

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

MSS 547 Missions and National Church Strategies

Beth Grant, Ph.D.
Joseph Castleberry, Ed.D.

Fall 2004

COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

A study of strategies, using New Testament missionary principles, for church multiplication across cultural lines, between sending and receiving bodies, and among fraternal organizations. Among the topics to be considered are indigenous church objectives, the organization of mission efforts, missionary training, and conflict resolution.

OBJECTIVES

As a result of completing this course, students will

- 1) Have a knowledge of indigenous church principles as espoused by Assemblies of God World Missions.
- 2) Explore the dynamics of power differentials and the colonial experience as a context for contemporary missionary endeavor.
- 3) Have a deeper understanding one's cultural self in relation to others' cultural selves as a foundation for fulfilling the Great Commission in Christian community, including potential areas of conflict and resolution.
- 4) Investigate partnership between sending and receiving bodies in light of re-emerging cultural and ethnic identities and New Testament missiological principles.
- 5) Develop strategies for cross-cultural evangelism, church planting and leadership development which are biblically based and culturally appropriate in the 21st century.

TEXTBOOKS

Hodges, Melvin. *Indigenous Church*. Springfield, MO: Gospel Publishing House 1976.

Memmi, Albert. *Colonizer and the Colonized*. Boston, MA: Beacon Press, 1991.

Myers, Bryant L. *Walking with the Poor: Principles and Practices of Transformational Development*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1999.

Taylor, William David, ed. *Global Missiology for the 21st Century: Reflections from the Iguassu Dialogue*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2001.

Volf, Miroslav. *Exclusion & Embrace: A Theological Exploration of Identity, Otherness, and Reconciliation*. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 1996.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Tuesday, Sept. 7	Course introduction	Beth Grant & Joe Castleberry
Thursday, Sept. 9	Power Differentials/ Colonizer & Colonized	Joe Castleberry
Tuesday, Sept. 14	(Continued)	Joe Castleberry
Thursday, Sept. 16	Day of renewal	NO CLASS
Tuesday, Sept. 21	Exclusion & Embrace: Introduction	Beth Grant
Thursday, Sept. 23	The cultural variable of self	Beth Grant
Tuesday, Sept. 28	The cultural self in community	Beth Grant
Thursday, Sept. 30	Self and other in partnership	Beth Grant
Tuesday, Oct. 5	Quito task force case study	Joe Castleberry
Thursday, Oct. 7	The self & other in conflict	Beth Grant
Tuesday, Oct. 12	(Continued)	Beth Grant
Thursday, Oct. 14	(Continued)	Beth Grant
Tuesday, Oct. 19	Interview reports	Beth Grant
Thursday, Oct. 21	Indigenous church objectives	Joe Castleberry
Tuesday, Oct. 26	(Continued)	Joe Castleberry
Thursday, Oct. 28	(Continued)	Joe Castleberry
Tuesday, Nov. 2	(Continued)	Joe Castleberry
Thursday, Nov. 4	The emergence of 2/3 world	Beth Grant

	missions: strategies	
Tuesday, Nov. 9	2/3 world mission strategies	Beth Grant
Thursday, Nov. 11	Guest interview	Beth Grant
Tuesday, Nov. 16	Strategy reports	Beth Grant
Thursday, Nov. 18	Strategy reports	Beth Grant
Tuesday, Nov. 23	Compassion ministries as strategy	Beth Grant
Tuesday, Nov. 30	(Continued)	Beth Grant
Thursday, Dec. 2	(Continued)	Beth Grant
Tuesday, Dec. 7	Summary & review	Joe Castleberry
Thursday, Dec. 9	FINAL EXAM	Joe Castleberry

METHODOLOGY

The course will incorporate the following methodologies: lecture, assigned readings, interview and reflection paper, research paper, class discussion and experiential learning activities.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. All assigned reading should be completed for the day designated in order to facilitate discussion and understanding. (See Course Schedule)
2. A 5-page reflection paper will be due Tuesday, October 19 based on an interview of a national pastor/leader or missionary and their perspective on partnerships in mission. The interview questions and pursuant reflections should be informed by the lectures and reading. The goal of the interview and report is to discover partnership strategies in missions that are effective, why they are effective, and the greatest challenges encountered by the interviewee. A brief oral summary of this experience and findings will be shared with the class on October 19.
3. A 20-page research paper will be due on Tuesday, November 16. The paper will explore the application of missionary principles found in the Book of Acts in the context of the global dynamics of identity as addressed in "Exclusion and Embrace: A Theological Exploration of Identity, Otherness, and Reconciliation." Missions strategies for evangelism, church planting or discipleship will be proposed which are both biblically based and culturally aware, particularly as it relates to ethnic identities and power differentials between mission sending and receiving cultures and between missionaries themselves.

