

Assemblies of God Theological Seminary

**MCSM/PTHM 529 FOUNDATIONS OF CROSS-CULTURAL MINISTRY
COURSE SYLLABUS**

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Fall, 11-22 Oct 2004

COURSE DESCRIPTION

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

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. Recognize his/her cultural presuppositions and values and their impact on the effective cross-cultural communication of the Gospel.
2. Understand the role of selected facets of social science in cross-cultural ministries.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of significant terminology used in the discipline of missiology.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the essential concepts of cultural anthropology, cross-cultural communication, and contextualization.
5. Know the implications of societal typologies for cross-cultural ministry.
6. Identify and discuss the components of culture and various worldviews.
7. Appreciate the dynamics of theological contextualization.

TEXTBOOKS

Required textbooks (700 pages):*

Dyrness, William A. Learning About Theology From the Third World. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1990.

Elmer, Duane. Cross-Cultural Connections: Stepping Out and Fitting in Around the World. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2002.

Lingenfelter, Sherwood. Transforming Culture: A Challenge for Christian Mission. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 1998.

Lingenfelter, Sherwood and Marvin Mayers. Ministering Cross-Culturally: An Incarnational Model for Personal Relationships. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 1986.

Recommended Textbooks:

Dyrness, William A. Invitation to Cross-Cultural Theology. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1992.

*If a student has previously read any of the required books as a text, please consult with the professor for a substitution.

Elmer, Duane. Cross-Cultural Conflict: Building Relationships for Effective Ministry. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1993.

Hiebert, Paul and Eloise H. Meneses. Incarnational Ministry: Planting Churches in Band, Tribal, Peasant, and Urban Societies. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 1995.

BASIC OUTLINE (subject to change)

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Reading</u>
Oct 11	Introduction: The Biblical Foundation	“God’s Mission”
Oct 12	Personal Cultural Awareness Values and Worldview	<u>Ministering Cross-Culturally</u>
Oct 13	Religion as a Universal Reality Case Study Methodology (Personal Inventory paper due)	“The Flaw of the Excluded Middle”
Oct 14	Understanding Culture Using Anthropological Lenses Video	“Islam and Worldview” “Spiritual Warfare & Worldviews”
Oct 15	Dynamics of Communicating Across Cultures Midterm Exam (Elmer, CCC report due)	“Conflict and Cultural Values”
Oct 18	Transforming Culture	“Transplanted ... Churches”
Oct 19	Analyzing Social Order (Lingenfelter, TF report due)	“The Church, the City, & Market...”
Oct 20	Guest lecturers	“Commission on Ethnic Relations”
Oct 21	Contextualization Foundations (Dyrness, Learning report due)	“Conflicting Options...”
Oct 22	Conclusion and Final Exam	

METHODOLOGY

Lectures, discussion, video presentation(s), research/case study presentation, midterm and final exams.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Reading of the required textbooks and assigned readings, with reading reports on 3 texts (1-2 pages). Graduate study assumes readings are complete and you are conversant in the content. Students will be asked to affirm the completion of readings at each exam time.
2. Successful completion of two exams: Midterm on 15 October, Final on 22 October.
3. Papers to be written:

- a. Personal cross-cultural inventory: Due Oct. 13
 - b. Reading reports on 3 texts: Due Oct. 15, 19, and 21.
 - c. Research paper/case study (case to be approved by instructor by Oct. 22): Paper due on or before Dec. 17 (12-15 pages). Please note that a deduction of one letter grade per week will be assessed for late work. Further details will be explained in class. Papers are to be typed, double spaced, in 12 point type, according to Turabian's 6th edition.
4. Faithful attendance to class (as per the Student Handbook) and participation in discussions/groups.

GRADING PROCEDURE

Completion of all required readings and submission of reports	30%
Cross-Cultural inventory paper	10%
Research/Case Study paper	20%
Midterm exam	20%
Final exam	20%

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Anthropology

- Benedict, R. Patterns of Culture. Boston: Houghton, 1934.
- Foster, George M. Traditional Societies and Technological Change. 2d ed. New York: Harper & Row, 1973.
- Fox, R. Kinship and Marriage: An Anthropological Perspective. New York: Penguin, 1967.
- Grunlan, Stephen A. and Marvin K. Mayers. Cultural Anthropology: A Christian Perspective, 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1988.
- Harris, M. The Rise of Anthropological Theory. New York: Ty Crowell, 1968.
- Hiebert, Paul. Cultural Anthropology. 2d ed. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1983.
- _____. Anthropological Insights for Missionaries. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1987.
- _____, ed. Anthropological Reflections on Missiological Issues. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1994.
- Hiebert, Paul, Daniel Shaw, and Tite Tienou, eds. Understanding Folk Religion: A Christian Response to Popular Beliefs and Practices. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1999.
- Keesing, R. M., and F. M. Kessing. New Perspectives in Cultural Anthropology. New York: HR & W, 1971.
- Kraft, Charles H. Christianity in Culture: A Study in Dynamic Biblical Theologizing in Cross-Cultural Perspective. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1980.
- Luzbetak, Louis J. The Church and Cultures: New Perspectives in Missiological Anthropology. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1988.
- Mayers, Marvin K. Christianity Confronts Culture. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1974.
- 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

