World Mission of the Church (WM601)

January 2 to 24, 2015; M,W,F, 8:30am-12:00 pm

Instructors: Dr. Kevin Xi Yi Yao

Office Hours (Yao): 2-4 each afternoon after class
ROM GL 114;
(Always best to make appointment)

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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.
4. Students will examine the key issues and current trends in the contemporary global missions, and get familiar with the developments of the churches in non-Western world.

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. Mission Statement / Reflection (40%)

By the end of this course, each student is required to write a mission statement / reflection paper. The contents: (1), why mission is important; (2) the Biblical foundations of mission; (3) what major lessons we can learn from mission history; (4), what is the mission approach or strategy relevant in today’s context. **Due Date: January 31**

Length: 6-8 pages, double spaced.

B. Book Report (25%)

Each student is required to write a report on Borthwick, *Western Christians in Global Mission*. 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. **Due Date: January 31**

C. Group Project and Presentation (35%)

The entire class will be divided into study groups (3-4 students in each group, and feel free to choose your partners.) Each group will select a region (East Asia, South and Southeast Asia, West Asia and North Africa, South America, Sub-Saharan Africa), and study its culture, history, population, mission history, mission needs, mission opportunities and challenges. You need to study a region you are not familiar with. In the final weeks of this term, each group is required to present their findings to the class in 30 minutes (including Q & A time). By briefly surveying each region’s history and culture, your presentation should focus on current mission opportunities and challenges.
After your presentation, each group should submit a project folder containing the outline of your presentation and supporting materials (articles, book chapters, photos, diagrams, etc.). Due: January 24

Students’ attendance is important. Two or more absences without explanation will lead to deduction of your grade. Your participation in class is strongly encouraged. The interactions between students and teacher or your questions and comments are highly desirable.

Required Textbooks


Other Texts Included in Readings

Topics and Required Readings

Part I  Biblical Foundations

Day 1 (Jan 2)  Introduction: review of syllabus; the contemporary situation
Three basic questions of mission theology: what, why, how is mission?

Readings:
    Gallagher, ch.1: “Reflections on Biblical Models of Mission” (Bosch)
    John Stott, “The Bible in World Evangelization.” (Winter, Ralph D., and Steven
        C. Hawthorne, eds., Perspectives on the World Christian Movement

Missions in the Old Testament

Readings:
    Bosch, ch.1
    Tennent, 15-51, 105-124
    Walter Kaiser, “Israel’s Missionary Call.” (Winter, Ralph D., and Steven
        C. Hawthorne, eds., Perspectives on the World Christian Movement.)

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

Day 2 (Jan 5)  Missions in the New Testament

Readings:
    Bosch, 25-56, ch. 2-3
    Tennent, 125-157, 409-415
Bible verses for reflection:


Day 3 (Jan 7)  Paul’s Mission Theology and Practice

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

Day 4 (Jan 9)  The Missions of the Early Church
The Missions of the Eastern Church

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

Day 5 (Jan 12) The Roman Catholic Missions in the Medieval Times
The Protestant Missions since the Reformation

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

Day 6 (Jan 14) Missionary Movement in the Modern Times
Part III  The Contemporary Trends in the Missionary and Global Church

Day 7 (Jan 16) New Developments in Mission Theology: Missio Dei, Missional Church; Evangelism and Social Involvements; Church and Missions; Home Arena: New Paradigms for Mission Agencies

Readings:
Guthrie, Part I
Tennent, 53-73, 371-379, 387-393, 454-457

Day 8 (Jan 21) 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.

Guest Speaker: Dr. Bobby Bose

Readings:
Bosch, ch. 12
Guthrie, Part II
Tennent, 355-370

Day 9 (Jan 23)  The Rise of World Christianity and its Impacts
The Missions from non-Western World; Immigration; Urbanization; the Charismatic Boom

Readings:
Gallagher, ch. 4: “Shifting Southward: Global Christianity since 1945” (Robert)
Gallagher, ch.8: “Recasting Theology of Mission”(Shenk)
Globalization and its Cultural Consequences; Religious Freedom; and
Religious and Cultural Pluralism, Insider Movement, etc.

Readings:
Guthrie, Part IV.

Day 10 (Jan 24) Presentations

Project File Due

January 31: Book Report and Mission Statement Due

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

Selected Bibliography
Aikman, David, Jesus in Beijing: How Christianity is Transforming China and Changing the


Barrett, David B., Todd M. Johnson, eds., World Christian Trends (Pasadena, CA: William
Carey Library, 2001).

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

Borthwick, Paul, A Mind for Missions, 10 Ways to Build your World Vision ( NAVPress,
1987).


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).


Winter, Ralph D., and Steven C. Hawthorne, eds., *Perspectives on the World Christian*