

**MISSIONS – PT 5225**  
**Fall Term 2020 (Sept. 1 – Dec 1 2020)**  
**Reformed Theological Seminary/Orlando**  
**Live-Remote and Sync**  
**Dr. Craig Sheppard**

**Key Dates for this course:**

<b>September 1</b>	<b>First class</b>
September 9	Last day to add a class
September 30	Last day to drop a class
October 12-16	Reading week – No class on October 13 <sup>th</sup>
<b>October 16</b>	<b>Essay #1 due: Funding Missions</b>
<b>December 1</b>	<b>Last class</b>
<b>December 4</b>	<b>Essay #2 due: Missionary Biography (12:00 noon)</b>
December 10-15	Examination period (Dec. 10, 11, 14 & 15)
Dec 16 - Jan 3	Christmas holidays

**Course Description**

This course presents and examines world missions from three perspectives: the Biblical theology of missions; the history of missions; and current trends, methods, and issues facing missions.

**Course goals**

1. To enable the student to articulate a Biblical theology of missions and evaluate missiological trends and practices in light of it.
2. To enable the student to better understand the biblical/theological mandate of world evangelization, discipleship and church planting.
3. To enable the student to understand the role of the local pastor in leading his congregation in obedience to the Great Commission.
4. To introduce the student to the history and the leading personalities of Christian missions.
5. To prepare the student to interact Biblically with the various challenges, debates and opportunities facing the church today in light of globalization, economics, politics, and technology.
6. To equip the student to develop and implement a church-based strategy for world missions that will bear fruit both in the greater worldwide missions task and in the hearts of individual believers, resulting in missions-minded and missions-active congregations.
7. To acquaint the student with the various resources and agencies available for continued growth and participation in world missions.

**Course Assignments**

1. **Read Ruth Tucker's *From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya***, chapters 1-8 and 10-15 (approximately 360pp). It is recommended (but not required) that this book be read before the beginning of the course)
2. **Read one missionary biography** (previously unread by the student) that is legitimately book-length. The biography is to be about a full-time cross-cultural missionary as opposed to evangelists, converts who have a strong local or international ministry, other outstanding leaders (i.e. not Billy Graham, George Whitefield, etc.) or a movement (such as the Welsh Revival of 1904). "A Starter List of Missionary Biographies" is attached to the syllabus. On the final exam the student will report the missionary's name, the name of the biography with the author and publisher, and the number of pages read (by percentage).
3. **Read all assigned articles** and be prepared for class. A form to report the completion of these readings will also appear on the final exam. The assigned articles are provided online or at the following link:  
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1EOGdo7jnlYlcDv0IfPQ0LfapMzRSSJ4N?usp=sharing>
4. **Write a brief essay** (~5 pages, 1500 words) outlining your Biblical philosophy of funding missions. The essay is to look at the various methods of funding missions, including individual support-raising, sending-agency general funding, bi-vocational (or "tent-making") and "faith-based" funding (there may be some overlap in these options). The essay should briefly describe and define the various options and Biblically and critically argue for one approach. It is expected that this paper will be marked by a solid introduction and conclusion(s), a clear outline/structure, solid argumentation, and a quality writing style with proper citation of multiple sources (3-5 minimum). This is due **October 16, 2020**.
5. **Write an essay on a missionary** of the student's choice, which shall include a clear introduction, brief biographical, theological, and ministry sketch, challenges faced on his/her particular mission field, and an honest assessment (including critique) of his/her contributions to world missions in light of the missionary's personality traits, strengths, weaknesses, mistakes, theological errors, sending agency, etc. **This essay should be approximately 10 pages (3000 words)** and may be written on the same missionary studied in assignment #2 above, but multiple other sources (minimum five) must be consulted for additional insights and evaluations. It is expected that this paper will be marked by a solid introduction and conclusion(s), a clearly articulated outline, solid argumentation, and a quality writing style with proper citation of sources in footnotes. Please include a Bibliography. This is due Friday, **December 4, 2020** at 12:00 noon.
6. **Complete the final exam**, which will be a short-answer and essay exam, covering material discussed in class and all reading assignments. This final must be completed by **Dec. 15, 2020**.
7. **Participate in Class Discussions**

## Grading

The final course grade will be assigned according to the distribution indicated below, and in conjunction with the RTS grading scale. Late assignments are subject to a penalty of 10% per week late (i.e., received on late day 1-7 will receive a 10% deduction; late day 8-14, 20%, etc.)

Composition of Semester Grade:

Class Attendance and Participation **5%**

Completion of reading assignments (#s 1-3 above): **25%** (reading report will be given by the student on the final exam).

Missionary essay **20%**

Missions funding philosophy essay **10%**

Final Exam **40%**

## Contacting the Instructor

The easiest way to contact the instructor is by email at csheppard@rts.edu. Please indicate RTS Missions Course in the subject heading to indicate it's not spam.

