

**ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**  
MHT 529 / PTH527 / THE 545  
THEOLOGY OF MISSION

R. Paul Wood, D.Min.

Spring 2004

**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

An examination of the mission of the Church and various models of Christian missions from Biblical, theological, and historical perspectives. This interdisciplinary study, integrating theory and praxis, is designed to move the student toward a more responsible understanding, imaging, and proclamation of the Kingdom of God in the diverse cultural milieus of our global village.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to

1. Present the Biblical and theological basis of the mission of the Church in the world.
2. Understand and explain basic paradigms in the theology of mission.
3. Understand and analyze contemporary challenges in the theology of mission.
4. Understand and respond to a personal role in the mission of the Church.
5. Define and articulate clearly the missionary task.
6. Understand and develop biblically sound guidelines for the fulfillment of the mission given to the Church.

**TEXTBOOKS**

Van Engen, Charles, Nancy Thomas, and Robert Gallagher, eds. *Footprints of God: A Narrative Theology of Mission*. Monrovia, CA: Marc: World Vision, 1999.

Winter, Ralph D. and Steven C. Hawthorne, eds. *Perspectives on the World Christian Movement*, Third edition. Pasadena: William Carey Library, 1999.

York, John V., *Missions in the Age of the Spirit*. Springfield: Logion, 2000.

**METHODOLOGY**

The teaching-learning approach will blend pedagogical and andragogical principles. The methodology will include lectures, guest presenters, class discussions, small group discussions, collateral reading, and applied research.

## COURSE CONTENT

I. SECTION ONE: An Introduction to the Study of Mission

II. SECTION TWO: The Covenants and Mission

➤The Older Covenant

➤The New Covenant

III. SECTION THREE: Theological Issues and Mission

IV. SECTION FOUR: Changing Historical Paradigms in Mission

V. SECTION FIVE: Contemporary Challenges to Mission

➤Universality versus Universalism

➤Proclamation versus Dialogue

➤Contextualization versus Syncretism

➤Salvation Theology versus Liberation Theology

➤Evangelism and Social Concern

➤The Urban Challenge

➤The Islamic Challenge

➤Women in Mission

VI. SECTION SIX: The Missionary and the Mission

➤The Local Church

➤The Sending Agency

➤The Missionary

➤The Assemblies of God World Mission

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A. Attendance, preparation, and consistent participation in class activities.

B. *Missions in the Age of the Spirit*: Read and write a two-page evaluative interaction of the book. On the cover page of the evaluation, state clearly how thoroughly you read the assigned book. **(Due: Jan. 28, 2004)**

*Footprints of God: A Narrative Theology of Mission*: Read and write a two-page evaluative interaction of the book. On the cover page of the evaluation, state clearly how thoroughly you read the book. **(Due: Feb. 18, 2004)**

D. *Perspectives on the World Christian Movement*: Read the assigned articles in each of the four major divisions of the reader. Write a two- to three-page evaluative interaction with the articles in each major divisions. On the cover page of each evaluation, state clearly how thoroughly you read the assigned articles. **(Due: April 2, 2004)**

➤ Division One: "The Biblical Perspective"  
Assigned Articles: 1,2,4,5,9,13,14,17, 20,21,25,26,27.

- Division Two: “The Historical Perspective”  
 Assigned Articles: 33, 35, 37, 40, 44, 45, 50.
- Division Three: “The Cultural Perspective”  
 Assigned Articles: 54, 55, 56, 59, 61, 62, 65, 66, 68, 69.
- Division Four: “The Strategic Perspective”  
 Assigned Articles: 72, 77, 78, 81, 85, 87, 89, 91, 94, 95, 96, 102, 103, 107, 109, 111, 112, 115, 119, 120, 123.

Each report should be typed and double-spaced.

- E. A 12 - 15 page scholarly paper written **exclusively** for this course. Good research, careful documentation, and Turabian format are expected.  
**(Due: April 14, 2004)**
- F. Satisfactorily complete the mid-term and final examination.

**DUE DATES FOR COURSE ASSIGNMENTS**

(1) DUE DATE	(a) ASSIGNMENT

- (a) **NOTE:** Assignments submitted after class time on the due date will receive a grade reduction of
- (b) 5 points per day or any part thereof.

ASSIGNMENT	GRADE VALUE
Class Preparation and Participation	6%
Textbook Interactions (8% each)	24%
Mid-Term Examination	20%
Scholarly Paper	20%
Final Examination	30%

## SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

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- Blauw, Johannes. *The Missionary Nature of the Church*. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans, 1974.
- Bosch, David J. *Transforming Mission: Paradigm Shifts in Theology of Mission*: Maryknoll, New York: Orbis Books, 1994.
- Coleman, Robert E. *The Master's Way of Personal Evangelism*. Wheaton, Illinois: Crossway Books, 1997
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- Guder, Darrell L., ed. *Missional Church: A Vision for the Sending of the Church in North America*. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1998.
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- Trends and Issues in Missions*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1988.
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- Kaiser, Walter C., Jr. *Toward an Old Testament Theology*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1991.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Toward Rediscovering the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1978.
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### **SPECIFIC DATA**

Prepared by Dr. R. Paul Wood, November 2003.