

WM5101 INTRODUCTION TO WORLD MISSIONS SYLLABUS

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

A study of the biblical meaning and purpose of missions, missions agencies and instruments, and missions accomplishments, trends, needs, and possibilities.

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES

A. Cognitive Objectives (know)

- Better understand the role of mission as revealed in the Bible.
- Better understand mission as a major unifying theme of the Bible.
- Better understand the role of humility in having a loving witness.
- Better understand the great cost of following Jesus by many in the world and throughout history.
- Better understand what living out the gospel in everyday life can look like.
- Better understand what a life fully committed to Jesus may look like.
- Better understand themselves and their personal need for Jesus.
- Better understand heaven and hell as realities to guide our life decisions.

B. Affective Objectives (feel)

- Joy and excitement to participate in God's mission.
- Joy that comes from serving and loving others in humility.
- Sadness over persecution of believers and a joy in standing with them.
- Pain of dying to self so that others may experience life.
- Leave behind the shame and guilt of knowing the gospel but not sharing it with others.
- Peace and joy in experiencing a deeper intimacy with Jesus.
- Peace and joy in experiencing greater victory in Jesus regarding various struggles in life.

C. Behavioral Objectives (do)

- Live on mission with confidence based on Biblical understanding.
- Commit life to living on God's mission.
- Love other people well in effective, tangible ways.
- Gain courage in living a life of witness for Jesus.
- Grow in gospel fluency.
- Hear and obey the leading of God.

D. Rationale for Course (set of reasons or a logical basis for course)

- a. To aid the student in becoming a more effective witness for Christ, wherever God calls them in the world.
- b. This is an introductory class in world (where we are) missions (who we are).

III. COURSE TEXTBOOKS

Required

**Reading via audiobook is 100% acceptable and even encouraged.*

Burke, John. *Imagine Heaven: Near-Death Experiences, God's Promises, and the Exhilarating Future that Awaits You*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Books, 2015.

Elmer, Duane. *Cross-Cultural Servanthood: Serving the World in Christlike Humility*. Downers Grove, Illinois: IVP Books, 2006.

Hoffmann, Lynn. *Steps Into God's Grace: Spiritual Formation Through God's Word and the 12 Steps of Recovery*. Columbia, SC: CreateSpace. 2013.

Reference Qur'an Council, The. *The English Reference Qur'an Translation: The First Translation of the Qur'an from the Original Arabic into Modern English with References to the Tawrah, Zabur, and Injil*. The Reference Qur'an Council. 2015. (<http://referencequran.com/>)

Ripken, Nik. *The Insanity of God: A True Story of Faith Resurrected*. Nashville, Tennessee: B&H Publishing Group. 2013.

Sergeant, Curtis. *The Only One: Living Fully In, By, And For God*. William Carey Publishing. 2019.

Vanderstelt, Jeff. *Gospel Fluency: Speaking the Truths of Jesus into the Everyday Stuff of Life*. Wheaton, Illinois: Crossway. 2017.

Wright, Christopher J. H. *The Mission of God's People: A Biblical Theology of the Church's Mission*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2010.

B. Suggested

Burns, J. Lanier. *Pride And Humility At War: A Biblical Perspective*. Phillipsburg, New Jersey: P&R Publishing, 2018.

Corbett, Steve, and Brian Fikkert. *When Helping Hurts: How to Alleviate Poverty Without Hurting the Poor...and Yourself*. Expanded Edition. Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2012.

Hiebert, Paul G. *Transforming Worldviews: An Anthropological Understanding of How People Change*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2008.

Hiebert, Paul G., R. Daniel Shaw, Tite Tienou. *Understanding Folk Religion: A Christian Response to Popular Beliefs and Practices*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1999.

Hirsch, Alan. *The Forgotten Ways: Reactivating the Missional Church*. Grand Rapids: Brazos Press, 2006.

