This course is about God’s calling of the Church to participate in His Mission throughout the world and understanding it biblically and theologically. Special attention will be given to the missiological focus of the Church as the course deals with the nature of the Church, its missionary function, its structure of mission, and its numerical and spiritual growth. Students will be encouraged to think creatively about their own church’s role in God’s Mission both locally and globally and also her relationship to the global church.

Course Objectives:

• To understand and learn the biblical-theological concepts of God’s Mission and the Church, the body of Christ, and the relationship between them both.
• To examine from practical experience how the Mission of God is being carried out throughout the world and what part is the Church, the body of Christ, especially the local Church everywhere, has been playing to accomplish this.
• To investigate from a missiological perspective the nature of the Church and its various functions and forms.
• To assist and encourage students to think creatively and develop an appropriate ecclesiology for their part in God’s Mission.

Required Texts:

5. Another required text will either be made available or selected from the recommended texts by the first day of class.

Recommended Texts:


**Course Requirements:**

1. Regular class attendance and participation in small and large group discussions. Students will be asked to present what they have understood about the topics dealt with in the class and issues arising from them.

2. **Reading Requirements:** All students are required to read required texts and write up a 1-2 page Book Review for each. Please note that when you take the final exam, you will be asked to state the percentage of reading that you have completed. Failure to complete the reading requirement may result in a grade penalty.

**Core Course ("C"-Level) Requirements:**

1) Regular class attendance and participation in small and large group discussions.

2) Reading Requirements of texts 1-3 and Book Reviews as mentioned above.

3) A 8-10 page double-spaced paper, including bibliography and footnotes, dealing with a theme of missiological significance and related to students ministry in and through a church. (List of possible topics will be made available in the class.)

4) Final exam based upon lectures, discussions, and readings (Bibles permitted).

**"B"-Level Requirements:**

1) Regular class attendance and participation in small and large group discussions.

2) Reading Requirements of texts 1-4 and Book Reviews as mentioned above.

3) A 15-17 page double-spaced paper, including bibliography and footnotes, dealing with a theme of missiological significance and related to students ministry in and through a church. (List of possible topics will be made available in the class.)

4) Final exam based upon lectures, discussions, and readings (Bibles permitted).

**"A"-Level Requirements:**

1) Regular class attendance and participation in small and large group discussions.

2) Reading Requirements of texts 1-5 and Book Reviews as mentioned above.

3) A 20-25 page double-spaced paper, including bibliography and footnotes, dealing with a theme of missiological significance and related to students ministry context in and through a church. (List of possible topics will be made available in the class.)

4) Final exam based upon lectures, discussions, and readings (Bibles permitted).

**Contract Grading:**

Grading will be based upon both fulfilling the grade level requirements and the quality of work submitted. Contracts for grades will be due after second week of class. Exams and papers will be graded according to the grade contract and will primarily contain comments, not letter grades.
A summary evaluation will be given in terms of a "√" ("check") meaning that the work has met the level of the grade contract, a "+" ("plus") meaning that the work has exceeded the level of the grade contract, a "-" ("minus") meaning that the work has not met the level of the grade contract, or some combination thereof (e.g. √- "check-minus" for work that minimally meets the level of grade contract or √+ "check-plus" for work that minimally exceeds the level of the grade contract).

It is not possible to receive a letter grade higher than contracted, though it is possible to receive a letter grade lower than contracted. For example, if a student who contracts for a "B" performs "A" quality work on their exams, that student would receive a "+" on exams, but no higher than a "B+" grade. However, a student who contracts for "B" and performs "C" quality work on their exams would receive a "-" on their exams and could receive a "C" grade for the course. Students may adjust their grade contract simply by requesting in writing (or e-mail).

**Grading:** If you contract for course requirements (“C” Grade), your course grade will be determined by: class participation, three Book Reviews (30%), a written assignment and a final examination (10%). If you contract for “B” your course grade will be determined by: class participation, four Book Reviews (40%), a written assignment, and a final examination (10%). If you contract for “A” your course grade will be determined by: class participation, five Book Reviews (50%), a written assignment and a final examination (10%). The grading scale is the common ten-point scale: 97–100 (A+), 94–96 (A), 90–93 (A–); 87–89 (B+), 84–86 (B), 80–83 (B–); 77–79 (C+), 74–76 (C), 70–73 (C–); 67–69 (D+), 64–66 (D), 60–63 (D–); 59 or lower (F). If you are at “Grade Contract Plus” on all assignments you may request to waive the final exam, but the final decision will be at the discretion of the teacher.

**Learning in a Christian Community:**
This class will exemplify learning in a Christian community-- a group of loving believers working together, respecting and supporting one another, in pursuit of a common goal. As members of the body of Christ, we bear the greater responsibility to exercise Christian courtesy to one another as well. With this in mind we must have a few basic ground rules that will help us in our times of learning together:
1. Please make every effort to be on time for and to remain throughout class.
2. Please refrain from drinking from uncovered cups in the classrooms.
3. Please switch phones, pagers, smart phones and other remote devices off.
4. Please be encouraging toward students who work at a different pace.
5. We will make accommodation for students with different abilities.

**Course Schedule**
Classes will meet on Monday evenings of the Summer Semester, June 2-July14, 2013. Course schedule will be made available on the first day of class.

**Faculty of Record Contact Information & Office Hours**
If you have any questions about the course and/or need any advice, please make initial contact with me via email and my email address is bmbose018@gmail.com (I receive my emails on my cell phone, so can access it regularly and note it is bmboseZeroOneEight).
If you need to set up a time to meet personally it will be either an hour or two before the class starts or after the class for half an hour or so.

**Institutional Policy on Academic Integrity**
Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary considers all breaches of personal and academic integrity to be serious offenses. As such, the seminary has zero tolerance for such behaviors. Cheating involves, but is not limited to, the use of unauthorized sources of information during an examination. Duplication of course requirements involves the submission of the same (or substantially same) work for credit in two or more courses without the knowledge and consent of the instructor.

Plagiarism involves the use of another person’s distinctive ideas or words, whether published or unpublished, and representing them as one’s own instead of giving proper credit to the source. All allegations of cheating and plagiarism are referred to the Judicial Committee. The Judicial Committee is a sub-committee of the Education Policy and Planning Committee with representatives from the faculty of all three academic divisions. The Judicial Committee is chaired by the Registrar of the seminary.