

Syllabus

Course Description and Objectives

Course Description: History of Missions is a history of the progress of Christian missions from its inception to the present era. The course seeks to explore church history from a missiological perspective, bringing fresh insights into what it means to be a global Christian and a member of the worldwide Christian movement. Special attention is given to the full global context of the expansion of the Church, including such diverse movements as the Chinese house church movement, the African Indigenous Church movement, the explosive growth of Pentecostalism in Latin America, church planting and “churchless” Christians in India; mega-churches and mission sending initiatives from South Korea, and challenges and initiatives peculiar to Japan, including the non-church church movement.

Consideration is given to methods, principles, and practices involved in the advancement of Christian missions at various points in the history of the church. Theological, multi-cultural, and contextual perspectives are presented within an overall historical framework selectively chosen to represent key themes in the modern period. Evangelical and non-evangelical paradigms of world missions are examined and critiqued from a biblical perspective.

Course Objectives: Upon successful completion of this course the student will be able to

1. Trace the broad outline of the spread of the gospel from Pentecost to present
2. Understand the dynamics that affected, negatively or positively, the advance of the gospel and growth of the church in various areas of the world throughout history and apply that understanding to an analysis of how similar factors can impede or contribute to the advance of missions today
3. Articulate and understand the implications of the theological and missiological issues involved in the growth and spread of the church in a multi-cultural, global context
4. Be able to identify the key figures in the history of the global advance of the Great Commission
5. Appreciate the distinctiveness of the Christian faith and our (Christian) mandate from Christ to take the gospel and plant viable churches among every people group in the world

Course Requirements

Please Note: In the case of discrepancies between the course requirements mentioned in the audio material and the requirements given in this workbook, the workbook takes precedence.

I. Reading

Required Textbooks: The required readings are essential to helping you gain a proper understanding of the course subject matter. You will be asked to turn in a report stating what percentage of the texts you have read.

- Aikman, David. *Jesus in Beijing: How Christianity is Transforming China and Changing the Global Balance of Power* (Regnery Publishing, 2003).
- Hastings, Adrian. *A World History of Christianity*. (Eerdmans Press, 2000).
- Isichei, Elizabeth. *A History of Christianity in Africa from Antiquity to the Present* (SPCK, 1995).
- Walls, Andrew. *The Missionary Movement in Christian History* (Orbis Press, 1996).

Required Articles: Full texts of most of the articles below can be retrieved through the ATLA Religion Database, to which all Gordon-Conwell students have access. Contact the library staff at glibrary@gordonconwell.edu if you need access this database remotely, and they will set up a username and password for you. Articles which cannot be accessed in this way have additional explanation below about where to find them.

- Deyneka, Peter, "Evangelical Foreign Missionaries in Russia," *International Bulletin of Missionary Research*. 22.3 (April 1998): 56-60.
- Drummond, Richard H. "Uchimura, Kanzo." *Biographical Dictionary of Christian Missions*. Gerald H. Anderson, ed. (Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1999), p. 687. (This article appears in the Appendix section of the disc.)
- Grayson, James Huntley, "Cultural Encounter: Korean Protestantism and Other Religious Traditions," *International Bulletin of Missionary Research*. 25.2 (April 2001): 66-72.
- Johnson, Alan. Part I and Part II, "The Frontier Mission Movement's Understanding of the Modern Mission Era," *International Journal of Frontier Missions*. 18.2 (Spring 2001): 81-97. (These articles are available at *IJFM's* website, <http://www.ijfm.org/archives.htm#Volume18>.)
- Johnson, Alan. Part III, Part IV, and Part V, "Critical Analysis of the Missiology of the Frontier Mission Movement," *International Journal of Frontier Missions*. 18.3 (Fall 2001): 121-140. (These articles are available at *IJFM's* website, <http://www.ijfm.org/archives.htm#Volume18>. Note that Part V is not labeled as such; it is simply called "Frontier Missions and Beyond: An Emerging Paradigm.")
- Johnson, Todd, "Christian Mission and Islamic Da'wah: A Preliminary Quantitative Assessment," *International Bulletin of Missionary Research*. 29.1 (January 2005): 8-11.
- Kwok, Pui-lan, "Claiming our Heritage: Chinese Women and Christianity," *International Bulletin of*

Missionary Research. 16.4 (October 1992): 150-154.