Hirsch, Alan, and Darryn Altclass. *The Forgotten Ways Handbook: A Practical Guide for Developing Missional Churches*. Grand Rapids: Brazos Press, 2006.

Mandryk, Jason. *Operation World* 7th ed., completely rev. Colorado Springs, CO: Biblica Publishing, 2010

Moreau, A. Scott, Gary Corwin, and Gary McGee. *Introducing World Missions: A Biblical, Historical, and Practical Survey*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 2004.

Nasr, Seyyed Hossein (Editor). *The Study Quran: A New Translation and Commentary*. HarperOne, 2015.

Winter, Ralph D. and Steven C. Hawthorne, ed. *Perspectives on the World Christian Movement*. Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 2009.

IV. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A. Reading (25%)

**Reading via audiobook is 100% acceptable and even encouraged.*

Students will read assigned sections of the textbooks and other articles as indicated on the Course Schedule. Because class discussion will be based on assigned reading it is important that students faithfully complete this reading before each day's class session.

The reading should be considered as our class lectures. In class, we will focus on discussing the reading and other topics.

DUE:

Special Note: Regarding the Qur'an reading, feel free to "skim." The goal is not to be an expert on the Qur'an, but to have general exposure to its contents. Do not let this reading overwhelm you.

B. Written Assignments (75%)

Special Note: The goal of most of the written assignments is to help you process the contents of the reading and for me to see how you are wrestling with the content in relation to your life. Don't focus grades; focus on learning.

1. Becoming an Effective Witness (20%)

Each student will prayerfully select one person to consistently reach out to with the love of Christ on a weekly basis throughout the semester. Each student will also initiate ten conversations about Jesus with ten different people. This assignment will serve as a core focus of all readings, papers, and class discussions and will culminate in a journal with a bulleted "executive summary" of key lessons and observations on the front page of the journal.

2. **Biblical Theology of Mission Study (5%)**

Each student will write a 3-5 page paper expressing their understanding of the mission of God's people as revealed in Scripture. Students are encouraged to use *The Mission of God's People* by Christopher Wright as a key resource alongside of the Bible for this assignment.

The *majority* of the paper should be personal reflection regarding how you have and hope to live your life in line with God's mission. Specific examples of challenges and applications are preferred. This is NOT a book review.

3. ***The Only One Book Study (5%)***

Each student will complete the first three check boxes for each chapter of the book.

4. **Servanthood "Cheat Sheet" (5%)**

After reading Elmer, create a 2-3 page summary of the servanthood process (Part II of book). This summary is meant to serve as a reference guide for you in the future. This can be written in narrative or bullet format. Feel free to be creative. Create something you will use in the future to remind you of the lessons of the book.

5. **Steps Into God's Grace Workbook (15%)**

Record workbook as completed on reading report turned in at the end of the semester. All contents are to remain private unless the student chooses to share.

6. **International Friendship (25%)**

Each student will cultivate a relationship throughout the course of the semester with an international student at DTS or someone outside the seminary environment (i.e., a person who is not a student or employed at DTS) from a different culture than their own. At least *five* in-depth conversations (minimum of five hours) are required during which the student should learn about the international person's home culture, including the place of Christianity in that culture, and perceived differences between the international's home culture and North American culture.

These interactions must occur through the semester with the first interaction due by the end of September, two more by the end of October, and two more by the end of November.

The student will write a five-page report of what was learned during the conversations. The paper will include the following elements:

- a. An introduction of the person and the circumstances of the friendship, including the amount of time spent with the person and the setting in which you interacted (i.e. in person, via phone or e-mail, etc).
- b. A description of the international's home culture and perceived cultural differences with North Americans.

- c. A discussion of perceived barriers or points of contact in the international person's understanding of the Gospel and Christianity.