- Engel, James F. Contemporary Christian Communications: Its Theory and Practice. Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson, 1979.
- _____. Getting Your Message Across. Bloomington, IL: Media Associates International, 1988.
- Hall, Edward T. The Silent Language. Garden City, NY: Doubleday, 1959.
- _____. The Hidden Dimension. Garden City, NY: Doubleday, 1966.
- Hesselgrave, David. Communicating Christ Cross-Culturally: An Introduction to Missionary Communication. second. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1991.
- Kraft, Charles H. Communication Theory for Christian Witness, Rev. ed. Maryknoll: Orbis, 1994.
- _____. "God's Model For Cross-Cultural Communication—The Incarnation." Evangelical Missions Quarterly (EMQ) 9 (summer 1973a): 205-16.
- _____. "The Incarnation, Cross-Cultural Communication, and Communication Theory." EMQ 9 (fall 1973b):277-84.
- _____. Communicating the Gospel God's Way. Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 1979.
- Lingenfelter, Sherwood. Agents of Transformation: A Guide for Effective Cross-Cultural Ministry. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 1996.
- Littlejohn, Stephen W. Theories of Human Communication. Columbus, OH: Charles E. Merrill Publishing Co., 1978.
- 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." EMQ 15, no. 2 (April 1979): 89-96.
- 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 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, 1977.
- _____. "Contextualization: A New Dimension for Cross-Cultural Hermeneutic." EMQ 14, no. 1 (January 1978): 39-46.
- Connor, John H. "When Culture Leaves Contextualized Christianity Behind." Missiology 19, no. 1 (January 1991): 21-29.
- Engle, Richard W. "Contextualization in Missions: A Biblical and Theological Appraisal." Grace Theological Journal 4 (1983): 85-107.
- Fleming, Bruce C. E. Contextualization of Theology. Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 1980.
- Glasser, Arthur F. "Help From an Unexpected Quarter or, the Old Testament and Contextualization." Missiology 7, no. 4 (October 1979): 403-10.
- Graton, John. "The Problem of Contextualization." Missiology 11, no. 1 (January 1983): 95-111.
- Hiebert, Paul G. "Critical Contextualization." Missiology 12, no. 3 (July 1984): 288-96.
- Heideman, Eugene S. "Syncretism, Contextualization, Orthodoxy, and Heresy." Missiology 25, no. 1 (January 1997): 37-49.
- Hesselgrave, David J. ed. Theology And Mission: Papers and Responses Prepared for the Consultation on Theology and Mission. Trinity Evangelical Divinity School., School of World Mission and Evangelism, March 22-25, 1976. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1978.

- _____. New Horizons In World Mission: Evangelicals and the Christian Mission in the 1980s. Papers and Responses Prepared for the Consultation on Theology and Mission. Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, School of World Mission and Evangelism. March 12-22, 1979. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1979.
- _____, and Edward Rommen. Contextualization: Meanings, Methods, and Models. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1989
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- Kinsler, F. Ross. "Mission and Context: The Current Debate About Contextualization." EMQ 14, no. 1 (January 1978): 23-29.
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- Whiteman, Darrell L. "Contextualizing the Gospel." Missiology 25, no. 1 (January 1997): 3-4.

WEBSITES

- www.strategicnetwork.org—multiple e-zines on cross-cultural issues
- www.missiology.org—connected to Dr. Gailyn Van Rheenen at Abilene Christian University
- www.gmi.org—site for the Global Mapping project
- www.omsc.org—site for Overseas Ministries Study Center at Yale University
- www.ad2000.org—site focused on world evangelization plan
- www.gsmweb.org—site for American Society of Missiologists
- www.mislinks.org—site of Scott Moreau, editor of massive Evangelical Dictionary of Mission
- www.ethnicarvest.org—key links to ethnic church planting in the U.S.
- www.gocn.org—site for Gospel and Culture Network

SPECIFIC DATA

Prepared by Barbara L. Cavaness, June 2004.