- Kuzmič, Peter, “The Communist Impact on the Church in Eastern Europe,” *Evangelical Review of Theology*. 20.1 (January 1996): 60-76. (This article appears in the Appendix section of the disc.)
- Moon, Steve S. C., “The Recent Korean Missionary Movement: A Record of Growth, and More Growth Needed,” *International Bulletin of Missionary Research*. 27.1 (January 2003): 11-16.
- Padilla, Rene, “The Future of Christianity in Latin America: Missiological Perspectives and Challenges,” *International Bulletin of Missionary Research*. (July 1999): 105-111.
- Robert, Dana, “Shifting Southward: Global Christianity Since 1945,” *International Bulletin of Missionary Research*. 24.2 (April 2000): 50-58.
- Sawatsky, Walter, “After the Glasnost Revolution: Soviet Evangelicals and Western Missions,” *International Bulletin of Missionary Research*. 16.2 (April, 1992): 54-59.
- Tennent, Timothy, “The Challenge of Churchless Christianity: An Evangelical Assessment,” *International Bulletin of Missionary Research* 29.4 (October 2005): 171-177.
- Walls, Andrew, “The Ephesians Moment” in *The Cross-Cultural Process in Christian History: Studies in the Transmission and Appropriation of Faith* (Orbis Books, 2001), pp. 72-81. (This book chapter is available at Google Books.)
- Walls, Andrew. “Old Athens and New Jerusalem: Some Signposts for Christian Scholarship in the Early History of Mission Studies,” *International Bulletin of Missionary Research*. 21.4 (October 1997): 146-153.

Recommended Texts:

- Dussel, Enrique. *A History of the Church in Latin America* (Eerdmans Press, 1981).
- Elmer, Duane and Lois McKinney, eds. *With an Eye on the Future* (MARC, 1996).
- Escobar, Samuel. *New Global Mission: The Gospel from Everywhere to Everyone* (InterVarsity, 2003).
- Goodpasture, McKennie. *Cross and Sword: An Eyewitness History of Christianity in Latin America* (Orbis Press, 1990).
- Newbigin, Leslie. *The Gospel in a Pluralist Society* (Eerdmans, 1994).
- Robert, Dana. *American Women in Mission: The Modern Mission Era*. (Mercer University Press, 1998).
- Tucker, Ruth. *From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya* (Zondervan, 1983).
- Wright, Christopher. *The Mission of God: Unlocking the Bible’s Grand Narrative* (IVP Academic, 2006).

II. Research Paper: You are to submit a research paper on a topic of your choosing, although it must meet the following standards to be acceptable:

1. The paper must be on a subject related to the material covered in the course
2. It must be a minimum of 8 pages, not including the bibliography which must be appended and should only include works actually used or extensively consulted in the course of your research (there is no upper page limit on a paper should a student seek to submit a longer paper).
3. It must cite at least five outside sources, other than the required textbooks for the course (electronic sources and/or oral sources do count, but should be used wisely)

and judiciously). Your paper must, in part, draw from Todd Johnson and David Barrett's *World Christian Encyclopedia* and or Todd Johnson and Kenneth R. Ross's *Atlas of Global Christianity* (see also, World Christian Database) and include current statistics on the growth and status of Christianity over the last 75 years in your area of focus. If you are not using an historical or empirical methodology, this still must be included as an appendix to the paper.

III. Examinations: There will be a midterm exam following lecture 12 and a final exam at the conclusion of the course. Both are to be taken independently and are closed book exams. The final will be comprehensive. You will have 2 hours to complete each exam.

IV. Interaction:

Purpose

- To enhance distance learning by encouraging and providing a context for students to meet and interact with other students taking similar courses and with their course instructors as they work through their Semlink materials. Only Semlink students taking a course for credit are required to complete the interactive component of the course. Non-credit students who are taking Semlink classes for personal enrichment are encouraged to contact the Semlink office (see the contact information section below) if they want to participate in these discussions.
- As a member of the Association of Theological Schools, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary recognizes the value of interactivity in distance learning and complies with the standards for accreditation set by ATS which include interactivity as a compulsory component of any distance learning program that wishes to continue granting credit for its courses.
- It is highly recommended that you spread out your completion of the interactivity requirements outlined below over the six months you have to complete the course, rather than attempting to complete them all at once or very near your due date. By spreading out your completion of the requirements, you will be able to benefit fully from your interaction with other students and receive feedback from the course teaching fellow.