4. A final exam will be administered on Friday, December 9, 2004.
5. Attendance at all classes is required unless an absence is unavoidable. Participation in class with fellow students is integral to the overall learning experience.

GRADING PROCEDURE

Required reading	10%
5-page reflection paper of interview due October 19, 2004	20%
20-page research and strategy paper due November 16, 2004	40%
Final exam, December 9	30%

Generally, students' work will be evaluated as to the extent they explore the course material (reading, lectures and experiential activities), interact with it, and thoughtfully apply it to their personal and professional participation in the Great Commission.

Late work will only be accepted under exceptional circumstances agreed upon by the professor.

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Ashcroft, Bill, Gareth Griffiths, & Helen Tiffin, eds. *The Post-Colonial Studies Reader*. New York: Routledge, 1995.
- Bosch, David J. *Transforming Mission: Paradigm Shifts in Theology of Mission*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1991.
- Bowers, Joyce. "Sending and receiving in the light of equal partnerships in mission". In *Evangelical Missions Quarterly*, Vol. 33, No. 2, April: 186-194.
- Caleb Project. "Sixteen Principles for Effective Partnerships". Interdev (online)
- Cohn, Bernard S. *Colonialism and Its Forms of Knowledge: The British in India*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1996.
- Fanon, Frantz. *The Wretched of the Earth*. New York, NY: Beacon Press, 1963.
- Guder, Darrell L., ed. *Missional Church: A Vision for the Sending of the Church in North America*. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1998.
- Hofstede, Geert. *Cultures and Organizations: Software of the Mind*. New York, NY: McGraw-Hill, 1997.

- Hoke, Stephen T. "The Art of Facilitating Change". In *With an Eye on the Future*, by Duane Elmer and Lois McKinney, eds., 157-168. Monrovia, CA: MARC, 1996.
- Jenkins, Philip. *The Next Christendom: The Coming of Global Christianity*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 2002.
- Keidel, Levi O. *Conflict or Connection: Interpersonal Relationship in Cross-Cultural Settings*. Evangelical Missions Information.
- Klaus, Byron D. and Loren O. Triplett. "National Leadership in Pentecostal Missions". In *Called & Empowered: Global Mission in Pentecostal Perspective* by Murray A. Dempster, Byron D. Klaus, and Douglas Petersen, eds., 225-241. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 1991.
- Lingenfelter, Sherwood. *Transforming Culture: A Challenge for Christian Mission, 2nd Ed.* Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 1998.
- Lingenfelter, Sherwood G. and Marvin K. Mayers. *Ministering Cross-Culturally: An Incarnational Model for Personal Relationships*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 1986.
- McGee, Gary B. "Pentecostal Strategies for Global Mission: A Historical Assessment". In *Called & Empowered: Global Mission in Pentecostal Perspective* by Murray A. Dempster, Byron D. Klaus, and Douglas Petersen, eds., 203-224. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 1991.
- Neely, Alan. "The Teaching of Missions". In *Toward the 21st Century in Christian Mission* by James M. Phillips and Robert T. Coote, eds., 269-283. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Publishing, 1993.
- Pate, Larry D. "Pentecostal Missions from the Two-Thirds World". In *Called & Empowered: Global Mission in Pentecostal Perspective* by Murray A. Dempster, Byron D. Klaus, and Douglas Petersen, eds., 242-258. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 1991.
- Pluss, Jean-Daniel. "Globalization of Pentecostalism or Globalization of Individualism? A European Perspective". In *The Globalization of Pentecostalism: A Religion Made to Travel* by Murray W. Dempster, Byron D. Klaus, and Douglas Petersen, 170-182. Irvine, CA: Regnum Books.
- Pye, Lucian W. *Asian Power and Politics: The Cultural Dimensions of Authority*. Cambridge, MA: Belknap Press, 1985.
- Roland, Alan. *In Search of Self in India and Japan: Toward a Cross-Cultural Psychology*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1988.
- Siew, Yau-Man. "Theological Education in Asia: An Indigenous Agenda for Renewal".

- In With an Eye on the Future*, by Duane Elmer and Lois McKinney, eds., 58-68.
Monrovia, CA: MARC, 1996.
- Taylor, William David, ed. *Global Missiology for the 21st Century: Reflections from the Iguassu Dialogue*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2001.
- Wildavsky, Aaron. *The Nursing Father: Moses as a Political Leader*. Tuscaloosa, AL: University of Alabama Press, 1984.
- Ward, Ted. "Repositioning Mission Agencies for the Twenty-first Century".
International Bulletin of Missionary Research, Vol. 23, No. 4, Oct., 146-153.
- Ward, Ted. "Servants, Leaders, and Tyrants". In *With an Eye on the Future*, by Duane Elmer and Lois McKinney, eds., 27-42. Monrovia, CA: MARC, 1996.
- York, John V. *Missions in the Age of the Spirit*. Springfield, MO: Logion Press, 2000.

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

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