Syllabus for *Biblical Disciple-Making 1: PM 312 – Fall 2015*

A course offered at the Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary

Mr. Jacob Gucker, M.Div, M.L.S., Librarian
Seminary email: jacob.gucker@bmats.edu
Seminary phone number: 903-586-2501, ext. 226
Cell phone number: 903-284-1192

**Course Description:**

According to the BMATS catalog (2014-15), the description of this course is as follows: “A careful study is made of the biblical and philosophical bases for disciple-making. Using the DiscipleWay model, attention is given to spiritual disciplines such as Bible study, prayer, and worship for the purposes of personal spiritual formation and disciple-making.” During this course, the students will not only be discipled in the areas of Bible study, prayer, and worship, but they will be trained to help lead others in the same disciplines.

**Course Textbooks:**


- Three separate booklets: *DiscipleWay Bible Study, DiscipleWay Prayer, DiscipleWay Worship* (must be purchased at the seminary)


**Course Objectives:**

*By the end of the semester, the student should...*

- come to an understanding of the importance of spiritual growth, experience personal spiritual growth, and comprehend the biblical background for the concept of helping-others grow in Christian discipleship.

- begin to understand a process of making disciples that is reproducible.

- perform an inductive Bible study with any passage of Scripture using the inductive method taught in DiscipleWay.
• comprehend the nature of prayer and how to pray through a passage as one studies Scripture.

• understand more fully how to achieve the greatest benefit from worship experiences by taking on the correct attitudes as one enters into worship.

Course Requirements:

1. The student should complete the lessons in the booklets dealing with Bible study, Prayer, and Worship as those lessons are discussed each week throughout the semester.

2. The student should complete all the reading from the textbooks according to the course schedule.

3. The student will write a 2-3 page, double-spaced, critical review of the lecture series, “Reading the Bible for all it’s Worth” by Dr. Robert Rayburn. The lecture is a four-part series available as separate .mp3 files or as a readable manuscript.

Specific Instructions: Listen to the four lectures. Write a 2-3 page double-spaced paper in which you: 1.) Name and describe the principle of Biblical interpretation that Dr. Rayburn is presenting throughout the lectures 2.) Give two scriptural examples given by Rayburn in the lectures to which this principle can be applied. 3.) Give one example not mentioned in the lectures of a teaching from the Bible to which the principle could be applied with relevant scripture passages. 4.) Evaluate Dr. Rayburn’s principle of interpretation. What do you think about it? Does it seem correct, or is it critically flawed? Does it help you understand the Bible better? What did you learn from the lectures, if anything?

The lecture series can be found at the following web address:

http://www.gspcpca.org/series-info/?series=reading-the-bible-for-all-its-worth

You may write your review on a manuscript version of the lectures by accessing them at the following web address. Please note in your paper which version you will be reviewing.

http://sermons.faithtacoma.org/Scripture/Reading.htm

4. The student will write a 3-5 page, double-spaced, reflection paper regarding discipleship. Three questions need to be answered in this reflection paper:
   1) What has been your experience with discipleship in the past?
   2) What is your understanding of true biblical discipleship?
   3) How effective is your church in making disciples, and how could your church improve in the area of disciple making?
Late Work:

All assignments must be turned in according to the dates on the class schedule. Any work turned in late will be deducted 2 percentage points for every day it is late.

Course Examinations:

The student will be required to take a mid-semester test and final exam. The final is not cumulative and will cover only the material during the latter half of the course. Exams must be taken on the day they are scheduled unless arrangements are made in advance under extenuating circumstances.

Course Grading:

The student may work toward 1,000 points for this course. The percentage points will not be rounded up. For example, if they student earns 907 points for the course, the percentage will be 90.7%, which is a “B.” The student must earn both the next grade and percentage level. The point values and percentages break down as follows:

- Mid-Semester Test 150 pts. (15%)
- Final exam 150 pts. (15%)
- Workbook exercises 300 pts. (30%)
- Reflection Paper 150 pts. (15%)
- Lecture Review 100 pts. (10%)
- Reading 100 pts. (10%)
- Class Attendance & Participation 50 pts. (5%)

Class Attendance & Participation:

Students are expected to be in class for each class session. Missing class will result in a reduction of one’s overall class attendance and participation grade regardless of the reason (5 point reduction per miss). Missing more than ¼ of class sessions (4 or more classes), except for extenuating circumstances, can place the student at risk of failing the course. Three tardies is equal to one absence, so be on time!

BMATS Grading Scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>91-100%</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>below 61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>81-90%</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>Incomplete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>71-80%</td>
<td>WP</td>
<td>Withdrawal while passing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>61-70%</td>
<td>WF</td>
<td>Withdrawal while failing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA):

Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary supports the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students with physical or learning disabilities desiring additional assistance must consult with the Dean’s office prior to enrollment or as early as possible after the disability is diagnosed. Procedures for assisting students will require a physician’s written verification of the disability and probable benefit(s) of specific assistance for student learning, a student’s specific written request(s) for assistance from the seminary, and the informing of the seminary faculty. Reasonable accommodations will be given in accordance with the federal and state laws though the Dean’s Office. Contact the Dean’s Office in the main administration building in person or:

- by mail: Post Office Box 670 (1530 East Pine Street) Jacksonville, TX 75766-5407
- by phone: 800/259-5673
- by email: bmatsem@bmats.edu

Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary is dedicated to helping all students we serve to achieve her or his Christian, educational, and life goals.

**Tentative Schedule**

Weekly lessons will focus on those highlighted with bold print. Other lessons (not in bold) will receive an overview during the class period. Students should complete the bolded and assigned lessons. Students should read the text and comments for the lessons not in bold. For example, complete the Bible study for lesson 2.4 and read the text and lesson only for 2.5.

Sept 1: Introduction and Overview

Sept 8: Bible 1.1

Sept 15: Bible 1.2

Sept 22: Bible 1.3, 1.4, 1.5
DUE: Following the Model of Christ Reading slip.

Sept 29: Bible 1.6 and 1.7

Oct 6: Prayer 2.1 and 2.2
DUE: Critical Review of Rayburn Lectures: “Reading the Bible for all it’s worth.”
With Reading Slips for listening to Rayburn Lectures.

Oct 13: Prayer 2.3
Oct 20: Prayer 2.4 and 2.5

Oct 27: Mid-Term Exam

Nov 3: Prayer 2.6 and 2.7

Nov 10: Worship 3.1

Nov 17: Worship 3.2 and 3.3

Nov 24: Worship 3.4 and 3.5

Dec 1: Worship 3.6 and 3.7
DUE: Reflection Paper and Eims reading slip.

Dec 8: Final Exam
Course Syllabus Contract

I have carefully read through the syllabus for this course. I fully comprehend what is expected of me as a student in this course.

If I am late for any assignments, I understand that they will be deducted 2 percentage points for every day they are late.

I understand that the tests must be taken on the dates they are scheduled unless arrangements are made prior to testing time under extenuating circumstances.

I understand the 1,000 point grading scale for this course, and further understand that percentage points will not be rounded up.

I understand that attending class is vital to my seminary education, and that missing class will result in 5 points deducted from my class attendance and participation grade for each class missed. I further understand that three tardies is equal to one absence according to the BMATS catalog.

By affixing my signature below, I fully comply with the procedures for this course:

Printed Name ____________________________

Date ___________  Signature ____________________________

- The instructor reserves the right to make any changes to this course syllabus at his discretion.
- This class will meet on Tuesdays from 2-5 PM. The first day of class will meet in the Grimsley Building. A regular meeting location will be assigned.