GORDON CONWELL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
FALL TERM 2008
WM 624 Christian Faith in the World of Violence and Clashing Civilizations
Dr. Peter Kuzmic

Time Schedule: Tuesday evenings 6:00-9:00 pm
Place: AC240
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Office Hours: Make appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
The recent unexpected renaissance of religion(s) and their increasing influence on the geopolitical developments and international relations make the study of the role of religion in interethnic violence and in the context of “clashing civilizations” from a theological and missiological perspective an imperative. The subject presents a major challenge to the integrity of Christian faith and witness. This interdisciplinary course will, therefore, examine the role of Christian missions in situations of conflict and violence. Models of wholistic missionary practice, transformative engagement of the church(es), faith-based diplomacy and the ministry of reconciliation will be proposed and examined.

REQUIRED READING: (on reserve in the library)

Seiple, Robert A. Ambassadors of Hope. Downers Grove, Illinois: InterVarsity Press, 2004. (This is out of print, but will be available from online vendors or on http://CAMS.gcts.edu.)


RECOMMENDED READING:


**ASSIGNMENTS:**
Short written reports (3-5pp) on assigned readings will be required. A project/paper (12-15pp) by individual students and/or interested groups as a team project (discussed in the class and approved by the professor) will be presented and defended in class on assigned dates.

**EVALUATION:**
There will be no final written examination. Oral examinations (European style!) remain an option. Final grade will be based on: class participation (20%), reading reports (40%), and project/paper, including its presentation and defense (40%).