2MS518 MISSIONS

by

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COURSE DESIGN

Master of Divinity
Reformed Theological Seminary

Orlando, Florida
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EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES OF THE COURSE

This course introduces the student to four key “missiological” 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, and discussions.

TOPICS TO BE CONSIDERED

Pastoral Motivation: Preaching

The Problem of Every Human Being Who Ever Lived
The Greatest Joy of Every Human Being Who Ever Lived
The Ultimate Purpose of the Christian Ministry (Service)
Matthew 4, 9, 28 and 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
  Evangelism
  Evangelist,
  Evangelize
  Mission,
  Missionary,
  Missionary Work,
  Mission Field
“Missional” (the “new” kid in the block)
Historical Motivation: Biographies
The Servants
The Places (Geo-graphy X Theo-graphy)
The Work

Practical Motivation: Strategy—“Just Do Something”
Current Issues in Mission Strategies
Case Study: One of the World Religions
Church Planting and Cultural “Anthropology”
Case Study: The Taliabo Story
Ten Practical Ways to Involve Your Local Church to Minister

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. No student should absent himself from classes in order to fulfill requirements or responsibilities of other classes....” (RTS Catalogue).

Three reading reports—The careful reading of the assigned materials and three reading reports (two pages each per book), single space, highlighting the main propositions, statements, theses, principles, etc, gathered from the reading. Due on August.

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 a non-Christian and write one page report about your experience. Due on August.
Required readings:


BIBLIOGRAPHY

Dictionaries


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.bu.edu/sth/cgcm/index.html
http://www.worldchristiandatabase.org/wcd/default.asp (Mission Statistics)
http://www.newchurches.com/ (Church Planting)
http://www.acu.edu/ministry/centers_institutes/missions.html
http://www.monergism.com/thethreshold/articles/topic/missions.html
http://www.missiology.org/missionsdictionary.htm
http://www.missiology.org/
http://www.gca.cc/ (Church Planting)
http://www.strategicnetwork.org/
http://www.imb.org/biblicalbasis/ (Biblical Basis of Missions)
http://www.ntslibrary.com/PDF%20Books.htm (Books online)
http://www.gutenberg.org/

http://www.acmcnetwork.com/
http://www.asmweb.org/links.htm (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/Research.htm (Henry Martyn Centre–United Kingdom)
http://www.missiology.org/
http://www.missionstudies.org/ (International Association for Mission Studies)
http://www.religion-online.org/ (Full texts online)
http://www.mislinks.org/topics/theology.htm