Course Description

This course examines issues in the world mission enterprise in light of today’s challenges, opportunities, and obligations. The biblical mandate for missions is clarified, the historical spread of Christianity with missionary movements and leaders is reviewed, and essential practical matters related to missions are examined. The breadth and depth of the latter cannot be dealt with extensively in a two-hour introductory course in missions; a much more extensive look at current issues and trends would be the primary focus of a subsequent course in missions, if that were made available in the curriculum.

Required Textbooks


Course goals

1. To inform the student on the role of the pastor in leading the congregation in obedience to the Great Commission.

2. To enable the student to understand the biblical/theological basis of world evangelization; that world evangelization is the goal of the Gospel. It is not an option; it is an obligation.

3. To introduce the student to the general history and the leading personalities of the Christian world of missions, the realm of international missionary cooperation, and authentic evangelical ecumenicity.

4. To assist the student to develop a strategy for missions that will be personally, professionally and denominationally effective in enabling the local church to participate fully in the biblical mission as given by our Risen Lord.

5. To assist the student in understanding how to relate and communicate well with people from other cultures.
6. To introduce the student to concepts and resources available for continuing growth in understanding the elements of good missiology.

7. To enable the student to understand the necessity of being a “world Christian” whether one becomes a missionary or not.

Means of Achieving the Goals

1. Each student has the assignment to read each textbook and report the timeliness of such reading relative to specific weekly assignments on a reading report sheet that is included with the syllabus. (Only 280 pages chosen by the student are required for the Tucker book, but 3% points of additional course credit will be granted to those who read all 512 pages.) The reading report is to be turned in with your final exam and will carry significant weight in determining course grades.

2. Each student has the assignment to read one missionary biography (previously unread by the student) that is legitimately book-length, which will be presented in a one or two page written report. The biography is to be about a cross-cultural missionary as opposed to evangelists or other outstanding leaders (Billy Graham, George Whitefield et al) or a movement (such as the Welsh Revival of 1904). Ideally the student will select a missionary about whom little is previously known. “A Starter List of Missionary Biographies” is attached to the syllabus. The one alternative to this assignment is if the student has not previously read, but would like to read John Piper, *Let the Nations Be Glad! The Supremacy of God in Missions*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2003. The same report requirements still apply. On September 17, 2012 the student’s selection should be turned in (typed, please) on a sheet of paper that includes on successive lines, in order, the student’s name, the missionary’s name, the name of the biography with the author, publisher and number of pages. Copies of the written report (two pages at most) are to be provided for the instructor and each class member. This written assignment is due on October 15, 2014.

3. The Final Exam will consist of six questions that you will have the entire quarter to work on:
   a. Robert Glover wrote a book many years ago entitled *The Bible Basis of Missions*. There have been those since who have suggested that the title might better have been *The Missionary Basis of the Bible*. Make the biblical case for such a missionary hermeneutic and explain the degree to which you think it is useful.
   b. Describe in 75 words or less the career and significance of one missionary from each of the following periods of time: 80-499AD, 500-999AD, 1000-1499AD, 1500-1699AD, 1700-1799AD, 1800-1899AD, 1900-1959AD, and 1960-present.
   c. What lessons have you learned through this course or outside of it about communicating well with persons of other cultures? Where possible explain how/where you learned each lesson.
   d. Discuss missionary support. Look at both sides of the issue: individual pledged support (after the manner of most interdenominational missions) or salaries paid from a general (denominational or agency) fund. Argue the case for the approach you favor, and explain how you think missionaries should generate prayer support from individuals, Christian groups, and congregations.
e. Discuss what it means to encounter missions as a sent one and a sender. What are the major issues and how would you address them?

f. Answer one of these two questions:
   i. Design your ideal missions program (mobilization, education, support policy, etc.) for a church you know well or that you could see yourself pastoring one day.
   ii. Describe the steps you would take to get from here as a seminary student, to ministering cross-culturally somewhere as a missionary.

NOTE: The second through fifth questions must be answered from memory within a three-hour final exam period without the use of notes or other sources. You may use an unmarked Bible for the first question. The last question may be prepared ahead of time and submitted with the rest of the exam (no more than two pages please).

Field Trip to JAARS at Waxhaw – Possible outing in lieu of class on campus on October 1, 2014. Details will be forthcoming.

Course Schedule with Reading and Other Assignments (to be completed by each class meeting date)

Week 1 – August 20
Introduction to the Class
Introduction to the Course
What is missiology?
Reading: Syllabus and acquaintance with the three textbooks.

