

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

**MCS 544 Dynamics of Cross-Cultural Adjustment
Three credits**

Warren Newberry, D.Th.
Visiting Professor of Missions
wnewberry@agts.edu
Phone: 417-268-1069

Summer 2007

M. Annette Newberry, D.Min.
Adjunct Professor
wbnman@yahoo.com

May 7—June 1, 12:30- 2:55 p.m.

COURSE SYLLABUS (Updated)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

An interdisciplinary study of the challenges associated with living and functioning effectively as Christian workers in cross-cultural settings. Special attention is given to human temperament and interpersonal relationships.

OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of the course the student should be able to:

1. Summarize aspects of the missionary experience that require special adjustment.
2. Evaluate individual psychological and spiritual strengths and weaknesses that can enhance or hinder ministry in a cross-cultural context.
3. Demonstrate spiritual attitudes, appreciations, insights, and skills that facilitate cross-cultural relations and communication.
4. Analyze attitudes and skills required to enhance relationships among persons and groups,
5. Devise a methodology to resolve individual and group anxieties and conflicts.
6. Critique one's self through the use of personal inventories.
7. Defend bonding and language learning requirements for cross-cultural ministry.

TEXTBOOKS

Required

Jones, Marge, with E. Grant Jones. *Psychology of Missionary Adjustment*. Springfield, MO: Logion. Gospel Publishing House, 1995.

Keidel, Levi. *Conflict or Connection: Interpersonal Relationships in Cross-cultural Settings*. Carol Stream, IL: Evangelical Missions Information Service (EMIS), 1996.

Ward, Ted. *Living Overseas: A Book of Preparations*. New York: The Free Press, 1984. (reprinted by Life Publishers International, Springfield, MO).

In addition to these books, you will be required to buy a \$27.50 voucher at the bookstore for tests that will form a part of the process for this course.

Recommended

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

_____. *Cross-cultural Conflict: Building Relationships for Effective Ministry*. Downers Grove, IL: Intervarsity Press, 1993.

Kim, Young Yun & Min-Sun Kim *Becoming Intercultural: An Integrative Theory of Communication and Cross-Cultural Adaptation*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, 2001

Kohls, L. Robert. *Survival Kit for Overseas Living*. 4th edition. Boston: Intercultural Press, 2001.

BASIC OUTLINE

- Introduction to the class, discussion of syllabus & requirements
- Missionaries and cultural adjustment
- “The calling” and one’s adjustment
- Security & insecurity
- The language grind
- Bonding
- Transparent & vulnerable
- Self- esteem & and fulfillment
- Overcoming guilt
- Dealing with conflict
- Struggling with inequities

METHODOLOGY

Lecture
Student presentations
Audiovisual
Workshop

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Reading of the textbooks. A signed statement of all material read will be required.
2. Research paper
 - A. The paper will be due on June 29, 2007.
 - B. There will be a hand out detailing the requirements for the paper.
3. Oral presentation of an assigned subject. To be assigned on the first day of class.
4. Completion of the final exam
5. Attendance: as per the seminary's policy.

CHAPEL ATTENDANCE

All chapels are scheduled during class times. Academic time for each class has been over-budgeted to allow for chapel sessions during the semester. Each student is encouraged to take advantage of this time. The chapel affecting this class is: **May 30, 12:30-1:40 p.m.**

GRADING PROCEDURE

Reading of the textbooks	20%
Research paper	40%
Oral presentation of an assigned subject	15%
Final exam	25%

Late work is subject to penalty.

AGTS Grading Scale

Publishable = A+
100% - 94% = A
93% - 90% = A-
89% - 87% = B+
86% - 84% = B
83% - 80% = B-
79% - 77% = C+
76% - 74% = C
73% - 70% = C-
69% - 67% = D+
66% - 64% = D
63% - 60% = D-

