

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
Continuing Education Course
Central Bible College
3000 North Grant
Springfield, MO 65803

**MHTM 639 Sp. St.: ROMAN CATHOLICISM &
ORTHODOXY IN EUROPEAN MISSIONS**
July 22-26, 2002

COURSE SYLLABUS
(2 Credits)

Gary B. McGee

Summer 2002

COURSE DESCRIPTION

An examination of how the history, theology, organization, and practices of the Roman Catholic Church and the Eastern Orthodox Church affects evangelism and missions in Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

At the end of the course, each student should be able:

1. To trace the historical, structural, and theological developments of the Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox Churches.
2. To discuss the impact of these churches on the cultures and the challenges this presents to missionaries.
3. To explain theological lines of agreement and disagreement.
4. To analyze the significance of recent events that have bearing on effective mission work.

TEXTBOOKS

Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2d ed. Huntington, IN: Our Sunday Visitor, 2000.

Clendenin, Daniel B. Eastern Orthodox Christianity: A Western Perspective. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1994.

Flannery, Austin, ed. Vatican Council II: Vol. 1: The Conciliar and Post Conciliar Documents. Northport, NY: Costello Publishing Co., 1996.

McGonigle, Thomas D., and James F. Quigley. A History of the Christian Tradition: From the Reformation to the Present. Mahwah, NJ: Paulist Press, 1996.

MHTM 639 Sp.St. Roman Catholicism Orthodoxy in European Missions

Gary McGee

Page 2

RECOMMENDED:

Colson, Charles, and Richard John Neuhaus. Evangelicals & Catholics Together: Toward a Common Mission. Dallas: Word Publishing, 1995.

Fournier, Keith A. Evangelical Catholics. Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1990.

Geisler, Normal L., and Ralph E. MacKenzie. Roman Catholics and Evangelicals: Agreements and Differences. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1995.

Martin, Ralph, and Peter Williamson, eds. John Paul II and the New Evangelization. San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 1995.

Ware, Kallistos. The Orthodox Way. Crestwood, NY: St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, 1986.

COURSE OUTLINE AND READING SCHEDULE

Note: If a student has the time and would like to prepare ahead for the class, I suggest reading the books by Clendenin and McGonigle.

July 22 Introduction to the course

Latin and Greek Christian traditions compared
Historical framework & church councils
“Canonical territories”

July 23 Orthodox history

“Uniate” churches and tensions
Orthodox theology
Films
Reading: Clendenin (esp. chapters 1-4; finish the book if possible)

July 24 Roman Catholic history

Field trip
Reading: McGonigle (esp. chapters 1-2, 4, 6, 8-9, 12-16, 20-22)

July 25 Roman Catholic theology

Vatican Council II
Film
Reading: selections from Catechism and Vatican Council II

July 26 Guest speakers

Charismatic renewal movements
Film
Reading: “Evangelism, Proselytism and Common Witness” (to be distributed earlier in the week)

MHTM 639 Sp.St. Roman Catholicism Orthodoxy in European Missions

Gary McGee

Page 3

METHODOLOGY

Lecture, discussion, films, field trip

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Consistent attendance (more than a half-day absence could result in grade reduction)
2. The successful completion of all assigned readings
3. The successful completion of a final comprehensive essay examination **DUE: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2002.**
4. The preparation of a ten-page reflection paper based on the readings and class discussions **DUE: WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2002.**

GRADING

Classroom participation and reading evaluation	10%
Final comprehensive examination	50%
Reflection paper	40%

CAUTIONS

1. Late work will be penalized.
2. A grade of Incomplete will be given only in the event of extreme circumstances.

NOTE: Work received after the post-session due date specified in the syllabus will result in a change of grade fee (\$15.00) being charged, even when an extension has been granted by the instructor.

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY OF REFERENCE WORKS

Atiya, Aziz S., ed. The Coptic Encyclopedia. New York: Macmillan Publishing Co., 1991. The major reference work on Coptic (Egyptian) Christianity, an Oriental Orthodox (Non-Chalcedonian) sector of the Christian faith. Helpful insights into this branch of Christianity whose followers may be found in Europe and elsewhere.