## A Starter List of Missionary Biographies (titles not on this list may also be selected)

- Anderson, Courtney. *To the Golden Shore: The Life of Adoniram Judson* (Valley Forge, PA.: Judson Press, 1987).
- Andrew, Brother. *God's Smuggler* (Old Tappan, NJ.: Revell, 1967).
- Appasamy, A. J. *Sundar Singh* (London, 1958).
- Burgess, Alan. *The Small Woman* (New York, NY.: Dutton, 1957).
- Carre, E. G. *Praying Hyde: The Life Story of John Hyde* (Alachua, FL: Bridge-Logos, 1982).
- Carson, Paul. *Out of the Jaws of the Lion* (New York, NY.: Harper & Row, 1965).
- Crossman, Ellen Fraser. *Mountain Rain: J. O. Fraser* (New York, NY.: Harold Shaw Publishers, 1994).
- Curry, Dayna and Heather Mercer. *Prisoners of Hope: The Story of Our Captivity and Freedom in Afghanistan* (New York: Doubleday, 2002).
- Deibler Rose, Darlene. *Evidence Not Seen: A Woman's Miraculous Faith in a Japanese Prison Camp During WWII* (San Francisco, CA.: Harper & Row, 1988).
- De la Haye, *Tread Upon the Lion: The Story of Tommie Titcombe* (Scarborough, Ontario: Sudan Interior Mission, 1974).
- Elliot, Elisabeth. *Shadow of the Almighty: The Life & Testament of Jim Elliot* (New York, NY.: Harper & Brothers, 1958).
- Elliot, Elisabeth. *Who Shall Ascend: The Life of R. Kenneth Strachan of Costa Rica* (New York: Harper & Row, 1968).
- Elliot, Elisabeth. *Through Gates of Splendor* (Wheaton, IL.: Tyndale House, 1981).
- Elliot, Elisabeth. *A Chance to Die: the Life and Legacy of Amy Carmichael* (Old Tappan, NJ.: F. H. Revell, 1987).
- Esther, Gulshan. *The Torn Veil* (Grand Rapids, MI.: Zondervan, 1984).
- Goforth, Rosalind. *Goforth of China* (Toronto: McClelland & Stewart, 1939).
- Grubb, Norman P. *C. T. Studd: Cricketer & Pioneer* (Fort Washington, PA.: Christian Literature Crusade, 1969).

- Hale, Thomas. *Don't Let the Goats Eat the Loquat Trees: Adventures of an American Surgeon in Nepal* (Grand Rapids, MI.: Zondervan, 1986).
- Hale, Thomas. *On the Far Side of Liglig Mountain: Adventures of an American Family in Nepal* (Grand Rapids, MI.: Zondervan, 1989).
- Hale, Thomas. *Living Stones of the Himalayas: Adventures of an American Couple in Nepal* (Grand Rapids, MI.: Zondervan, 1993).
- Hamilton, Pauline G. *To a Different Drum* (Singapore: Overseas Missionary Fellowship, 1984).
- Hefley, James and Marti. *Uncle Cam: The Story of William Cameron Townsend* (Huntington Beach, CA: Wycliffe Bible Translators, 1984).
- Hitt, Russell T. *Jungle Pilot: The Life and Witness of Nate Saint* (Grand Rapids, MI.: Zondervan, 1973).
- Houghton, Frank. *Amy Carmichael of Dohnavur* (London: Society for the Propagation of Christian Knowledge, 1954).
- Laszlo, Marilyn. *Mission Possible* (Carol Stream, IL.: Tyndale House Publishers, 1998).
- Livingstone, W. P. *Mary Slessor of Calabar: Pioneer Missionary* (London: Hodder & Stoughton, 1915).
- Maharaj, Rabindranath. *Death of a Guru* (New York: A. J. Holman Company, 1977).
- Mangalwadi, Vishal & Ruth. *The Legacy of William Carey: A Model for the Transformation of a Culture* (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 1993, 1999).
- McCasland, David. *Eric Liddell: Pure Gold* (Grand Rapids, MI.: Discovery House Publishers, 2001).
- McClung, Floyd. *Living on the Devil's Doorstep* (Seattle, WA.: YWAM Publishing, 1988).
- Olson, Bruce. *Bruchko* (Carol Stream, IL.: Creation House, 1978).
- Padwick, Constance E. *Henry Martyn: Confessor of the Faith* (Chicago, IL: Moody Press, 1950).
- Parshall, Phil. *Divine Threads within a Human Tapestry: Memoirs of Phil Parshall* (Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 2000).
- Pierson, A. T. *George Müller of Bristol* (Grand Rapids, MI.: Kregel, 1999).
- Pigott, B. A. F. *Lilias Trotter: Founder of the Algiers Mission Band* (London: n.d.).
- Pollock, J. C. *Hudson Taylor and Maria* (London: OMF, 1962).
- Pollock, John. *A Foreign Devil in China: The Story of Dr. L. Nelson Bell* (Minneapolis, MN: World Wide Publications, 1971, 1988).
- Ransford, Oliver. *David Livingstone: the Dark Interior* (New York: St. Martin's, 1978).
- Richardson, Don. *Peace Child* (Ventura, CA.: Regal Books, 1974).
- Richardson, Don. *Lords of the Earth* (Ventura, CA.: Regal Books, 1977).
- Sheikh, Bilqus & Richard H. Schneider. *I Dared to Call Him Father* (Grand Rapids, MI.: Baker Book House, 1980).
- St. John, Patricia. *Until the Day Breaks* (Carlisle, Great Britain: OM Publishing, 1990).
- Taylor, Mrs. Howard. *Borden of Yale '09: The Life that Counts* (Philadelphia, PA: China Inland Mission, 1926).
- Thompson, D. P. *Eric H. Liddell: Athlete and Missionary* (Barnoak, Crieff, Perthshir, Scotland: The Research Unit, 1971).
- Thompson, Phyllis. *A Transparent Woman: The Compelling Story of Gladys Aylward* (Grand Rapids, MI.: Zondervan, 1971).
- Wagner, C. Peter and Joseph S. McCullough. *The Condor of the Jungle: Pioneer Pilot of the Andes* (Westwood, NJ: Fleming H. Revell, 1966).
- Wellman, Sam. *William Carey: Father of Missions* (Uhrichsville, OH: Barbour Publishing, 1997).

