01MS518 MISSIONS

by

Elias dos Santos Medeiros

COURSE DESIGN

Master of Divinity
Reformed Theological Seminary

RTS Jackson, Mississippi
Fall 2013 A.D.
REFORMED THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

2MS518 MISSIONS

PROFESSOR: Dr. Medeiros

EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES OF THE COURSE

This course introduces the student to four key “missional” motivations as they relate to the Christian ministry: pastoral, biblical/theological, historical, and practical (strategy). Our goal is to learn in order to reach. The question to keep in mind is this: What does it have to do with God’s glory, the edification (building up) of the church, and the salvation of the unconverted across the street and around the world? These “lectures” and activities have been designed to be reproduced in the context of the local churches.

FORMAT

“Lectures,” guest lecturers, small group interactions, seminars, video presentations, visit to a Mosque, and discussions.

TOPICS TO BE CONSIDERED

Pastoral Motivation: Preaching

The Problem of Every Human Being (Reminder)
The Greatest Joy of Every Human Being (Reminder)
The Ultimate Purpose of the Christian Ministry (Reminder)
The Preaching to All the Nations

Matthew 24, 28;
Mark 16:14-20;
John 17:18; 21:15-23;
Acts 1:1-8

(The Status of World “Evangelization” Today)

Biblical/Theological Motivation: Let the Nations Be Glad

What is the Bible All About?

Exegeting Words in the Light of the Scriptures
Mission, Missionary, Missionary Work, Mission Field
“Missional” (the “new” kid on the block)
Historical Motivation: Biographies

From Jerusalem to Edinburgh
   From Pentecost to the World Missionary Conference 1910

From Edinburgh 1910 to Cape Town 2010

From Whom to Whom? From Where to Where? What?
   The Servants
   The Places (Geo-graphy X Theo-graphy)
   The Work

Practical Motivation: Strategy—“Just Do Something”

Critical Issues in World “Missions” Today

Case Study: Islam (Studying the Qur’an)

Church Planting and Cultural “Anthropology”
   Case Study: The Taliabo Story

So What?

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Attendance—“Classroom attendance is for the glory of God and preparation for the gospel ministry. Students therefore are expected to attend class sessions....” (RTS Catalogue).

SIX (6) ABSENCES:                GRADE F
FOUR (4) ABSENCES:               GRADE C+
THREE (3) ABSENCES:              GRADE B-

Three reading reports—The careful reading of the assigned books and three reading reports (two pages each per book, except for the book of Acts), single space, highlighting the main propositions, statements, theses,

1 Eight hours of our time will be dedicated to study the Qur’an, especially its teaching regarding Jesus, the Holy Scriptures (the Jewish scriptures and the Gospel), and the “people of the book.”
principles, etc, gathered from the reading. **Check the due dates of the readings and of the written reading reports. IT IS THE STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY TO SUBMIT THESE INFORMATION VIA E-MAIL. DON'T WAIT FOR A REMINDER.**

**Participation in the classroom activities (“mission” reports/prayer, and presentations).**

The first 20 minutes of the first class of each day will be dedicated to “mission reports” and prayer. Read Genesis 18:16-25, 32-33; Isaiah 56:7; Mark 11:17; 1 Timothy 2:1-6.

Small Group discussions and facilitators. Choose a Facilitator to represent your group.

**A “lecture” presentation** in a small group setting (Sunday School, for instance) about the life and ministry of a protestant evangelical “missionary,” highlighting God's work through him and his family (wife and children), as well as his theology and strategy. Read Hebrews 11:39-12:2; 13:7.

**Interview (conversation with) a non-Christian** and write one page report about your experience. **Due on December 3.**

**Required readings:**


Banner of Truth Trust (John Thornbury). (1965) *Five Pioneer Missionaries: David Brainerd, William C. Burns, John Eliot, Henry Martyn, John G. Paton.* Banner of Truth. This book has been reprinted several times. **Due on November 27.**

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At least 250 pages of reading on a world religion. Due on December 3.
BIBLIOGRAPHY

Dictionaries


Reading on Islam


Recommended Reading


Other Readings in Biblical Theology of Mission
For texts online see: http://www.religion-online.org/listbycategory.asp?Cat=4. See also the Bibliography on Mission Studies (International Review of Mission).


