

**Assemblies of God Theological Seminary
MCSM/PTHM 529 FOUNDATIONS OF CROSS-CULTURAL MINISTRY
COURSE SYLLABUS**

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**Oct. 2-6, 2006
Springfield, MO**

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

At the end of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Recognize his/her cultural presuppositions and values and their impact on the effective cross-cultural communication of the Gospel.
2. Utilize the various disciplines that comprise the processes of missiology including selected facets of the social sciences which facilitate cross-cultural ministries.
3. Explain the unique contribution of Pentecostal missiology and its understanding of the role of the Holy Spirit in the missionary task.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the essential concepts of cultural anthropology, cross-cultural communication, and contextualization.
5. Identify and discuss the components of culture and various worldviews.
6. Appreciate the dynamics of theological and missiological contextualization.
7. Develop a personal theology and model for cross-cultural ministry.

TEXTBOOKS

Required textbooks:

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

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.

Shaw, R. Daniel and Charles Van Engen. Communicating God's Word in a Complex World. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 2003.

Recommended Textbooks:

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

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

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

BASIC OUTLINE (subject to change)

Introduction

An incarnational model of ministry

Cross-cultural models of communication

Elements of culture

Missiological and theological contextualization

Pentecostal models of contextualization

Doing theology and ministry in a cross-cultural context: A personal assessment.

METHODOLOGY

Lectures, discussion, video presentation(s), case studies, book reviews, interviews.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Faithful attendance to class (as per the Student Handbook) and participation in discussions/groups.
2. Reading of the required textbooks. A report must be submitted for three of the texts as outlined in the addendum 1, page 6.(Lingenfelter “Transforming Culture” only, Dyrness, Shaw and Van Engen **Due Oct. 2**)
3. Personal cultural inventory: **Due Oct. 2**. Students are to read the Lingenfelter/Mayers text and complete the questionnaire on pages 29-33, the analysis on page 33, and the personal profile graphs on page 34. Based on the results of the profile, write a 2-4 page Personal Cross-cultural Inventory. The paper should show what you learned about yourself, possible explanations or illustrations of your profile, how you have changed from a previous time in your life, the validity of your results, etc. Please address all six areas of the profile, **citing your coordinates**.
4. Prepare a book review per instructions provided in the addendum 1 of a missionary biography. **Due Oct. 20**.
5. Conduct an interview with a missionary or foreign national and present a written essay per instructions in addendum 2. **Due Nov. 2**.
6. Successful completion of the comprehensive final examination which is the preparation and submission of a paper in two parts:
Part 1: Based on class notes and the assigned reading, articulate a foundational theology of intercultural ministry which includes an examination of the relationship between anthropology, intercultural communication and contextualization.
Part 2: Utilizing the “Model for Ministry Reflection” examine a ministry event in your own life which has significant “cross-cultural” elements and articulate a contextual theology which addresses the event (i.e. articulate the “mind of Christ” for the ministry event).

The paper should be 15-20 pages in length, double spaced, 12 point font size and in accordance with Turabian Style formatting. **Due Nov. 30**

****All work must be submitted electronically as Word Document attachments to DeLonn Rance at AGTS by e-mail (drance@agts.edu). Please include your last name as the first word in the file name.** It is recommended that you submit the work as you complete it to avoid the accumulation of work (and stress) at deadline dates. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to ask.

Students with Disabilities: If you anticipate the need for reasonable accommodations to meet the requirements of this course, you must register with the Office of Student Services. Contact Student Services, 1435 N. Glenstone Ave, Springfield, MO, 65802, (417) 286-1081 or email: studentservices@agts.edu. Students are required to provide documentation of disability to Student Services prior to receiving accommodations.

Non-Discriminatory Language. All AGTS students, employees, and faculty members are urged to use non-discriminatory language in both verbal and written communication at the Seminary. While AGTS does not endorse the following websites, they provide more information on non-discriminatory language:

General Principles: http://www.randomhouse.com/words/language/avoid_guide.html

Gender: <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/workshops/hypertext/apa/gender.html>

Racial and Ethnic Identity: <http://www.apastyle.org/race.html>.

