

# Assemblies of God Theological Seminary

## MCS/PTH 529 FOUNDATIONS OF CROSS-CULTURAL MINISTRY COURSE SYLLABUS

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Visiting Professor of Missions

**Spring 2002**

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

This interdisciplinary course is designed to prepare the student for effective ministry in the complexities of cross-cultural and subcultural settings. Foundational issues related to applied missions anthropology, intercultural communication, and contextualization will be addressed.

### COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. Recognize his/her cultural presuppositions and values and their impact on the effective cross-cultural communication of the Gospel.
2. Understand the role of selected facets of social science in cross-cultural ministries.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of significant terminology used in the discipline of missiology.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the essential concepts of cultural anthropology, cross-cultural communication, and contextualization.
5. Know the implications of societal typologies for cross-cultural ministry.
6. Identify and discuss the components of culture and various worldviews.
7. Appreciate the dynamics of theological contextualization.

### TEXTBOOKS

#### Required textbooks:

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

Hiebert, Paul and Eloise H. Meneses. Incarnational Ministry: Planting Churches in Band, Tribal, Peasant, and Urban Societies. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 1995.

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

#### Recommended Textbooks:

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

Ramachandra, Vinoth. Faiths in Conflict? Christian Integrity in a Multi-Cultural World. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1999.

## **BASIC OUTLINE**

- 7 Jan Introduction
- 14 Jan Intercultural Communications Foundations I
- 21 Jan Personal cross-cultural inventory paper due. Ministering Cross-Culturally report due.  
Intercultural Communications Foundations II
- 28 Jan Intercultural Communications Foundations III
- 4 Feb Cross-cultural Conflict
- 11 Feb Language and Culture Learning Techniques (video)
- 18 Feb Midterm Exam
- 25 Feb Anthropological Foundations for Missions  
Incarnational Ministry report due.
- 11 Mar Planting the Church in Band, Tribal, and Peasant Societies  
Paper topic due. Sign up to consult with professor if necessary.
- 18 Mar Planting the Church in Urban Societies
- 25 Mar Contextualization Foundations  
Learning About Theology from the Third World report due.
- 1 Apr African and Latin American Theology
- 8 Apr Asian Theology  
Research paper due.
- 15 Apr Strategic Dynamics in Cross-Cultural Ministry and Two-Thirds World Missions
- 22 Apr Final Exam

## **METHODOLOGY**

Lectures, discussion, video presentation(s), research paper, midterm and final exams.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

1. Reading of the required textbooks and assigned readings, with reading reports—two pages on texts and 1/2 page on collateral readings (to be described in class). Assigned collateral readings will be placed on reserve in the library for reading or photocopying.
2. Successful completion of two exams: Midterm on 18 February, Final on 22 April.
3. Papers to be written:
  - a. Personal cross-cultural inventory: Due January 21

b. Research paper (topic to be approved by instructor by March 11): Paper due at the beginning of class April 8, (15-20 pages). Please note that a deduction of one letter grade per class will be assessed for late work. Further details and suggested topics for the paper will be explained in class. They are to be typed, double spaced, according to Turabian's 6th edition.

4. Faithful attendance to class (as per the Student Handbook) and participation in discussions/groups.

### **GRADING PROCEDURE**

Attendance and class participation	10%
Completion of all required readings and submission of reports	20%
Cross-Cultural inventory paper	10%
Research paper	20%
Midterm exam	20%
Final exam	20%

### **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.
- Grunlan, Stephen A. and Marvin K. Mayers. Cultural Anthropology: A Christian Perspective, 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1988.
- Harris, M. The Rise of Anthropological Theory. New York: Ty Crowell, 1968.
- Hiebert, Paul. Cultural Anthropology. 2d ed. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1983.
- \_\_\_\_\_. Anthropological Insights for Missionaries. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1987.
- \_\_\_\_\_, ed. Anthropological Reflections on Missiological Issues. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1994.
- Hiebert, Paul, Daniel Shaw, and Tite Tienou, eds. Understanding Folk Religion: A Christian Response to Popular Beliefs and Practices. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1999.
- Keesing, R. M., and F. M. Kessing. New Perspectives in Cultural Anthropology. New York: HR & W, 1971.
- 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.
- \_\_\_\_\_. Getting Your Message Across. Bloomingdale, IL: Media Associates International, 1988.
- 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.
- \_\_\_\_\_. Communicating the Gospel God's Way. Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 1979.
- Littlejohn, Stephen W. Theories of Human Communication. Columbus, OH: Charles E. Merrill Publishing Co., 1978.
- Nida, Eugene A. Message and Mission: The Communication of the Christian Faith. revised. Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 1990.
- Richardson, Don. "Finding the Freeway Into the Heart." EMQ 15, no. 2 (April 1979): 89-96.
- Smith, Donald K. Make Haste Slowly: Developing Effective Cross-Cultural Communication. Portland, OR: Institute for International Christian Communication, 1984.

