

Virtual - Mission Practicum
Training Cross-cultural workers in Mexico

(This is a volunteer ONLINE opportunity – it is NOT offered for seminary credit
nor an official GCTS affiliated program)

The Maranatha Missions Movement is a nonprofit ministry in Oaxaca, Mexico that is offering an ongoing **virtual** Missions Practicum. This ministry is headed by a Gordon-Conwell faculty member.

Although the experience is virtual, the program promotes the same goals as an in-person trip. For one, the virtual mission offers an enriching cross-cultural experience. Participants will learn about Mexican culture, which is characterized by collectivism, orality, indirect communication, a turbulent political history, and a lower standard of living as well as spiritual syncretism and apathy.

Furthermore, Oaxaca is the most ethnically diverse state of Mexico, with 16 recognized ethnolinguistic groups and many subgroups. The Maranatha Missions Movement sits in a mountainous, culturally rich region of Oaxaca in which there are many remote villages without any evangelical church. With that in mind, it is important to note that the group does not focus solely on outreach efforts in Mexico.

Rather, the ministry is dedicated to **fulfilling the Great Commission** at a local, regional, national, and international level. Thus, the ministry is currently developing a robust missionary training program. Missiologists are now seeing a rise in Latin American, African, and Asian missionaries. Therefore, there is an urgent need to provide quality training for Christians in Mexico and other Latin American countries. For that reason, the Maranatha Missions Movement promotes training for evangelism and discipleship, bi-vocational training for ministry, mission trip/project coordination, consultations about missions mobilization and church planting, and theological training for the Hispanic Church.

Thus, participants in the virtual mission practicum will have the opportunity to contribute to these efforts to train up Latin Americans who will plant healthy, multiplying churches in strategic places throughout the world. Virtual mission opportunities might involve a variety of tasks, such as: virtual teaching events (e.g., conferences and workshops), virtual marketing for the ministry (e.g., through social media outlets and blogging), virtual networking for the missionary training program, the development of online English classes for missionary trainees, and the development of online missions-related resources (e.g., professional videos and written materials), etc.

Both English and Spanish speakers are welcome to apply. No passport or plane ticket is needed! The cost of \$300 is minimal and goes toward sustaining the nonprofit ministry and compensating the on-site mentor, who will offer frequent training and supervision. For more information, see:

www.en.MisionesMaranatha.org

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