Disabilities: <http://www.apastyle.org/disabilities.html>.

Age Discrimination: http://www.randomhouse.com/words/language/avoid_guide.html

GRADING PROCEDURE

1. Personal cultural inventory	10%	Due Oct. 2
2. Book reviews of textbooks (3 @ 10%)	30%	Due Oct. 2
3. Book review of a missionary biography	10%	Due Oct. 20
5. Interview essay	20%	Due Nov. 3
6. Comprehensive final examination	30%	Due Nov. 30

***NOTE: Points will be deducted for late papers.**

Papers received after the final due date, November 30, 2006, may result in a change-of-grade fee (\$30.00), even when the instructor has granted an extension.

GRADING SCALE

A+ (10)		A (96)	100-94	A- (93)	93-90
B+ (89)	89-87	B (86)	86-84	B- (83)	83-80
C+ (79)	79-77	C (76)	76-74	C- (73)	73-70
D+ (69)	69-67	D (66)	66-64	D- (63)	63-60
F	59 or below				

INITIAL 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.
- Gilliland, Dean S., ed. The Word Among Us: Contextualizing Theology for Mission Today. Dallas, TX: Word Publishing, 1989.
- Grunlan, Stephen A. and Marvin K. Mayers. Cultural Anthropology: A Christian Perspective, 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1988.
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- _____. Anthropological Insights for Missionaries. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1987.
- _____, ed. Anthropological Reflections on Missiological Issues. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1994.
- Hiebert, Paul and Eloise H. Meneses. Incarnational Ministry: Planting Churches in Band, Tribal, Peasant, and Urban Societies. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 1995.
- Hiebert, Paul, Daniel Shaw, and Tite Tienou, eds. Understanding Folk Religion: A Christian Response to Popular Beliefs and Practices. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1999.
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- 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.
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- 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.
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- Nida, Eugene A. Message and Mission: The Communication of the Christian Faith. revised. Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 1990.
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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.
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- Schreiter, Robert J. "Culture, Society and Contextual Theologies." Missiology 12, no. 3 (July 1984): 261-73.
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SPECIFIC DATA

Prepared by DeLonn Rance, May 1, 2006.

ADDENDUM 1 Guidelines for Text/ Biography and Book Review

1. Present the bibliographic information.

e.g.:

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

2. Cite the pages read.

3. Articulate the major thesis.

4. Briefly outline the major sections of the book (**This step is only required on the missionary biography review**).

5. Articulate and interact with contextualization and missiological issues related to intercultural ministry raised by the book.

6. Quote what you consider the most significant or impacting citation.

7. Describe why this citation is significant.

8. Would you recommend this book? Why?

ADDENDUM 2
Interview Guidelines for
Foundations of Cross-cultural Ministry

Missionary or Foreign National being interviewed:

Date of Interview:

Recommended questions (but not limited to):

1. Where were you born and where did you spend the majority of your time while you were growing up?
2. When and where did you become a Christian?
3. What types of ministries have you been involved with in the country where you serve or where you are from?
4. With which church or denomination are you affiliated?
5. What is the current state of the church and the spread of the gospel in your land?
6. At this time, what are the greatest opportunities open to the church in your country?
7. What are the greatest obstacles to be faced?
8. If you had to focus your resources on one area of greatest need, what would it be?
9. What are the most significant missions or cross-cultural issues in your context?
10. Do you have a prayer request for which we as a class can pray?

Any additional observations that the interviewee would like to include:

****Note:** Try to put the interviewee at ease by weaving the questions into an informal dialogue. At the end of the interview be sure to thank the interviewee for his/her time. Assure them that information they wish to keep confidential will be excluded from your report. Let them know that as these interviews are reviewed, we will remember them and their country in prayer. The information gleaned from the interview should be presented as a 7-10 page essay which includes personal reaction and projections from the interviewer.