Requirements

The interaction requirement for Semlink courses is to be fulfilled in two ways:

- 1) **An online discussion forum:** converse with other students and with instructors.
- Integration questions will be posted by the team of Semlink teaching fellows. These questions are designed to encourage you to analyze, synthesize, and apply what you are learning in your course in a cross-curricular environment. You will be interacting with other students who are taking this course and related courses.

- Discussions may be based on current events, culture, literature, case studies, and scripture.
 - You are required to participate four (4) times in the discussions relating to your area of study. For example, if you were taking “The Church to the Reformation,” you would be required to participate in the Church History integration discussions four times during the six months you have to complete the course.
 - You may also submit an integration question for your course to your Semlink teaching fellow (see contact information section below). If your question is selected for use, it may fulfill one of your four required interactions in the discussion forums.
 - To ensure successful completion of this requirement, please complete your participation in the discussion forums at least one week prior to your course due date. This will allow sufficient time for you to resubmit any responses if necessary.
 - Please note that there are many ongoing discussions on the Semlink website. While you are welcome to participate in any of these discussions, only participation in the discussions listed for your course will be given course credit.
- 2) **Email-based conversation** with a Semlink teaching fellow.
- Together with the lecturing professor and/or mentoring professor, the Semlink teaching fellows have written a conversation starter, designed to tie together some of the overarching themes raised in the course.
 - The conversation starter will be posted on the Semlink website. You will go to the Semlink website, navigate to your course homepage (see below), and submit your first response to the question via email. The submission will be read and responded to by your Semlink teaching fellow, who will take the conversation further based on your original thoughts and comments.
 - You are required to email a total of three (3) times, including your original response to the conversation starter.
 - Please allow a minimum of one month to complete this conversation to allow time for the teaching fellow to respond. Allow five business days for a response to each of your submissions.

To find the website and specific interactivity details for your course:

- 1) Log on to the Semlink website (www.gordonconwell.edu/ockenga/semlink) and enter the section for “Current Students.”
- 2) Select your course from the menu, and go to the homepage for your course. This page contains links to the specific interactivity requirements for your course and other Semlink resources.
- 3) If you are unable to access the internet, please contact the Semlink office (see the

contact information section below) and alternative arrangements will be made.

Please Note: In the case of any differences between the specific interactivity requirements given for this course on the website and the information given in this workbook, the website takes precedence.

Evaluation of Submissions

- You will not be assigned a letter grade for your participation in Semlink interactivity, but completion of your interactivity requirements is required to receive credit for your course. **If you fail to complete the interactivity requirements, you will fail your course.**
- Your submissions will be evaluated as complete or incomplete based on quality of thought and clarity of expression (see the general guidelines described below and the specific guidelines found on your course home page on the Semlink website).
- In the event of an unacceptable response, you will be informed and given the opportunity to expand or re-submit your thoughts, provided that your final submissions are made before the course due date. Submissions made after the course due date will be subject to penalty.

General Guidelines for Submissions

- Proper grammar and punctuation are required (no webspoken).
- Your response should demonstrate original thought and interaction with the issues being addressed, including a coherent flow of thought or argument. Please answer the questions fully and specifically.

If this requirement is not completed by the date on which your final assignment for the course is submitted to our office, the final assignment will be held and will not be submitted to the professor for grading until the interactivity requirement is complete. Therefore, there will be no final grade given for the course until the interactivity requirement is fulfilled. Once this requirement is completed, the professor will receive and grade the final assignment and you will be given a final grade for the course. If you have not completed all interactivity requirements within ONE MONTH after the end date of the course, you will automatically fail the course with no exceptions.

V. Workbook

As you listen to the lectures, you can answer the questions in the accompanying workbook. The workbook is provided as a resource for your study. The questions have been designed to help you to learn and process the information in this course. The completed workbook will also serve as an outline of the course for your future reference. You may find it helpful to stop the tape of the lecture at various times to consider the questions and answer them more fully. This is highly encouraged. You may also wish to take additional notes in the margins of the workbook or in the other spaces provided. You are not required to turn in your workbook.

Grading

Your final grade for the course will be computed on the following basis:

Mid-term exam:	25%
Research paper:	25%
Reading report:	25%
Final exam:	25%
Interaction:	Completion required

The grading scale is as follows:

A+	97-100	B	83-87	C-	70-72
A	93-96	B-	80-82	D	65-69
A-	90-92	C+	78-79	F	0-64
B+	88-89	C	73-77		

Course Outline

The following is a suggested outline for completing this course in six months.

