World Mission of the Church (WM601)

Spring 2012; Friday: 1:15-4:15 pm

Instructors: Dr. Kevin Xiyi Yao, Dr. Todd M. Johnson, Rev. S. Douglas Birdsall

Office Hours: ROM GL 114; Times: TBD

Byington Scholar:

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, Reading:**
Students are expected to read the required materials before each class session in order to facilitate class discussions.

**Required Textbooks:**


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

**B. Integration Journals: (50%)**
Students are required to submit three journals integrating and summarizing lectures, required readings, and personal reflections. The length of each journal: five to six pages, double-spaced, turned in after each part of lecture sessions end (9 March, 6 April, 4 May).
C. Book Report (40%)
Each student is required to write a report on Rah, *The Next Evangelicalism: Freeing the Church from Western Cultural Captivity*. 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 4 May, 2012.

D. Participation and Attendance (10%):
Students’ participation in class is strongly encouraged. The interactions between students and teacher or your questions and comments are highly desirable. Out-of-classroom participations in missions and related events are also encouraged in order to enhance students’ involvements in missions. Students are required to participate in the BTI Costas Consultation on February 17th, and write a short report (description of the events you have attended, and your reflection and comments, two pages, double-spaced). The report is due after the first reading week.

Assignment and Grading Summary

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

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Student information Sheet</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>Feb 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Integration Journals:</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>March 9 April 6 May 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Book Report:</td>
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<td>May 4</td>
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<td>Participation and Attendance</td>
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<td>Costas Report</td>
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Topics and Required Reading

Part I  Biblical Foundations

Week 1,  3 Feb   Introduction: review of syllabus; the contemporary situation
Three basic questions of mission theology: what, why, how is mission?
Dr. Yao and Dr. Johnson

Readings:
   Gallagher, ch.1
   Bosch, “Reflections on Biblical Models of Mission”
   Borthwick, 13-40

Assignment Due:   Student Information Sheet
(Found on Sakai - submit electronically via Sakai)

Week 2,  10 Feb  Mission in the Old Testament/ Missions in the New Testament   (1)
Dr. Yao

Readings:
   Bosch, ch.1, 4
   Bible verses for reflection:
   Genesis 1-11,12:1-3; Exodus 19:4-6; Deuteronomy, 4:6-7; I King41-43, 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

Week 3,  17 Feb  BTI Costas Consultation
Dr. Yao and Dr. Johnson
(details will be provided in class and/or on sakai.)

Week 4,  24 Feb  Reading Week
Writing Costas Consultation report.

Week 5,  2 Mar  Paul's Mission Theology; Mission in the New Testament (2)
Dr. Yao

Readings:
Bosch, ch. 2 and 3
Bible verses for reflection: Romans 10:11-15, 15:20-21; Galatians 3:8; Revelation 5:9-10

Assignment Due: Costas Report

Part II  Historical Progress of World Mission

Week 6,  9 Mar  The Missions of the Early Church
The Missions of the Eastern Church
Dr. Yao

Readings:
  Gallagher, ch.9
  Walls, “The Gospel as Prisoner and Liberator of Culture”
  Bosch, ch. 6

Assignment Due: Integration Journal I

Week 7,  16 Mar  The Roman Catholic Missions in the Medieval Times
The Protestant Missions since the Reformation
Dr. Yao

Readings:
  Bosch, ch.7 and 8

Week 8,  23 Mar  Missionary Movement in the Modern Times
Rev. Birdsall

Readings:
  Bosch, ch.9

Week 9,  30 Mar  Reading Week
Summarization of Part I and II

Part III  The Contemporary Trends in the Missionary and Global Church
Week 10, 6 Apr  New Developments in Mission Theology: Missio Dei, Missional Church, etc; Home Arena: New Paradigms for Mission Agencies
Rev. Birdsall

Readings:
Bosch, ch. 12
Guthrie, Part I

Assignment Due: Integration Journal II

Week 11, 13 Apr  New Missionary Initiatives, Strategies, and Issues:
The 10/40 Window, Prayer as Warfare, Short-Term Missions, Contextualization, and Holism, etc.
Rev. Birdsall

Readings:
Guthrie, Part II
Borthwick, 53-64, 83-93, 119-131

Week 12, 20 Apr  The Rise of World Christianity and its Impacts
Dr. Johnson

Readings:
Robert, “Shifting Southward: Global Christianity since 1945” in Gallagher
Gallagher, ch.8
Shenk, “Recasting Theology of Mission”

Week 13, 27 Apr  The Issues related to the globalization of Christianity
Dr. Johnson

Readings:
Guthrie, Part III and IV
Gallagher, ch. 4
Borthwick, 133-143
Week 14, 4 May  Final Exam Week

Assignments Due:  Book Report, Integration Journal III

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

Selected Bibliography


Bednarowski, Mary Farrell, Twentieth-century Global Christianity (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2008).


Isichei, Elizabeth, A History of Christianity in Africa from Antiquity to the Present (Speck, 1995).

Jenkins, Philip, The new faces of Christianity: Believing the Bible in the Global South (Oxford University Press, 2006).

--------, The Next Christendom: The Coming of Global Christianity (Oxford University Press, 2002).


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).


Walls, Andrew & Ross, Cathy, ed., *Mission in the 21st Century, Exploring the Five Marks*

