I. Course Description
The course is an overview of the role of non-governmental agencies (NGOs) and development in Christian mission. It covers biblical, theological, historical, and current perspectives on the global trend toward integration of development and mission. The course also looks at the role of globalization in the spread of the gospel. It examines plans made by Christians to alleviate social problems. Case studies in Africa, Asia, and Latin America are studied to understand current issues.

II. Learning Objectives
1. Students will comprehend the biblical, theological, and historical, and current perspectives of the integration of development and mission.
2. Students will analyze the role of globalization in the spreading of the gospel.
3. Students will examine and assess the efforts of Christians to alleviate social problems.

III. Grading
1. Personal reflections on the books in the required readings. Students should keep a running journal of the summaries (Due on week 6: Chester, Davies, Goudzwaard and week 12: Kristof, Hunter.) 30%
2. Paper (c. 20 pp. double-spaced with endnotes and bibliography as appropriate): This paper should look at a subject in the history of development and missions. (Paper topic approved by week 5. Paper due week 13.) 70%

Active participation in all aspects of the course and required readings is presumed.

IV. Required Texts

V. Texts used in lectures and readings
1. Ahmed, Shamima and David M. Potter NGOs in International Politics (Kumarian Press, 2006).
4. Butare-Kiyovu, James, ed., International development from a kingdom perspective (Orbis, 2002).

VI. Reference Texts


VII. Websites and Related Organizations

- Class website – On CAMS. Most required readings, apart from course texts, will be made available online
- Center for the Study of Global Christianity: www.globalchristianity.org
VIII. Schedule of Classes

Week 1 Introduction to the Course
- Course syllabus
- Major themes of the course
- Course overview and methodology
- Changing the world in the context of global Christianity

Week 2 Biblical and theological reflections on development
- Biblical theology of the poor
- Evangelism and social action

Text Reading = 104 pp
Chester 11-54
Davies 1-18
Goudzwaard 15-58

Week 3 What is development?
- Definitions
- Major critiques

Text Reading = 176 pp
Chester 55-90
Davies 19-76
Goudzwaard 59-126

Week 4 Reading Week: Christian attempts to end poverty

Text Reading = 149 pp
Chester 91-150
Davies 77-122
Goudzwaard 127-166

Week 5A history of development
- Pre-modern development
- Colonialism and development
- Millennial Development Goals

Text Reading = 130 pp
Chester 151-194
Davies 123-182
Goudzwaard 167-205

Week 6 The rise of NGOs
- Early history
- FBOs

Text Reading = 93 pp
Kristof 3-46
Hunter 1-47
Week 7 Relief vs. development
- Major disasters
- Nation building

Text Reading = 80 pp
Kristof 47-100
Hunter 48-78

Week 8 Reading Week: Development case studies: Africa

Text Reading = 120 pp
Kristof 101-166
Hunter 79-149

Week 9 Development case studies: Asia
- Cambodia
- Northern Thailand

Text Reading = 100 pp
Kristof 167-234
Hunter 150-196

Week 10 NGOs in international politics
- United Nations related
- World Trade Organization

Text Reading = 90 pp
Kristof 235-286
Hunter 197-237

Week 11 NGOs in mission
- Cambodia
- Indonesia
- Rwanda
- Mexico

Text Reading = 80 pp
Kristof 287-318
Hunter 238-286

Week 12 Development and post-colonialism
- Africa
- Protestant missions
- Pentecostals

Week 13 The future of NGOs and development
- Lausanne
- World Evangelical Alliance
- Global Christianity
IX. Select Bibliography of Globalization, Development and NGOs


Jong, Wilma de, Martin Shaw, and Neil Stammers. Global Activism, Global Media. London:


