

NOTE: Resident students are required to have the Academic Dean's approval to attend this class.

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

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

July 5-9, 2004

Gary B. McGee

Summer 2004

COURSE DESCRIPTION

An examination of how the history, theology, organization, and practices of the Roman Catholic Church and the Eastern Orthodox Churches 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 challenge 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*, 2d. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 2003.

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.

RECOMMENDED

Clendenin, Daniel B., ed. *Eastern Orthodox Theology: A Contemporary Reader*, 2d ed. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 2003.

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 5** Introduction to the course
Latin and Greek Christian traditions compared
Historical framework & church councils
"Canonical territories"
- July 6** Orthodox history
"Uniate" churches and tensions
Orthodox theology
Films
Reading: Clendenin (esp. chapters 1-4; finish the book if possible)
- July 7** Roman Catholic history
Field trip
Reading: McGonigle (esp. chapters 1-2, 4, 6, 8-9, 12-16, 20-22)
- July 8** Roman Catholic theology
Vatican Council II
Film
Reading: selections from *Catechism* and *Vatican Council II*
- July 9** Guest speakers
Charismatic renewal movements
Film
Reading: "Evangelism, Proselytism and Common Witness" (to be distributed earlier in the week)

METHODOLOGY

Lecture, discussion, films, field trip

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Consistent attendance (more than a half-day absence will result in grade reduction)
2. The successful completion of all assigned readings
3. The successful completion of a final comprehensive essay examination
DUE: MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2004

4. FOR TWO-HOURS CREDIT: The preparation of a ten-page reflection paper based on the readings and class discussions.
5. FOR THREE-HOURS CREDIT: The preparation of a ten-page research paper.

DUE: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2004

GRADING

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

CAUTIONS

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

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, Canada, and elsewhere.

Bailey, Betty Jane, and J. Martin Bailey. *Who Are the Christians in the Middle East?* Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 2003.

Binns, John. *An Introduction to the Orthodox Churches*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2002.

Horner, Norman A. *A Guide to Christian Churches in the Middle East*. Elkhart, IN:

Mission Focus, 1989. Though dated, this survey still contains helpful information.

Lossky, Nicholas, et al., eds. *Dictionary of the Ecumenical Movement*. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1991. Contains a wealth of information on the ecumenical movement, as well as Roman Catholicism, Eastern Orthodoxy, and the Oriental Orthodox Churches.

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. I think the revision has now come into print.

- Parry, Ken, et al., eds. *Blackwell Dictionary of Eastern Christianity*. Oxford: Blackwell Publishers, 1999. Excellent resource on Orthodoxy.
- 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, as well as the Church of the East, have web sites from which you can download historical information, doctrinal statements, news articles, pronouncements, etc.

For an analysis of the charismatic dimension in the spirituality of the Eastern Orthodox and Oriental Orthodox tradition: 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: 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: Stanley M. Burgess, ed. *New International Dictionary of Pentecostal and Charismatic Movements*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 2002.

For relevant essays on the contemporary missions scene: Murray W. Dempster, Byron D. Klaus, Douglas Petersen, eds., *The Globalization of Pentecostalism: A Religion Made to Travel* (Irvine, CA: Regnum Books International, 1999); Douglas Petersen, *Not by Might, Nor By Power: A Pentecostal Theology of Social Concern in Latin America* (1996)

For information on Pentecostal missiology: Murray W. Dempster, Byron D. Klaus, Douglas Petersen, eds., *Called & Empowered: Global Mission in Pentecostal Perspective* (1991); 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* (2000).

For the Catholic/Pentecostal Dialogue: "Dialogue, Roman Catholic and Classical Pentecostal," *New International Dictionary of Pentecostal and Charismatic Movements* (2002); Veli-Matti Kärkkäinen, *Ad ultimum terrae: Evangelization, Proselytism and Common Witness in the Roman Catholic Pentecostal Dialogue (1990-1991)* (1999).

For Roman Catholic missiology: John Paul II, *On the Permanent Validity of the Church's Missionary Mandate (Redemptoris Missio)* (1990), Karl Müller, *Mission Theology: An Introduction* (1987).

For Orthodox missiology: Ioan Sauca, ed., *Orthodoxy and Cultures* (1996); James J. Stamoolis, *Eastern Orthodox Mission Theology Today* (1986).

For evangelical perspectives on Roman Catholicism in light of evangelical missions, see David J. Hesselgrave, ed., *Theology and Mission* (1978).

SPECIFIC DATA

Prepared by Gary B. McGee, May 18, 2004.