

**ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
MATS DEGREE COMPLETION PROGRAM
TUESDAY - March 28, April 4, 11, 18, 25, 2006**

BTHD 501 THEOLOGY OF MISSION

R. Paul Wood, D.Min.

Spring 2006

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. Identify and understand historical paradigms in the theology of mission.
3. Identify and analyze contemporary challenges in the theology of mission.
4. Define and articulate clearly the missionary task.
5. Understand and respond to a personal role in the mission of the Church.
6. Develop and embrace biblically sound guidelines for fulfilling the mission of the Church in one's ministry setting.

TEXTBOOKS

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 experience will include lectures, guest presenters, class discussions, small group discussions, collateral reading, and scholarly writing.

COURSE CONTENT

SECTION ONE: An Introduction to the Study of Mission

SECTION TWO: The Covenants and Mission

- The Older Covenant
- The New Covenant

SECTION THREE: AGWM Structure and Strategy

SECTION FOUR: Theological Issues and Mission(s)

SECTION FIVE: Contemporary Challenges to Mission(s)

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

I.Class Participation

Class attendance, promptness, preparation, and participation are required. Only a dire emergency should deter one from attending a class session. Any absence will impact the course grade and more than one absence will require the intervention of the academic dean to salvage the course. (These measures are mandated by federal government policy.)

II. Reading

A. Read the following:

1. York: *Missions in the Age of the Spirit*.
2. Winter and Hawthorne: *Perspectives on the World Christian Movement*.
 - Division One: “The Biblical Perspective”
Assigned Articles: 1,2,4,9,13,14, 21,25,26,27.
 - Division Three: “The Historical Perspective”
Assigned Articles: 35, 37, 40, 44, 45, 50.
 - Division Three: “The Cultural Perspective”
Assigned Articles: 54, 55, 56, 59, 60, 65, 68, 69.
 - Division Four: “The Strategic Perspective”
Assigned Articles: 72, 77, 78, 81, 85, 89, 91, 92, 94, 95, 96, 102, 104, 107, 109, 111, 112, 119, 120, 123, 124.

3. One hundred (100) pages from a relevant source--book(s), articles, or web publications--selected by the student.

B. Develop a reading report (2 to 3 pages) which includes the following:

- A cover page that gives a bibliographical entry on each assigned source and a statement indicating how thoroughly you read the material.
- A presentation of and interaction with the more significant insights gleaned from each source. Each insight should be clearly presented, and the page number(s) noted following the insight or quote. The report should be typed, double-spaced, and commensurate with graduate-level work.

III. Scholarly Papers

- A. Write a 5- to 7- page (double-spaced) scholarly paper focusing on a specific aspect of the Theology of Mission. The paper should evidence as much depth as possible and avoid a generalized and superficial treatment.
- B. Write a second 5- to 7- page scholarly paper that presents a strategic plan to fulfill the mission of the Church in a specific context. The plan may focus on a people, a religious group, a geographical area, or a type of ministry. It should take into consideration the practical concerns essential to a successful mission.
- C. The papers must be written exclusively for this course. They should evidence thorough research, good writing, careful documentation, and adherence to the Turabian format, 6th edition.

DUE DATES FOR COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

DUE DATE	ASSIGNMENT
Tuesday – March 28, 2006	York: First Textbook Interaction
Tuesday – April 4, 2006	Perspectives: Division I & II First Scholarly Paper
Tuesday – April 11, 2006	Perspectives: Division III & IV
Tuesday – April 18, 2006	Source (100 pg.) selected by the student
Tuesday – April 25, 2006	Final Examination Second Scholarly Paper

NOTE: Assignments submitted after class time on the due date will receive a grade reduction.

GRADING PROCEDURE

ASSIGNMENT	GRADE VALUE
Class Preparation and Participation	10%
Reading Reports (4 @ 5% each)	20%
Scholarly Paper (2 @ 15% each)	30%
Final Examination	40%

SESSION	PREPARATION GUIDE AND THEMES
WEEK 1 March 28, 2006	Should have read: York: <i>Missions in the Age of the Spirit</i> - Report Course Orientation Section I: Introduction to the study of mission(s) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Terms and concepts – Define mission theology • Mission and the problem of sin Section II: The Covenants and mission <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Older Covenant and mission
WEEK 2 April 4, 2006	Should have read: <i>Perspectives</i> : Division I & II - Report First Scholarly Paper due Section II: The Covenants and mission (Continued) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The New Covenant and mission • Paul, the missionary-apostle
WEEK 3 April 11, 2006	Should have read: <i>Perspectives</i> : Division III & IV – Report Section II: The Covenants and mission (Continued) Section III: AGWM Structure and Strategy
WEEK 4 April 18, 2006	Should have read : 100 pages - source selected by the student - Report Section IV: Theological Issues in mission(s) Section V: Contemporary challenges to mission
WEEK 5 April 25, 2006	Second Scholarly Paper Course Evaluation 6:15 – 8:00 Final Examination 8:15 – 10:00 Course Summary: Meeting the Challenges <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Local church • The sending agency • The missionary

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

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