

**Fall Term 2024**

**A New and Ancient Evangelism**

**(Practical Theology 330 – Huron University’s Licentiate in Theology)**

**Niagara School for Missional Leadership Land Acknowledgement**

The diocese of Niagara is part of the territory of the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee and Metis peoples. The Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and the Six Nations of the Grand River also have longstanding relationships with this territory. Because students will gather from across the country virtually, we are aware that we will be spread across the territories of other Nations governed by other treaties. We ask that students are knowledgeable of the territory and traditional name of where they are situated. We are grateful to the Indigenous peoples of Turtle Island who have cared for these lands through countless generations. We hold our hands up to them when we witness their resistance, resilience, and strength in the face of ongoing dispossession and colonial violence. We stand in solidarity with murdered and missing Indigenous women, girls, Transgender and Two-Spirit people. To acknowledge these lands is to take one step in demonstrating our commitment to the process of dismantling the ongoing legacies of settler colonialism. May we bring this same commitment to reconciliation and truth-seeking to each of the NSML courses offered.

**Course Dates:** From September 18 to November 6, 2024

**Time:** Wednesdays from 7:00pm – 9:00pm

**Delivery:** Hosted via Zoom **Instructor:** The Rev. Dr. Judy Paulsen, BA (Western), MSc (McGill), MDiv (Wycliffe-Toronto), DMin (Fuller)  **Contact:** judy.paulsen@wycliffe.utoronto.ca **Phone:** 416-946-3534

**Course Description**

This course will introduce students to the ancient tradition of the church’s evangelism, rooted in the conversion stories of the Bible. We’ll explore together how God uses ordinary people of faith within their everyday spheres of influence to draw people to himself. Finally, this course will help students to share the good news in their own contexts, and in a way that is authentic, respectful, and ideally suited to the cultural dynamics of today’s world.

**Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes**

* **Knowing** – Students will become familiar with eight biblical conversion stories and the lessons they offer us about a Spirit-led, Christ-centered, and authentically relational sharing of the Christian faith.
* **Being** – Students will grow in confidence that God is reconciling the world to himself and that, just as they are, they can join in that life-giving mission.
* **Doing** – Students will strengthen their ability to clearly share both their own journey of faith and the good news that is found in and through Jesus Christ.

**Required Text (s)**

* All readings will be taken from *A New and Ancient Evangelism: Rediscovering the Ways God Calls and Sends*, by Judith Paulsen, (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2024). To be released on June 25th, 2024, this book can be ordered through local bookstores like Indigo, or on-line through Amazon Canada.

**Course Outline/Plan**

* Week 1: the conversion of someone who had never seen
* Week 2: the conversion of a seeker cut off from God
* Week 3: the conversion of friends and family
* Week 4: the conversion of a God-fearing outsider
* Week 5: the conversion of a desperate general
* Week 6: the conversion of a prison warden
* Week 7: the conversion of a child prophet
* Week 8: the conversion of a religious extremist

**The Format of the Course**

* Fully online course delivered over Zoom.
* Classes will be synchronous, but they will be recorded, so students can watch the material again or catch up if they miss a class.
* **Wednesday September 18th to Wednesday November 6th, 2024**.
* 7 pm to 9 pm
* Student evaluation/completion of course.

**Method of Evaluation and Criteria for Grading**

1. Student Participation – 15%
2. Weekly discussion and interactions, in response to the readings, posted by 5 pm on Wednesdays throughout the course. – 15%
3. Composing a short, written account of your journey to faith and sharing this with one other student – 30%
4. Engaging with an unchurched or de-churched person in three conversations, as part of the *Gospel Conversations Experiment,* and then reflecting on these conversations in community – 40%
5. Students should be able to complete the above assignments (and the required readings) in approximately two hours per week.

Further details for each assignment and expectations in regards to each assignment will be presented in class.

**Huron Grade Descriptors**

As a course that has been approved by Huron University’s Faculty of Theology for credit within their Licentiate in Theology Program, the following course descriptors provide feedback in the student’s evaluative experience.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  A+   |  90-100    |  One could scarcely expect better from a student at this level |
|  A |  80-89   |  Superior work which is clearly above average |
|  B |  70-79 |  Good work, meeting all requirements, and eminently satisfactory |
|  C |  60-69 |  Competent work, meeting requirements |
|  D   |  50-59 |  Fair work, minimally acceptable |
|  F | below 50 |  Fail |

**Student Code of Conduct**

Members of the community of the Niagara School for Missional Leadership are mandated to uphold the diocesan Safe Church Policy that is deeply committed to ensuring our spaces are safe for all who interact with our ministries. ​​We seek to nurture a community of faith where people respect one another and share the gifts that God has given to them and to others. Respecting the rights, responsibilities, dignity and well-being of others fosters healthy, and meaningful learning environments. The Niagara School for Missional Leadership’s mission is to be a Gospel-focused learning community, that equips parishes and individuals to respond missionally to the needs of God’s world. By doing so, all students, teacher-practitioners, staff, and community members are expected to behave in a manner that supports the Diocesan Safe Church Policy creating a space that is safe and holy for all. ​​

**Statement on the Recording of Class Activities**

Students may not record or distribute any class activity, including conversations outside class hours without written permission from the teacher-practitioner or guest speaker, accept as necessary as part of approved accommodations for students with disabilities. Any approved recordings may only be used for the student’s own private use.

The Niagara School for Missional Leadership records all virtual classes for student engagement purposes. These recordings are only used by the registered students and will be made available upon request. These recordings are saved to a restricted video hosting site to respect both privacy and intellectual property. Should a student be uncomfortable with this practice, they can contact the teacher-practitioner or NSML Coordinator, Sarah Bird, at registrar@nsml.ca

**Support Services**

For course, pathways, or further assistance please contact Sarah Bird, the Niagara School for Missional Leadership Coordinator, at registrar@nsml.ca



THIS COURSE HAS BEEN [NOT YET BEEN] APPROVED BY HURON’S FACULTY OF THEOLOGY COMMITTEE

FOR THE FALL TERM OF THE LTH PROGRAM, 2024.