## **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.
- \_\_\_\_\_. "Contextualization: A New Dimension for Cross-Cultural Hermeneutic." EMQ 14, no. 1 (January 1978): 39-46.
- Connor, John H. "When Culture Leaves Contextualized Christianity Behind." Missiology 19, no. 1 (January 1991): 21-29.
- Engle, Richard W. "Contextualization in Missions: A Biblical and Theological Appraisal." Grace Theological Journal 4 (1983): 85-107.
- Fleming, Bruce C. E. Contextualization of Theology. Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 1980.
- Glasser, Arthur F. "Help From an Unexpected Quarter or, the Old Testament and Contextualization." Missiology 7, no. 4 (October 1979): 403-10.
- Gration, John. "The Problem of Contextualization." Missiology 11, no. 1 (January 1983): 95-111.
- Hiebert, Paul G. "Critical Contextualization." Missiology 12, no. 3 (July 1984): 288-96.
- Heideman, Eugene S. "Syncretism, Contextualization, Orthodoxy, and Heresy." Missiology 25, no. 1 (January 1997): 37-49.
- Hesselgrave, David J. ed. Theology And Mission: Papers and Responses Prepared for the Consultation on Theology and Mission. Trinity Evangelical Divinity School., School of World Mission and Evangelism, March 22-25, 1976. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1978.
- \_\_\_\_\_. New Horizons In World Mission: Evangelicals and the Christian Mission in the 1980s. Papers and Responses Prepared for the Consultation on Theology and Mission. Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, School of World Mission and Evangelism. March 12-22, 1979. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1979.
- \_\_\_\_\_. and Edward Rommen. Contextualization: Meanings, Methods, and Models. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1989
- Ingleby, Jonathan. "Trickling Down or Shaking the Foundations: Is Contextualization Neutral?" Missiology 25, no. 2 (April 1997): 183-87.
- Kinsler, F. Ross. "Mission and Context: The Current Debate About Contextualization." EMQ 14, no. 1 (January 1978): 23-29.
- Kraft, Charles H. "The Contextualization of Theology." EMQ 14, no. 1 (January 1978): 31-36.
- Lind, Millard C. "Refocusing Theological Education to Mission: The Old Testament and Contextualization." Missiology 10, no. 2 (April 1982): 141-60.
- Nichols, Bruce J. Contextualization: A Theology of Gospel and Culture. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1979.
- Ramirez, Eduardo Miguel. "Contextualization in the Local Church." EMQ 14, no. 1 (January 1978): 49-58.
- Schreiter, Robert J. "Culture, Society and Contextual Theologies." Missiology 12, no. 3 (July 1984): 261-73.

Spielberg, Fana, and Stuart Dauermann. "Contextualization: Indigenization and/or Transformation." In The Gospel and Islam: A 1978 Compendium, edited by Don McCurry, 143-54. Monrovia: MARC, 1979.

\_\_\_\_\_. "Contextualization." In Exploring Church Growth, edited by Wilbert Shenk, 117-31. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1983.

Whiteman, Darrell L. "Contextualizing the Gospel." Missiology 25, no. 1 (January 1997): 3-4.

(Bibliography from Dr. Warren Newberry—Visiting Professor of Missions)

### **WEBSITES**

[www.strategiconetwork.org](http://www.strategiconetwork.org)—multiple e-zines on cross-cultural issues

[www.missiology.org](http://www.missiology.org)—connected to Dr. Gailyn Van Rheen at Abilene Christian University

[www.gmi.org](http://www.gmi.org)—site for the Global Mapping project

[www.omsc.org](http://www.omsc.org)—site for Overseas Ministries Study Center at Yale University

[www.ad2000.org](http://www.ad2000.org)—site focused on world evangelization plan

[www.gsmweb.org](http://www.gsmweb.org)—site for American Society of Missiologists

[www.mislinks.org](http://www.mislinks.org)—site of Scott Moreau, editor of massive Evangelical Dictionary of Mission

[www.ethnicharvest.org](http://www.ethnicharvest.org)—key links to ethnic church planting in the U.S.

[www.gocn.org](http://www.gocn.org)—site for Gospel and Culture Network

### **SPECIFIC DATA**

Prepared by Barbara L. Cavaness, December 2001.