Week 2 – August 27
Missions in the Modern World
Encountering Missions in the Old Testament
Reading: Moreau Preface & Chapters 1-2
Student Information Sheet due

Week 3 – September 3
Encountering Mission in the Gospels
Encountering Mission in the New Testament Church
Reading: Moreau Chapters 3-4

Week 4 – September 10
Encountering Mission Theology
Expansion in the Pre-Modern Era, A.D. 30-1500
Reading: Moreau Chapters 5-6

Week 5 – September 17
Expansion in the Era of Discovery and Colonialism, A.D. 1500-1900
Expansion to and From Every Continent, A.D. 1900-2000
Reading: Moreau Chapters 7-8
Missionary Biography Choice due

Week 6 – September 24
First Steps: Have You Been Called?
Missionary Preparation
Reading: Moreau Chapters 9-10

Week 7 – October 1
Instructor Away for a Board Meeting
Possible Guest Instructor or Tour of JAARS – TBD
Reading: Work on Biography or Tucker Book

Fall Break – October 8
Enjoy!

Week 8 – October 15
Charting a Path From Here to There
Personal and Family Issues
Reading: Moreau Chapters 11-12
Biography Report due

Week 9 – October 22
Strategic and Ministry Issues
Relating to People of Other Cultures
Reading: Moreau Chapters 13-14

Week 10 – October 29
Relating to Churches and Other Shareholders
Communicating with People of Other Cultures
Reading: Moreau Chapters 15-16

Week 11 – November 5
Strengthening the Missions Focus of the Local Church
Reading: Telford Book

Week 12 – November 12
Mission Trends and Paradigm Shifts
Reading: Moreau Chapter 17

Week 13 – November 19 – Our last class meeting
Encountering the Religions of the World
Mission and the Future
Reading: Moreau Chapters 18-19
Tucker Book Reading to Be Completed by Last Day of Classes December 2
# Reading Report

Name: _____________________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Moreau Chapters / Other</th>
<th># of Pages</th>
<th># Read on Time</th>
<th># Read Late</th>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Syllabus</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>MC Preface &amp; 1-2</td>
<td>30</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>MC 3-4</td>
<td>30</td>
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<td>MC 5-6</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>MC 9-10</td>
<td>30</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Student Option</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>MC 11-12</td>
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<td>10</td>
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<td>11</td>
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<td>12</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>MC 18-19</td>
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<td>By Dec. 4 Tucker Book</td>
<td>280</td>
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**Total 750**

**Academic Workload**

The unwritten guideline for any course’s academic workload is at least two hours of outside work for every one-hour in the classroom. Thus, for each two units of credit, the instructor expects 78 to 90 hours of academic work by the student since such courses average 26 contact hours. The additional number of hours should be spent in other structured learning experiences such as reading, writing, or exam preparation to make up the 78-90 hours expected. The instructor has adopted guidelines for measuring the amount of work that various kinds of
assignments may be expected to represent. One hour is represented by one hour of class, other required meetings, and/or travel, 25 pages of reading, and/or one double-space typed page of a course paper.

Thus, a 2-page paper represents 2 hours of the 78-90 hours that may be expected in a 2-unit class; and 750 pages of reading represent another 30 hours. These guidelines have been adapted in the planning for this course.

*Academic Workload:*

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tr>
<td>Reading Report</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Missionary Biography Book Review</td>
<td>8-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam &amp; Preparation</td>
<td>15-20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Ministry Reflection</td>
<td>3-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Exam Question #6)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>82-90 hours</strong></td>
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*Grading*

The grade will be assigned according to the relative weight distribution indicated below, and in conjunction with the RTS grading scale. Late assignments are subject to being penalized up to a full letter grade per week late.

*Composition of Semester Grade:*

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<th>Activity</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<td>Reading Report</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Personal Ministry Reflection</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Exam Question #6)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Extra Reading in Tucker</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100% - 103%</strong></td>
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*Contacting the Instructor*

The easiest way to contact the instructor is by email at garcorwin@aol.com. Please indicate RTS Missions Course in the subject heading to indicate it’s not spam. Thanks.
Prayer for Missions

Each student enrolled for credit will take a turn leading in prayer for the country (countries) named for the Wednesday date beginning with August 27 in *Operation World*. Before the prayer, a **THREE-MINUTE (ONLY)** summary about the country to be prayed for should be given from material in *Operation World*. Of particular interest in the **three-minute** summary would be, for example, the percentage of Christians to total population, several of the major missionary agencies at work in that country etc. (**Keep the summary CONCISE and memorable!**)  

A Starter List of Missionary Biographies

De la Haye, *Tread Upon the Lion: The Story of Tommie Titcombe* (Scarborough, Ontario: Sudan Interior Mission, 1974).
Hale, Thomas. *Don’t Let the Goats Eat the Loquat Trees: Adventures of an American Surgeon in
Nepal (Grand Rapids, MI.: Zondervan, 1986).
Hamilton, Pauline G. To a Different Drum (Singapore: Overseas Missionary Fellowship, 1984).
Thompson, D. P. Eric H. Liddell: Athlete and Missionary (Barnock, Crieff, Perthshire, Scotland: The Research Unit, 1971).