- Wilson, J. Christie. *Apostle of Islam: A Biography of Samuel M. Zwemer* (Literary Licensing, LLC, October 15, 2011).



### Course Objectives Related to MDiv\* Student Learning Outcomes

Course: PT 5225

Professor: Craig Sheppard, PhD

Campus: Orlando

Date: July, 2020

<b>MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes</b> <i>In order to measure the success of the MDiv curriculum, RTS has defined the following as the intended outcomes of the student learning process. Each course contributes to these overall outcomes. This rubric shows the contribution of this course to the MDiv outcomes.</i> <i>*As the MDiv is the core degree at RTS, the MDiv rubric will be used in this syllabus.</i>		<b>Rubric</b>	<b>Mini-Justification</b>
<b>Articulation (oral &amp; written)</b>	Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks. Also includes ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.	Strong	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Essay on methods of funding missions.</li> <li>2. Research/biographical essay on a missionary, including critical analysis</li> <li>3. Final exam tests knowledge and ability to integrate course concepts and topics</li> </ol>
<b>Scripture</b>	Significant knowledge of the original meaning of Scripture. Also, the concepts for and skill to research further into the original meaning of Scripture and to apply Scripture to a variety of modern circumstances. (Includes appropriate use of original languages and hermeneutics; and integrates theological, historical, and cultural/global perspectives.)	Strong	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Traces missiological themes throughout the entirety of scripture and explores biblical teaching on missions</li> <li>2. Examines the biblical basis and methods of missions, including the analysis and evaluation of trends in modern missions in light of Biblical teaching</li> </ol>
<b>Reformed Theology</b>	Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.	Strong	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Emphasizes connection between Reformed theology as the beginning place of Biblical missiology</li> <li>2. Presents a Reformed approach to evangelism, missions and church planting</li> </ol>
<b>Sanctification</b>	Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student's sanctification.	Strong	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Explores the Trinitarian foundation of missions and emphasizes our dependence on God in all facets of</li> </ol>

			missions engagement. 2. Emphasizes that the ultimate purpose of missions is the glory of God
<b>Worldview</b>	Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God. Includes ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.	Strong	1. Reformed methodology of missions presented 2. Presentation of the view that missions should permeate any Biblical worldview. 3. Christian worldview shown to be thoroughly missiological, and missions to be thoroughly Biblical.
<b>Winsomely Reformed</b>	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.)	Strong	1. Assignment of leading articles from non-Reformed missiologists and theologians presenting missions and missions theory and practice 2. Emphasis on engaging winsomely these alternate missiologies, taking into account their contributions as well as limitations.
<b>Pastoral Ministry</b>	Ability to minister the Word of God to hearts and lives of both church and unchurched, to include preaching, teaching, leading in worship, leading and shepherding the local congregation, aiding in spiritual maturity, concern for non-Christians.	Strong	1. Instruction in the critical components, steps and procedures in establishing and maintaining a vital sending-church missions program (including organization of missions conferences, missionary evaluation and Short-term involvement). 2. Emphasis on the importance of establishing local churches throughout the world with trained, godly leadership. 3. Consideration of strategies and the importance of working with various missions sending agencies, including an understanding of the differing roles of the local church and denominational agencies in ministry of missions. 4. Equipping pastors to understand the various opportunities in missions for them and their congregations, such as business (as mission), and tent-making, church planting and education.