Week	Lecture	Topic	Reading	Assignments
History of Missions (Part 1)				
1	1	Introduction to the Course	Article: Walls, "Old Athens and New Jerusalem" Wright: Preface, Introduction, and Part I	
2	2	The New Testament and the Early Church	Article: Walls, "The Ephesians Movement" Walls: Preface, introduction, and ch. 1-3 Wright: Part II introduction, ch. 3	
3	3	The Eastern Spread of Christianity and the Roman Empire	Walls: ch. 4-6 Wright: ch. 4	
4	4	Celtic Christianity and Roman Missions	Walls: ch. 7-10 Wright: ch. 5	
5	5	Roman Missions (cont.) and the Rise of Islam	Walls: ch. 11-14 Wright: Part III introduction, ch. 6	
6	6	Themes in <i>The Missionary Movement in Christian History</i> , Part 1	Walls: ch. 15-17 Wright: ch. 7	
7	7	The Crusades and Themes from <i>The Missionary Movement in Christian History</i> , Part 2	Article: T. Johnson, "Christian Mission and Islamic Da'wah" Walls: ch. 18-19 Wright: ch. 8	
8	8	Themes from <i>The Missionary Movement</i> , Part 3 and Post-Reformation Catholic Missions	Wright: ch. 9-10	
9	9	Post-Reformation Catholic Missions (cont.)	Wright: ch. 11	
10	10	The Reformers' Attitude Toward Mission	Articles: Alan Johnson, Parts I & II of "The Frontier Mission Movement" Wright: Part IV introduction, ch. 12	
11	11	Origins of the Protestant Missionary Movement	Articles: Alan Johnson, Parts III, IV, & V of "The Frontier Mission Movement" Wright: ch. 13	

Week	Lecture	Topic	Reading	Assignments
12	12	The Great Century of Protestant Missions	Article: Robert, "Shifting Southward" Wright: ch. 14	Take midterm exam
History of Missions (Part 2)				
13	13	Introduction to Part 2	Wright: ch. 15, epilogue Aikman: Preface, ch. 1-2	Begin interactivity requirements
14	14	India 1	Aikman: ch. 3-5	Pick a paper topic and begin researching
	15	India 2	Aikman: ch. 6-8	
15	16	China 1	Article: Kwok, "Claiming Our Heritage" Aikman: ch. 9-12	
16	17	China 2	Aikman: ch. 13 - conclusion	
17	18	Japan 1		
	19	Japan 2	Article: Drummond, "Kanzo Uchimura"	
18	20	Korea 1	Articles: Grayson, "Cultural Encounter," and Moon, "The Recent Korean Missionary Movement"	
	21	Korea 2	Isichei: prelude, ch. 1-2	
19	22	Russia 1	Isichei: ch. 3-4	
	23	Russia 2	Articles: Deyneka, "Evangelical Foreign Missionaries in Russia," Kuzmič, "The Communist Impact," and Sawatsky, "After the Glasnost Revolution" Isichei: ch. 5-6	
20	24	Africa 1	Isichei: ch. 7-8	
	25	Africa 2	Isichei: ch. 9-10	
21	26	Africa 3	Isichei: ch. 11-12	
22	27	The Middle East	Article: Tennent, "The Challenge of Churchless Christianity"	
23	28	Latin America 1	Article: Padilla, "The Future of Christianity in Latin America"	
	29	Latin America 2		
24- end of class				Complete research paper Take final exam Complete interactivity requirements

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I arrange to take my exam?

1. Contact the Semlink office via email (semlink.office@gcts.edu) or phone (978-646-4144 or 1-877-736-5465, toll free). Please allow at least 48 hours to process your exam request as well as additional time for mailing to destination.
2. If you are a student at the Hamilton campus, your exam will be sent to Goddard Library.
3. If you are a student at CUME, Charlotte, or off-campus, you will need to find a proctor and provide proctor contact information when requesting your exam.
 - a. Your proctor should be a church official, an education official, or a librarian. Your proctor cannot be a GCTS student or family member.
 - b. Your exam will be sent directly to your proctor, so you must provide a mailing address for him or her.
 - c. Your proctor will be responsible for mailing your exam to the Semlink address provided in the contact information section. **Please provide your proctor with an envelope with pre-paid postage for this purpose. The proctor must mail the exam so that it is postmarked by the course due date in order to avoid late penalty. Any work postmarked after the due date will be considered late.**

How do I send in written work?

