

**Assemblies of God Theological Seminary
VALLEY FORGE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE BRANCH CAMPUS
1401 Charlestown Road
Phoenixville, Pennsylvania 19460**

MCSB/PTHB 529 FOUNDATIONS OF CROSS-CULTURAL MINISTRY

R. Paul Wood, D.Min.

September 17 – 21, 2001

COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This interdisciplinary course is designed to prepare the student for effective ministry in the complexities of cross-cultural and sub cultural settings. Foundational issues related to applied missions anthropology, intercultural communication, and contextualization will be addressed.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this study of the interrelated disciplines of applied missionary anthropology, intercultural communications, and contextualization, the student will be able to

1. Demonstrate an understanding of significant terminology used in the three disciplines.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the essential concepts of cultural anthropology, cross-cultural communication, and contextualization.
3. Identify and discuss the components of culture and various worldviews.
4. Explain the importance of anthropology to the mission of the Church.
5. Recognize his/her cultural presuppositions and values and their impact on the effective cross-cultural communication of the Gospel.
6. Recognize the various ways in which one communicates, both verbally and non-verbally.
7. Understand and utilize effective communication theory in a cross-cultural exchange.
8. Recognize and formulate appropriate and effective applications of contextualization in a variety of areas and settings.

TEXTBOOKS

Dyrness, William A. Invitation to Cross-Cultural Theology: Case Studies in Vernacular Theologies. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House, 1992.

Grunlan, Stephen A. and Marvin K. Mayers. Cultural Anthropology: A Christian Perspective, 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1988.

Kraft, Charles H. Communication Theory for Christian Witness, revised ed. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1994.

METHODOLOGY

The teaching-learning approach will blend pedagogical and andragogical principles. Methodologies will include lectures, class discussion and dialogue, small group interaction, dynamic team learning, video presentation(s), collateral reading, applied research, and a final examination.

COURSE OUTLINE

- I. INTRODUCTION
- II. CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY
 - A. The Language of Cultural Anthropology
 - B. The Discipline of Cultural Anthropology
 - C. The Principles of Cultural Anthropology
 - D. The Application of Cultural Anthropology
- III. INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION
 - A. The Language of Intercultural Communication
 - B. The Discipline of Intercultural Communication
 - C. The Principles of Intercultural Communication
 - D. The Utilization of Intercultural Communication
- IV. CONTEXTUALIZATION
 - A. The Language of Contextualization
 - B. The Discipline of Contextualization
 - C. The Principles of Contextualization
 - D. The Utilization of Contextualization
- V. SUMMARY CONCERNS

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. CLASSROOM PARTICIPATION: Attendance, punctuality, and preparation are expected. The course grade will be lowered if absences exceed 10% of the total class time.
2. TEXTBOOKS: Read and study the textbooks carefully. Be prepared to demonstrate a thorough knowledge of the material in the class discussions, in the assignments, and on the final examination.
3. COLLATERAL READING: Read an additional 500 pages from 3 or 4 different sources (including pertinent journal articles). Only reading done specifically for this course may be reported. Complete a collateral reading report of not more than 2 pages (double-spaced) for each source. Each report should include the following:

- Student's name
- Citation of reference (bibliographical entry)
- The total pages read from this source
- At least three major contributions to learning made by the author
- The student's response to each of the identified contributions

4. **ORAL PRESENTATION:** Each student will give a 15-minute overview of one of the chapters in the William Dyrness text. Collateral material may be utilized. He/she will then lead the class in a 10-minute discussion of the topic. (Chapter assignments will be made the first day of class. If two or more students are assigned to a single chapter, they will share the presentation responsibilities.)
5. **RESEARCH PAPER:** A 12 - 15 page research paper on a topic of interest related to the student's present or anticipated ministry. The paper may relate to one or all three of the intercultural ministry disciplines. Kate L. Turabian Sixth Edition format is required.
6. **FINAL EXAMINATION:** A take-home final examination will be given. (Students may use notes, textbooks, or related sources in answering this evaluative instrument.) The professor must receive the examination **by or before October 8, 2001**. Examinations received after the due date will be penalized by 4 points per day.

DUE DATES FOR COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

ASSIGNMENT	DUE DATE
Final Examination	Monday – October 8, 2001
Collateral Reading Report	Monday - November 5, 2001
Research Paper	Monday - December 3, 2001

GRADING PROCEDURE

ASSIGNMENT	PERCENTAGE OF THE FINAL GRADE
Collateral Reading	15%
Participation & Oral Presentation	15%
Final Examination	35%
Research Paper	35%

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Anthropology

Benedict, R. Patterns of Culture. Boston: Houghton, 1934.

- Foster, George M. Traditional Societies and Technological Change. 2nd ed. New York: Harper & Row, 1973.
- Fox, R. Kinship and Marriage: An Anthropological Perspective. New York: Penguin, 1967.
- Harris, M. The Rise of Anthropological Theory. New York: Ty Crowell, 1968.
- Hiebert, Paul. Cultural Anthropology. 2d ed. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1983.
- _____. Anthropological Insights for Missionaries. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1987.
- _____, ed. Anthropological Reflections on Missiological Issues. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1994.
- Hiebert, Paul, Daniel Shaw, and Tite Tienou, eds. Understanding Folk Religion: A Christian Response to Popular Beliefs and Practices. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1999.
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- Lingenfelter, Sherwood G., and Marvin K. Mayers. Ministering Cross-Culturally: An Incarnational Model for Personal Relationships. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1986.

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- Smalley, W. A. Readings in Missionary Anthropology. Tarrytown, NY: Practical Anthropology, 1967.
- Wallace, Anthony F. C. Religion: An Anthropological View. New York: Random House, 1966.

Communications

- Dodd, Carley H. Dynamics of Intercultural Communication. 5th ed. Boston: McGraw Hill, 1998.
- Elmer, Duane. Cross-Cultural Conflict: Building Relationships for Effective Ministry. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1993.
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- Hall, Edward T. The Silent Language. Garden City, NY: Doubleday & Co., 1959.
- _____. The Hidden Dimension. Garden City, NY: Doubleday & Co., 1966.
- Hesselgrave, David. Communicating Christ Cross-Culturally: An Introduction to Missionary Communication. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1991.
- Kraft, Charles H. "God's Model For Cross-Cultural Communication --- The Incarnation." Evangelical Missions Quarterly 9 (summer 1973a): 205-16.
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- Nida, Eugene A. Message and Mission: The Communication of the Christian Faith. revised. Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 1990.
- Richardson, Don. "Finding the Freeway Into the Heart." Evangelical Missions Quarterly 15, no. 2 (April 1979): 89-96.
- Rogers, Everett M. and Steinfatt, Thomas M. Intercultural Communication. Prospect Heights, IL: Waveland Press, Inc., 1999.
- Smith, Donald K. Make Haste Slowly: Developing Effective Cross-Cultural Communication. Portland, OR: Institute for International Christian Communication, 1984.

Contextualization

- Bevans, Stephen. "Models of Contextual Theology." Missiology: An International Review 13, no. 2 (April 1985): 185-202.
- Conn, Harvie M. "Contextualization: Where Do We Begin?" In Evangelicals and Liberation, edited by Carl E. Armerding, 90-119. Phillipsburg, NJ: Presbyterian and Reformed Publishing Company, 1977.
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SPECIFIC DATA

Prepared by R. Paul Wood, D.Min.

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