World Mission of the Church (WM601)

January 2 to 25, 2013; M, W, F, + Jan 22 9:00-12:00 am

Instructors: Dr. Kevin Xiyi Yao

Office Hours (Yao): ROM GL 114;
(Always best to make appointment)

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Course Website: Log into sakai.gcts.edu and click on the tab labeled “WM 601 HA HA-12”.

Course Description and Objective

To preach the gospel to every person is the command the Lord Jesus Christ has given to each Christian. And it is the defining mandate of the Church. This course is an introduction and overview of the mission of the Church. The Learning Objectives of this course are stated as follows:

Learning Objectives

1. Students will assimilate an overview of the biblical foundation of missions and will formulate a biblical understanding of missions.

2. Students will examine the historical progress of missions throughout the ages, grasp the characteristics of various paradigms in mission history, and become acquainted with key figures and epochs in the modern Protestant missionary movement.

3. Students will enhance their awareness of the interactions between missions and their cultural and social contexts and will foster an understanding of the cross-cultural nature of Christian missions. Students will become acquainted with the methods and approaches of contemporary mission studies, and will develop their abilities to critique such common trends as syncretism and pluralism.
4. Students will examine the key issues and current trends in the contemporary global missions.

5. Students will deepen their commitment to Christ’ great commission and will strengthen their faith in the universality and truthfulness of the gospel and the vitality of missionary movement. They will be challenged to develop or re-confirm their identities as a member of world Christian community.

Requirements

A. Exams (65%)
Mid-term: 11 Jan (30%)
Final: 25 Jan (35%)

B. Book Report (40%)
Each student is required to write a report on Borthwick, *How to Be a World-class Christian*. The length of the report: five to six pages, double-spaced. The contents: the summary of the book contents, the impact the book has upon you, and other personal reflections and comments on the book. The report is due on 31st of January

C. World Map Quiz (5%):  
Students’ participation in class is strongly encouraged. The interactions between students and teacher or your questions and comments are highly desirable.

Assignment and Grading Summary

Assignments should be turned in (hard copy) in class on the due date.

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<tr>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mid-term exam</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>11 Jan</td>
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<td>Final-exam</td>
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<td>World Map Exam</td>
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<td>18 Jan</td>
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**Required Textbooks**


Some articles and materials will be assigned in class during the semester.

**Topics and Required Reading**

**Part I  Biblical Foundations**

2 Jan  Introduction: review of syllabus; the contemporary situation

Three basic questions of mission theology: what, why, how is mission?
Readings:
Gallagher, ch.1: Bosch, “Reflections on Biblical Models of Mission”

4 Jan  Mission in the Old Testament/ Missions in the New Testament  (1)

Readings:
Bosch, ch. 1, 4
Tennent, 105-124

Bible verses for reflection:
Genesis 1-11,12:1-3; Exodus 19:4-6; Deuteronomy, 4:6-7; I King 4:1-43, 8:59-60;
7:13-14; Zachariah, 9:9-10; Matthew 24:14, 28:18-20; Mark16:15-16; Luke
2:29-32, 24:46-47; Acts 1:8

7 Jan  Missions in the New Testament (2)
       Bosch, ch. 2 and 3
       Tennent, 125-157, 409-415

9 Jan  Paul’s Mission Theology; Mission in the New Testament (2)

Readings:
Bosch, ch.4
Tennent, 438-443
Bible verses for reflection: Romans 10:11-15, 15:20-21; Galatians 3:8;

Part II  Historical Progress of World Mission

11 Jan  The Missions of the Early Church
       The Missions of the Eastern Church

Readings:
Bosch, ch. 6
Tennent, 229-240

**Mid-term**

14 Jan  The Roman Catholic Missions in the Medieval Times
        The Protestant Missions since the Reformation

Readings:
Bosch, ch.7 and 8
Tennent, 240-248

16 Jan  Missionary Movement in the Modern Times

Readings:
Bosch, ch.9
Tennent, 248-283

**Part III  The Contemporary Trends in the Missionary and Global Church**

18 Jan  New Developments in Mission Theology: Missio Dei, Missional
        Church; Evangelism and Social Involvements; Church and Missions;
        Home Arena: New Paradigms for Mission Agencies

Readings:
Bosch, ch. 12
Guthrie, Part I
Tennent, 15-51, 53-73, 371-379, 387-393, 454-457

**World Map Exam**

22 Jan  New Missionary Initiatives, Strategies, and Issues:
        Contextualization; Evangelism and Missions; The Unreached Peoples; The
        10/40 Window; Church Growth; Short-Term Missions, Four Spiritual Laws,
        etc.
Readings:
    Guthrie, Part II
    Tennent, 355-370

23 Jan  The Rise of World Christianity and its Impacts
    The Missions from non-Western World; Immigration; Urbanization.

    Readings:
    Gallagher, ch. 4: Robert, “Shifting Southward: Global Christianity since 1945”
    Gallagher, ch. 8: Shenk, “Recasting Theology of Mission”
    Tennent, 284-321, 379-386

25 Jan  The Issues related to the globalization of Christianity
    The Charismatic Boom; Globalization and its Cultural Consequences;
    Religious Freedom; and Religious and Cultural Pluralism, etc.

    Readings:
    Guthrie, Part III and IV
    Tennent, 419-431, 459-483

    Final Exam

30 Jan   Book Report Due

All topics and required readings are subject to change without notice.

**Selected Bibliography**


Ott, Craig and Harold A. Neland, eds., *Globalizing Theology: Belief and Practice in an Era of World Christianity* (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2006).


Smith, David, *Mission after Christendom, Emergent Themes in Contemporary Mission* (Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, 2010).


------, *Theology in the Context of World Christianity: How the Global Church is influencing the Way We Think about and Discuss Theology* (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2007).


