

# Assemblies of God Theological Seminary

## MCS/PTH 529 FOUNDATIONS OF CROSS-CULTURAL MINISTRY

### COURSE SYLLABUS

Warren B. Newberry, D.Th.  
Visiting Professor of Missions  
8:55-10:10 a.m. Wednesday & Friday

Spring 2004

#### COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

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

#### COURSE OBJECTIVES

11. Recognize his/her cultural presuppositions and values and their impact on the effective cross-cultural communication of the Gospel.
22. Understand the role of selected facets of social science in cross-cultural ministries.
33. Demonstrate an understanding of significant terminology used in the discipline of missiology.
44. Demonstrate an understanding of the essential concepts of cultural anthropology, cross-cultural communication, and contextualization.
55. Know the implications of societal typologies for cross-cultural ministry.
66. Identify and discuss the components of culture and various worldviews.
77. Appreciate the dynamics of theological contextualization.

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#### TEXTBOOKS

##### Required Textbooks:

- Dyrness, William A. Learning About Theology From The Third World. Grand Rapids: Academie Books, Zondervan Publishing House, 1990.
- Lingenfelter, Sherwood. Transforming Culture: A Challenge for Christian Mission. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1998.
- Lingenfelter, Sherwood and Marvin Mayers. Ministering Cross-Culturally: An Incarnational Model for Personal Relationships. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1986.

##### Recommended Textbooks:

- Dyrness, William A. Invitation to Cross-Cultural Theology. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1992.
- Elmer, Duane. Cross-Cultural Conflict: Building Relationships for Effective Ministry. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1993.
- Hiebert, Paul G. and Meneses, E. H. Incarnational Ministry. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1995.

Lingenfelter, Sherwood. Agents of Transformation: A Guide for Effective Cross-Cultural Ministry. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1996.

### **BASIC OUTLINE**

The Incarnation: God's Model for Human Relationships  
Basic Values  
Understanding Time  
Tensions in judgment, goals, handling crises, and self-worth  
Transforming culture  
Analyzing Social Order  
Tensions over property  
Understanding labor and productivity  
Authority in family and community  
Conflict resolution  
Introduction of Contextualization  
Contextualized theologies  
Contextualized ministry methodologies

### **METHODOLOGY**

1 Lectures  
Guest Speakers  
Class Discussion  
Video Presentations  
Research Paper  
Examinations

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

Research paper  
    The paper should consist of 12-15 pages excluding the bibliography.  
    There will be a reduction of one letter grade for papers turned in after the due date.  
    The topic must be approved by the professor.  
    Two copies will be submitted, the marked one will be returned.  
    Details will be provided in a separate handout.  
    The style guide must conform to seminary requirements  
Reading of the required textbooks and assigned readings  
Completion of a mid-term and final exam  
Active participation in class discussions and interactions  
Attendance is required as per the seminary catalog.

### **I.**

### **II. GRADING PROCEDURE**

Research paper ..... 35%  
Exams ..... 40%  
Required reading ...25%

### **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. Keesing. 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. Bloomingdale, 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.
- 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.

Gration, 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.

Ingleby, Jonathan. "Trickling Down or Shaking the Foundations: Is Contextualization Neutral?" *Missiology* 25, no. 2 (April 1997): 183-87

Kinsler, F. Ross. "Mission and Context: The Current Debate About Contextualization." *EMQ* 14, no. 1 (January 1978): 23-29.

Kraft, Charles H. "The Contextualization of Theology." *EMQ* 14, no. 1 (January 1978): 31-36.

Lind, Millard C. "Refocusing Theological Education to Mission: The Old Testament and Contextualization." *Missiology* 10, no. 2 (April 1982): 141-60.

Nichols, Bruce J. Contextualization: A Theology of Gospel and Culture. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1979.

- Ramirez, Eduardo Miguel. "Contextualization in the Local Church." EMQ 14, no. 1 (January 1978): 49-58.
- Schreiter, Robert J. "Culture, Society and Contextual Theologies." Missiology 12, no. 3 (July 1984): 261-73.
- Spielberg, Fana, and Stuart Dauermann. "Contextualization: Indigenization and/or Transformation." In The Gospel and Islam: A 1978 Compendium, edited by Don McCurry, 143-54. Monrovia: MARC, 1979.
- \_\_\_\_\_. "Contextualization." In Exploring Church Growth, edited by Wilbert Shenk, 117-31. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1983.
- Whiteman, Darrell L. "Contextualizing the Gospel." Missiology 25, no. 1 (January 1997): 3-4.

### **WEBSITES**

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

### **SPECIFIC DATA**

Prepared by Dr. Warren Newberry, November 2003