McBrien, Richard P., ed. HarperCollins Encyclopedia of Catholicism. San Francisco: HarperSanFrancisco, 1995. An excellent one-volume reference work that provides a wealth of information on the many aspects of Roman Catholicism.

New Catholic Encyclopedia. New York: McGraw-Hill Book Co., 1967. The most exhaustive reference work available on Roman Catholicism. Though dated, it remains an invaluable resource.

MHTM 639 Sp.St. Roman Catholicism Orthodoxy in European Missions

Gary McGee

Page 4

Prokurat, Michael, et al. Historical Dictionary of the Orthodox Church. Lanham, MD: Scarecrow Press, 1996. An important resource for the many aspects of Eastern Orthodox theology, spirituality, and practices.

Roberson, Ronald. The Eastern Christian Churches: A Brief Survey, 6th ed. Rome: Edizioni Orientalia Christiana, 1999. Information on the Church of the East, the many branches of the Oriental Orthodox Churches, the Eastern Orthodox Church, and the Catholic Eastern (“Uniate”) Churches. Sorts out the many church groups in Europe, the CIS, and Middle East.

NOTE: More extensive resources may be found in the bibliographies of the textbooks by Clendenin and McGonigle, and the recommended book by Ware. The Roman Catholic, Eastern Orthodox, and Oriental Orthodox Churches have web sites from which you can download historical information, news articles, pronouncements, etc.

For an analysis of the charismatic dimension in the spirituality of the Eastern Orthodox and Oriental Orthodox traditions, see Stanley M. Burgess, The Holy Spirit: Eastern Catholic Traditions (Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 1989). For the theological and spiritual implications of the Pentecostal and charismatic movements, see Peter Hocken, The Glory and the Shame: Reflections on the 20th Century outpouring of the Holy Spirit (Guildford, Surrey, UK: Eagle, 1994). For current information on charismatic renewal movements in the Protestant, Roman Catholic, Eastern Orthodox, and Oriental Orthodox churches worldwide, see Stanley M. Burgess, ed. New International Dictionary of Pentecostal and Charismatic Movements. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 2001. Relevant essays on the contemporary mission scene can be found in Murray W. Dempster, Byron D. Klaus, Douglas Petersen, eds., The Globalization of Pentecostalism: A Religion Made to Travel (Irvine, CA: Regnum Books International, 1999).

For information on Pentecostal missiology, see Murray W. Dempster, Byron D. Klaus, Douglas Petersen, eds., Called & Empowered: Global Mission in Pentecostal Perspective (Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 1991); Melvin L. Hodges, A Theology of the Church and Its Mission (Springfield, MO: Gospel Publishing House, 1977); Veli-Matti Kärkkäinen, Ad ultimum terrae: Evangelization, Proselytism and Common Witness in the Roman Catholic Pentecostal Dialogue (1990-1991) (New York: Peter Lang, 1999); Gary B. McGee, “The Legacy of Melvin L. Hodges,” International Bulletin of Missionary Research 22 (January 1998):20-24; and John V. York, Missions in the Age of the Spirit (Springfield, MO: Gospel Publishing House, 2000). To gain insights into Roman Catholic missiology, see John Paul II, On the Permanent Validity of the Church’s Missionary Mandate (Redemptoris Missio) (Washington D.C.: United States Catholic Conference, 1990), Karl Müller, Mission Theology: An Introduction (Sankt Augustin, Germany: Steyler Verlag, 1987); for Orthodox missiology, see Ioan Sauca, ed., Orthodoxy and Cultures (Geneva: World

MHTM 639 Sp.St. Roman Catholicism Orthodoxy in European Missions

Gary McGee

Page 5

Council of Churches, 1996); James J. Stamoolis, Eastern Orthodox Mission Theology Today (Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1986).

SPECIFIC DATA

Prepared by Gary B. McGee, April 12, 2002.