_____. The spontaneous expansion of the church: And the causes which hinder it.


Websites

http://www.joshuaproject.net/ (Check it out)
http://www.lausanne.org (Check it out)
http://www.ad2000.org/ (Check it out)
http://home.snu.edu/~hculbert/intro.htm (Check it out)
http://home.snu.edu/~hculbert/anthro.htm
http://www.acts29network.org/
http://www.theresurgence.com/
http://www.perspectives.org/
http://www.uscwm.org/
http://www.wholesomewords.org/missions/bioindex.html (Mission Biographies)
http://www.aims.org/ (Mission Strategies)
http://www.worldchristiandatabase.org/wcd/default.asp (Mission Statistics)
http://www.newchurches.com/ (Church Planting)
http://www.monergism.com/thethreshold/articles/topic/missions.html
http://www.missiology.org/
http://www.gca.cc/ (Church Planting)
http://www.strategicnetwork.org/
http://www.imb.org (Biblical Basis of Missions)
http://www.ntslibrary.com/PDF%20Books.htm (Books online)
http://www.ntslibrary.com/PDF%20Books/The%Biblical%20Basis%20of%20Missions.pdf (The Biblical Basis of Missions)
http://www.gutenberg.org/

http://www.asmweb.org (Missiology Research Sites)
http://www.bible-researcher.com/links.html
http://www.biblicalfoundations.org (Köstenberger’s webpage and blog)
http://www.gmi.org/ (Global Mapping International)
http://www.martynmission.cam.ac.uk (Henry Martyn Centre–United Kingdom)
http://www.missionstudies.org/ (International Association for Mission Studies)
http://www.religion-online.org/ (Full texts online)
http://www.mislinks.org/topics/theology.htm
http://www.christiananswers.net/evangelism/home.html
 Course Objectives Related to MDiv Student Learning Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MDiv Student Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Rubric</th>
<th>Mini-Justification</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Articulation (oral &amp; written)</strong></td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>1. Students submit one page report for each book and article read</td>
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<td>Broadly understands and articulates knowledge,</td>
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<td>2. Students lecture on one “missionary biography” at their local congregation.</td>
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<td>both oral and written, of essential biblical,</td>
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<td>theological, historical, and cultural/global</td>
<td>Strong</td>
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<td>information, including details, concepts, and</td>
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<td>1. Working with the original languages</td>
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<td>frameworks.</td>
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<td>2. “Saturate” use of the Bible concerning the use of biblical words related to</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>“mission,” “missionary,” “missionary work,” and “mission field.”</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>3. Exegesis of Matthew 28</td>
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<td><strong>Scripture</strong></td>
<td>Moderate</td>
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<td>Significant knowledge of the original meaning</td>
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<td>of Scripture. Also, the concepts for and skill</td>
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<td>to research further into the original meaning</td>
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<td>of Scripture and to apply Scripture to a variety</td>
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<td>of modern circumstances. (Includes appropriate</td>
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<td>use of original languages and hermeneutics; and</td>
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<td>integrates theological, historical, and</td>
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<td>cultural/global perspectives.)</td>
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<td><strong>Reformed Theology</strong></td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>1. The theology of the Sovereignty of God and its implications for missions</td>
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<td>Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and</td>
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<td>practice, with emphasis on the Westminster</td>
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<td>Standards.</td>
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<td><strong>Sanctification</strong></td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>1. Stress and apply the relationship between redemptive history and redemptive</td>
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<td>Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids</td>
<td></td>
<td>living (sanctifying growth) in the context of God’s redemptive work.</td>
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<td>the student’s sanctification.</td>
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<td><strong>Desire for Worldview</strong></td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>1. Every lecture will challenge each student in living their whole life in view of</td>
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<td>Burning desire to conform all of life to the</td>
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<td>God’s</td>
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<td>Word of God.</td>
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Course: Mission  
Professor: Elias Medeiros  
Campus: Jackson
| glory, the edification of the church and the salvation of the lost |
| Winsomely Reformed | Embraces a winsomely Reformed ethos. (Includes an appropriate ecumenical spirit with other Christians, especially Evangelicals; a concern to present the Gospel in a God-honoring manner to non-Christians; and a truth-in-love attitude in disagreements.) | Moderate | Emphasis on how God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, approach and use His people for His glory and the salvation of the lost. |
| Preach | Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm. | Minimal | 1. Applications are constantly made throughout the lectures |
| Worship | Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service. | Moderate | 1. Mission as caused by the inability and impossibility of fallen creatures to worship their creator.  
2. Discussion of John Piper thesis “Missions is not the ultimate goal of the church. Worship is. Missions exists because worship doesn’t.” |
| Shepherd | Ability to shepherd the local congregation: aiding in spiritual maturity; promoting use of gifts and callings; and encouraging a concern for non-Christians, both in America and worldwide. | Moderate | 1. Emphasis on God’s way of dealing with His “mission” through His church and the leaders He calls |
| Church/World | Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues. | Moderate | Lectures on the Status of World Evangelization today, especially in the context of Christians/Muslims dialogue and contexts. |