1. All course work is due by the course due date.
2. Course materials should be sent to the Semlink office address provided in the contact information section.
3. Any course work that is mailed to the Semlink office must be postmarked by your due date to avoid penalty.
4. Please include the address to which you would like your work sent. For Hamilton students, please use your campus box number.

How do I request an extension?

1. For Hamilton, Charlotte, or CUME students, extensions should be requested through your home campus' registration office.
2. For off-campus students, extensions should be requested through the Semlink office.
3. Extension requests must be made in writing and must be submitted on or before the due date of your course. Your extension request should include the unavoidable/avoidable circumstances that have prevented you from completing

your course and the amount of time lost due to those circumstances. You should also state what work you have completed and what is still unfinished. Please state which course work you are seeking an extension for.

4. Off-campus students who have not matriculated on to a campus should submit extension requests with a \$25 processing fee per course.
5. Generally, extension requests based on avoidable circumstances are granted with a grade penalty.
6. Extensions cannot be granted after the due date.
7. You cannot withdraw from a course after receiving an extension.

How do I withdraw from a course?

1. You can withdraw from your course up to the due date.
2. For Hamilton, Charlotte, and CUME students, requests to withdraw must be in writing and are to be submitted to your home campus registration office.
3. For off-campus students, requests to withdraw must be in writing and are to be submitted to the Semlink office.
4. Should you withdraw from the course, the tuition refund policy is as follows:
 - a. 100% up to 15 days, 50% up to 30 days, no refund after 30 days.
 - b. Material cost is non-refundable.
 - c. Courses dropped prior to the 15 day deadline will not appear on your transcript. A “W” (withdrawn) will appear on transcripts for courses dropped after 15 days.

What is the penalty for late work?

All course work submitted to the Semlink office after the due date will be assessed a grade penalty. On-campus students should contact their home campus’ registration office for more information on the specific grade penalty that will be applied. Off-campus students should contact the Semlink office.

When is my course due?

1. Your course due date can be found on the confirmation sheet sent to you separately. We highly recommend that you make this sheet a part of your course materials.
2. Your course is due six months after your start date which is based on the date you registered for the course allowing time for preparation of the course materials by the Semlink office and shipping the materials to you.
3. Graduating seniors should note that during their final semester the due date for Semlink courses will be the due date for course work for seniors.

Contact Information

At Semlink, there are a number of different offices working together as a team in order to care for you as a student. Please read the following descriptions and contact the appropriate office when questions arise.

For Questions About:

Course materials
Administrative issues
Exam requirements
Registration information
Extensions
Due dates
If you're unsure whom to call

Contact:**The Semlink Office**

The Semlink office handles your registration, course materials, and exams. They also handle extensions and other administrative issues. If you are unsure whom to call, the Semlink office will be able to direct you.

Phone: 978-646-4144 or 1-877-736-5465, toll free

Fax: 978-646-4565

Email: semlink.office@gcts.edu

Address: Semlink Office

130 Essex Street

S. Hamilton, MA 01982

Hours: 9 a.m. to 4 p. m. Monday-Friday

For Questions About:

Ordering textbooks

Contact:**The Gordon-Conwell BookCentre**

The BookCentre stocks the required textbooks for every course.

Phone: 1-888-252-4287 (toll free) or 978-646-4015

Email: books@gcts.edu

Website: gcts.christianbook.com

For Questions About:

Interactivity requirements

Contact:**The Semlink Teaching Fellows**

The Semlink teaching fellows have been selected for demonstrated proficiency in a particular subject area. The teaching fellows work closely with the mentoring professor to help you to interact at a deeper level with the course content and to provide you with opportunities to interact with other students and instructors in an area related to this course.

Email: semlink.applied@gcts.edu

Website: www.gordonconwell/ockenga/semlink

For Questions About:

Course content

Paper topic approval

Suggested supplemental reading

Contact:**The Mentoring Professor**

The mentoring professor grades your course work, sets the course syllabus, approves paper topics, and can answer questions about the course content. Please contact the mentoring professor only with the above type of questions.

Name: Dr. Paul Martindale

Email: pmartindale@gcts.edu

Phone: 978-646-4101 (September through May) or
781-334-4072 (June through August)

Address: Dr. Paul Martindale

130 Essex Street

S. Hamilton, MA 01982

