They Teach Us About Evangelism*  
(Kregel, 2019)

Packer, J. I., *Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God*  
(IVP Books, 2012)

## V. Course Requirements

### A. Pre-Class Assignments

1. Read all of Packer and write a 1000 word response paper addressing: Your evaluation (not a summary) of the book's argument, strength of support from scripture, other strengths and weaknesses, and relevance for your anticipated sphere of ministry. Be sure to include a statement that you did indeed read the entire book. Due 9:00 am June 11, 2024.
2. Read all of *Mere Evangelism* and write a 1000 word response paper addressing: Your evaluation (not a summary) of the book's argument, strength of support from scripture, other strengths and weaknesses, and relevance for your anticipated sphere of ministry. Be sure to include a statement that you did indeed read all the book. Due 9:00 am June 12, 2024.

### B. Post-Class Assignments

1. Read pages 13 – 132 and 181 - 289 of Keller and write a 1500 – 2000 word paper listing 5 significant lessons you learned as a result of your reading. For each lesson, only a small part (less than 20%) should be a summary of Keller's thoughts. The majority of what you write for each lesson should be what was new or challenging for you, how it compared to previous thinking on the topic, how it might shape your future ministry, and any other aspects of the impact of that part of the book. Be sure to include a statement that you did indeed read all required pages. Due 9:00 am, August 1, 2024.

2. Read all of *Unlikely Converts* and write a 1000 word response paper addressing: Lessons you hope to apply in your evangelism efforts in the future. Be sure to include a statement that you did indeed read all the book. Due 9:00 am, August 1, 2024.

3. Have 6 individual conversations with 6 non-Christians outside of class. For at least three of the people you meet, you must articulate the gospel message (Jesus died to pay for sins and people need to respond in faith in order for them to be saved.) For the other three, your conversations can be pre-evangelistic.

4. Write a journal entry of 250 – 300 words for each conversation evaluating your experience. Record the date, time, place, and first name of the person you met. Label each conversation as either evangelistic or pre-evangelistic. Briefly report what was discussed and how they responded. You must also include a 1000 word evaluation of your skill in presenting the gospel and what you need to improve upon for future evangelistic opportunities. Due 9:00 am, August 1, 2024.

5. Submit a reading report indicating what percentage of the assigned pages you read on time, what percentage you read late, and what percentage you did not read at all. The easiest math comes from reading 100% on time! Due 9:00 am, August 1, 2024.

## VI. Grading

Grades will be assigned according to the RTS grading system:

100-97=A  
96-94=A-  
93-91=B+  
90-88=B  
87-86=B-  
85-83=C+  
82-80=C  
79-78=C-  
77-75=D+  
74-72=D  
71-70=D-  
below 70=F

Report of Reading:	20%
Packer Paper:	10%
Newman Papers:	20%
Keller Paper:	10%
Evangelism Journal:	40%

Note: The following audio recordings may be of particular help in the future:

- a. Collin Hansen and Sam Chan, "Evangelism in a Skeptical Age":  
<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/podcasts/tgc-podcast/evangelism-skeptical-age/>
- b. Rosaria Butterfield, "How to Be Hospitable in a Post-Christian Age":  
<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/podcasts/tgc-podcast/hospitable-post-christian-world/>
- c. Rico Tice and Becky Pippert, "Equipping God's People for Evangelism":  
<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/podcasts/tgc-podcast/equipping-gods-people-for-evangelism/>
- d. Tim Keller, "What can Christianity offer our society in the 21<sup>st</sup> century?":  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AkcouxJE6o4>
- e. Tim Keller, "Public Faith": <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dzkspSXg2tM>
- f. The "How to Win the West Again" podcast

### Course Objectives Related to MDiv\* Student Learning Outcomes

Course: Evangelism

Professor: Dr. Randy Newman

Campus: Washington DC

Date: Spring 2021

<b><u>MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes</u></b> <i>In order to measure the success of the MDiv curriculum, RTS has defined the following as the intended outcomes of the student learning process. Each course contributes to these overall outcomes. This rubric shows the contribution of this course to the MDiv outcomes.</i> <i>*As the MDiv is the core degree at RTS, the MDiv rubric will be used in this syllabus.</i>		<b><u>Rubric</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strong</li> <li>• Moderate</li> <li>• Minimal</li> <li>• None</li> </ul>	<b><u>Mini-Justification</u></b>
<b>Articulation (oral &amp; written)</b>	Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks. Also includes ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.	Strong	The final project will hone the skills of articulating the gospel in a variety of settings
<b>Scripture</b>	Significant knowledge of the original meaning of Scripture. Also, the concepts for and skill to research further into the original meaning of Scripture and to apply Scripture to a variety of modern circumstances. (Includes appropriate use of original languages and hermeneutics; and integrates theological, historical, and cultural/global perspectives.)	Strong	Lectures, reading, and writing will focus heavily on what the Scriptures teach and emphasize about evangelism.
<b>Reformed Theology</b>	Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.	Minimal	Lectures will explore the intersections of Reformed theology and the practice of evangelism.
<b>Sanctification</b>	Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student's sanctification.	Moderate	Lectures and reading delve into ways the gospel transforms the evangelist.
<b>Worldview</b>	Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God. Includes ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.	Strong	Lectures and reading have numerous examples of ways the gospel contrasts to other worldviews.
<b>Winsomely Reformed</b>	Embraces a winsomely Reformed ethos. (Includes an appropriate ecumenical spirit with other Christians, especially Evangelicals; a concern to present the Gospel in a God-honoring manner to non-Christians; and a truth-in-love attitude in disagreements.)	Minimal	Readings consider ways Reformed theology informs the practice of outreach.
<b>Pastoral Ministry</b>	Ability to minister the Word of God to hearts and lives of both church and unchurched, to include preaching, teaching, leading in worship, leading and shepherding the local congregation, aiding in spiritual maturity, concern for non-Christians.	Moderate	Lectures emphasize ways to equip the church for the work of evangelism.