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Allbritton, Bert, *Victory Over Depression*, Pittsburgh: Whitaker House, 1981.
- Augsburger, David W. *Pastoral Counseling Across Cultures*, Philadelphia: The Westminster Press, 1986.
- Belgum, David R. *Guilt: Where Religion and Psychology Meet*, Minneapolis, MN: Augsburg Publishing House, 1970.
- Birkey, Verna. *You Are Very Special: A Biblical Guide to Self-Worth*, Old Tappan, NJ: Revell, 1977.
- Brewster, Tomas and Elizabeth. *Bonding and the Missionary Task*, Pasadena: Lingua House Press, 1982.
- _____ *Community Is My Language Classroom*, Pasadena: Lingua House Press, 1982.
- Brislin, Richard W. And Paul Pederson. *Cross-cultural Orientation Programs*, New York: Gardner Press, Inc., 1976.
- Buffam, C. John. *The Life and Times of an MK*, Pasadena: William Carey Library, 1985.
- Carroll, Raymonde. *Cultural Misunderstandings: The French-American Experience*, Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1990.
- Cloud, Henry and John Townsend. *Boundaries: When to Say Yes-When to Say No-To Take Control of Your Life*, Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1992.
- Coleman, Robert E. *The Great Commission Lifestyle: Conforming Your Life to Kingdom Priorities*, Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1992.
- Collins, Gary R. *The Rebuilding of Psychology: An Integration of Psychology and Christianity*, Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, Inc. 1977.
- _____ *The Biblical Basis of Christian Counseling for People Helpers*, Colorado Springs: Navpress, 1993.
- Cosgrove, Mark R. And James D. Mallory, *Mental Health: A Christian Approach*, Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1997.
- Crabb, Lawrence J. *Effective Biblical Counseling: A Model for Helping Caring Christians Become Capable Counselors*, Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1997.
- _____ *Inside Out*, Colorado Springs: Navpress, 1998.

Davis, Billie. *The Dynamic Classroom* [group dynamics for Christian workers], Springfield, MO.: Gospel Publishing House, 1987.

_____. *Renewing Hope: Helps for Helping Others*, Springfield, MO.: Gospel Publishing House, 1995.

Dillard, John M. *Multicultural Counseling*, Chicago: Nelson-Hall, 1983.

Dobbins, Richard D., *Your Spiritual and Emotional Power*, Old Tappan: Fleming H. Revell Company, 1984.

Echerd, Pam and Alice Arathoon (Eds.), *Planning for MK Nurture*. Pasadena: William Carey Library, 1989.

_____. *Understanding and Nurturing the Missionary Family*, 1989.

Foyle, Marjory F., *Honorably Wounded: Stress Among Christian Workers*, London: MARC, BMMF Interserve, 1987.

Hall, Edward T. And Mildred Reed Hall, *Understanding Cultural Differences*, Yarmouth: Intercultural Press, 1990.

Hesselgrave, David J. *Counseling Cross-culturally*, Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1984.

Hofman, Samuel. *Mission Work in Today's World: Insights and Outlook*, Pasadena: William Cary Library, 1992.

Huges, Kent and Barbara. *Common Sense Parenting: The Essentials of Building a Christian Family*, Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, Inc., 1995.

Janssen, Gretchen. *Women Overseas: A Christian Perspective on Cross-cultural Adaptation*, Yarmouth: Intercultural Press, 1989.

Johnson, David. *Reaching Out--Interpersonal Effectiveness and Self-actualization*, Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall, 1990

Jordan, Peter. *Re-entry: Making the Transition from Missions to Life at Home*, Seattle: YWAM Publishing, 1992.

Joy, Donald M. *Bonding: Relationships in the Image of God*, Dallas: Word Publishing, 1985.

Kenny, Betty Jo. *The Missionary Family*, Pasadena: William Carey Library, 1983.

Lingenfelter, Sherwood G. And Maravin K. Mayers. *Ministering Cross-culturally: An Incarnational Model for Personal Relationships*, Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1986.

_____ *Transforming Culture: A Challenge for Christian Missions*, 1992.

Muck, Terry C. *Those Other Religions in Your Neighborhood*, Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1992.

O'Donnell, Kelly S and Michele L. (Eds.), *Helping Missionaries Grow: Readings in Mental Health and Missions*, Pasadena: William Carey Library, 1988.

Palmer, Donald C. *Managing Conflict Creatively: A Guide for Missionaries and Christian Workers*, Pasadena: William Carey Library, 1991.

Perkins, Spencer and Chris Rice, *More Than Equals: Racial Healing for the Sake of the Gospel*, Downers Grove, IL: Intervarsity Press, 1993.

Petersen, William, Michael Novak, and Philip Gleason, *Concepts of Ethnicity*, Cambridge, MS: Belknap, Harvard University Press, 1982.

Smith, Donald K. *Creating Understanding*, Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1992.

Sowell, Thomas. *Race and Culture*, New York: Basic Books, Harper Collins Publishers, 1994.

Stigler, James W, Richard A Shweder, and Gilbert Herdt, *Cultural Psychology*, New York: Cambridge University Press, 1990.

Tournier, Paul. *Guilt and Grace*, New York: Harper and Row, 1962.

Ward, Ted. *Living Overseas*, New York: Free Press, 1984.

Weeks, Dudley. *The Eight Essential Steps to Conflict Resolution*, New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1992.

SPECIFIC DATA

Prepared by Warren Newberry, March 2007.