The professor will grade this assignment and assign it one of four rankings. DTS administrators will use these rankings, in *anonymous* form, to measure the seminary's performance on key objectives. The ranking may *reflect* your grade, but it does not *determine* your grade. The rankings are as follows:

- a. Incomplete: The student did not establish a relationship with an international person and/or did not submit a complete report.
- b. Completed but unacceptable: The student submitted a complete report that compares and contrasts the person's worldview with the student's own, but the relationship described is based primarily on recollections of *past* interactions (i.e. prior to current semester) or *current* interactions that occurred via e-mail or phone (i.e. *not* in person). Reporting on a relationship with a person *within* the seminary environment, or a person who shares your own home culture, may also result in an "unacceptable" ranking.
- c. Completed and acceptable: The student submitted a complete report that compares and contrasts the person's worldview with the student's own, and the relationship described is based on current, in-depth conversations that occurred in person and at one time (i.e. five in-depth conversations in one day or one weekend).
- d. Completed and outstanding: The student submitted a complete report that compares and contrasts the person's worldview with the student's own, and the relationship described is based on current, in-depth conversations that occurred in person and at five or more meetings spread throughout the semester.

V. COURSE POLICIES

A. Letter/Numerical Grade Scale

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|----|--------|----|-------|----|-------|----|-------|---|------|
| A+ | 99-100 | B+ | 91-93 | C+ | 83-85 | D+ | 75-77 | F | 0-69 |
| A | 96-98 | B | 88-90 | C | 80-82 | D | 72-74 | | |
| A- | 94-95 | B- | 86-87 | C- | 78-79 | D- | 70-71 | | |

B. Class Participation

The course follows the lecture/discussion method; therefore, students will regularly attend and participate in classes. Class participation will be a major factor in determining close grades.

C. Late Assignments

Assignments received after the due date will be penalized by subtracting one numerical point from grade for every 1 day late (including weekend days). The professor cannot accept any work after 4:30 p.m., (Last Due Date). Extensions beyond that date require approval by the Registrar's Credits Committee. Please refer to the DTS 2018-2019 Student Handbook 1.20 for policies related to late assignments and extensions.

Graduates: **All work** will need to be handed in by **graduate deadline**. **Please confirm this date with registrar to insure your compliance.**

D. Absences

The number of permitted absences equals twice the number of times the course meets each week. Coming late to class three times equals one absence. Each unexcused absence in excess of the prescribed limit given by the professor for the course may result in a reduction of the final grade” (1.14.4). Students who are auditing and want this class listed on their DTS transcripts must attend 75 percent of the lectures (*Student Handbook* 1.3.5).

E. Plagiarism

The following statement is from the 2018-2019 Student Handbook:

“Plagiarism occurs in research whenever a writer appropriates material that falls outside the sphere of common knowledge, and is from any source not his own without indicating his or her indebtedness to that source. The theft may have to do with substance (i.e., ideas or information taken from a source without acknowledgment in the form of proper documentation), or it may have to do with verbal expression (i.e., wording or phraseology taken from a source without acknowledgment in the form of proper documentation and quotation marks around the quoted material)... In either of these forms, plagiarism constitutes a serious academic and ethical impropriety. For this reason any work submitted that gives clear evidence of plagiarism, whether committed deliberately or naively, will receive a grade of zero.” (1.17.1).

F. Assignment Submission Procedures

Students should submit all completed assignments in person in class. No assignments will be accepted through e-mail, fax or mail. Each student will write his/her name, box number, course number and name, and professor's name on all assignments.

VI. COURSE SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Students with Disabilities or Medical Incidents:

Dallas Theological Seminary works to provide reasonable and appropriate accommodations to students with psychological, medical, physical, and learning disabilities. A student desiring or needing accommodations on the basis of such disabilities or of medical incidents such as hospitalization or severe injury is to contact the Director of Services for Students with Disabilities (<https://students.dts.edu/studentlife/disability-services/>). If the student is aware of a condition that may impact his/her studies, the student should contact the Director of Services for Students with Disabilities at prior to the beginning of the semester or at the onset of a crisis.

VII. TENTATIVE COURSE SESSION AND ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE

SEE CANVAS FOR COURSE AND ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE