1-1-2005

MI 610 Introduction of Christian Mission

Gregory P. Leffel

Follow this and additional works at: http://place.asburyseminary.edu/syllabi

Recommended Citation
http://place.asburyseminary.edu/syllabi/2833
Asbury Theological Seminary
Spring Term, 2005
Professor: Dr. Gregory Leffel
(email: Greg_Leffel@asburyseminary.edu; phone: 859/433-9398)
Credit: Three Hours

Course Syllabus
MI 610—Introduction to Christian Mission

DESCRIPTION
A survey of the biblical, theological, historical, strategic and socio-cultural issues related to the World Christian Movement and its progress through time and space. Drawing upon insights from a number of fields including theology, history, and the social sciences the course provides a distinctive missiological framework for understanding the nature of the Christian mission, its growth and the role of individual Christians. The course material is structured around four vantage points, or “perspectives”:

The Biblical Perspective exploring God’s abiding purpose revealed throughout the biblical narrative as God’s people participate with God in extending the blessings of the reign of God to all of the peoples of the earth.

The Historical Perspective examining the progress and continuity of the Christian Movement in world history. An analysis of various strategies and notable figures sheds light on the ongoing work of world evangelization.

The Cultural Perspective pinpoints crucial issues of cross-cultural communication and service, incarnational ministry, and contextualization with emphasis on a biblical and anthropological understanding of cultural issues and the missionary task.

The Strategic Perspective offering guidelines for an overall approach to advancing the Christian mission among the world’s peoples as well as strategies for evangelism, church planting, relief and development work, peace and justice, reconciliation, missionary recruitment and training, resource mobilization, and prayer.

A unique feature of the course is its use of a variety of lecturers representing a wide range of field experience, mission leadership and academic expertise from a number of denominational points of view. In addition, the texts and study materials provide a comprehensive survey of the entire subject of Christian mission and opportunity for personal reflection and advancement in missionary commitment.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
1. To introduce students to the major themes and ideas of mission studies, to acquaint them with the major figures and literature in the field, and to prepare them for subsequent studies in a number of missiological disciplines.

2. To confront students with the missionary calling that is an integral part of the life and faith of all Christians regardless their respective fields of ministry, and to challenge them to informed, life-long participation in God’s mission to the world.
COURSE HISTORY
Although this is an ATS course, it is incorporated within an international study program called “Perspectives on the World Christian Mission.” Initially offered in 1974, “Perspectives” was developed by Dr. Ralph D. Winter, a noted and influential mission scholar. It is administered through the Institute for International Studies (IIS) located at the United States Center for World Mission in Pasadena, CA. Since 1974, over 46,000 students have taken the course in the United States and around the world. It is offered annually in more than 100 locations. More than 125,000 copies of the Perspectives Reader are in print in English, Spanish and Portuguese with over 100 colleges and seminaries in the United States using it as a text. It is by far the largest course of its kind in the world.

This is the eleventh year that “Perspectives” has been offered in Lexington, Kentucky in conjunction with the Perspectives Study Program and ATS. Hundreds of participants from several academic institutions as well as many area churches have taken the course and affirm its life-changing impact. In order to facilitate interactions among seminary students and those preparing for missionary service and support ministries within their churches, the course is offered where it can be made most accessible—in area churches rather than on the ATS campus. Separate academic, non-academic and audit tracks are available to meet the various needs of a wide range of students.

REQUIRED READING

COURSE ORIENTATION AND BANQUET (no charge)
Date and time: Monday, January 31, 2005 from 6:00 to 8:00
Location: Southland Christian Church (Bldg. F)

Because of the distinctive nature of this course—i.e., that it covers a wide range of subjects, and that it mixes together people from a number of seminary and non-seminary backgrounds—we have found it helpful to provide a course orientation prior to the first class meeting. Students will be introduced to each other and to the course staff, course content, materials and expectations. Attendance is encouraged though it is not required.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS
Reading Interaction Reports: Winter and Hawthorne (36) 30%
Case Studies: Moreau, Corwin and McGee (8) 30%
Interaction Report: Escobar 20%
Midterm and final exams 100%
1. **Attendance:** Since the class meets only once a week and features a different speaker, attendance is extremely important. Please make it a matter of prayer and personal discipline to attend each session and to be on time. If more than two classes are missed without an approved excuse the grade may be lowered. Attendance will be recorded on a sign-up sheet. Each student is responsible for signing the attendance sheet at each session.

2. **Reading Interaction Reports:** Complete assigned readings in Winter and Hawthorne, *Perspectives*, before each class as indicated on the Course Schedule, below. Then, for the selected articles indicated on the Course Schedule, complete a one-page “Reading Interaction Report.” The report format is included, below. You may photocopy the report form and submit it handwritten form, or reformat it on your wordprocessor and submit it in typed form (preferred). Submit reports each week at the beginning of class.

3. **Case Studies:** Complete assigned readings in Moreau, Corwin and McGee, *Introducing World Missions*, before each class as indicated on the Course Schedule. Then respond to the selected case studies included in the text as indicated on the Course Schedule. Submit a two-page (typed, double-spaced) response at the beginning of class that summarizes your understanding of the issues involved and your approach to resolving the problem, tension, ethical issue, etc. addressed in the particular case.

4. **Reading Report:** During the semester read Escobar’s *The New Global Mission*. Submit a 5 p. (typed, double-spaced) report on your reading on the date shown on the Course Schedule. Briefly summarize the text’s major arguments, your critical analysis of them, and personal insights into mission that you have gained from your reading.

5. **Exams:** Midterm and final exams are take-home and due as shown on the Course Schedule.

**CLASS LOCATIONS AND TIMES**

Please note that the course meets in three different sections (Sunday evening, Monday morning and Monday evening) in three separate off-campus locations. Select the time and location that best fits your schedule.

Section A: First Alliance Church  
Sunday evenings: 5:30 to 8:30

Section B: Centenary United Methodist Church  
Monday mornings: 9:00 to 12:00  
(Childcare available/small fee required)

Section C: Wilmore United Methodist Church  
Monday evenings: 6:45 to 9:45

**COURSE STAFF**

To ensure consistency and accuracy the course is administered by a team of individuals representing both ATS and the Perspectives Study Program, all of whom have taken the course and are intimately familiar with its requirements. Effective communication
between the students and staff is very important. While every team member may not be present for every class, regular course coordinators will always be present to address any questions, comments, suggestions, problems, etc. that you may have. Feel free to contact any of the staff by phone if necessary.

ATS course instructor: Greg Leffel Phone: 433-9398
Sunday evening coordinators: Sherrie/Phil Hurley Phone: 255-8146
Monday morning coordinator: Cynthia Bosch Phone: 277-8269
Monday evening coordinators: Geoff/Sherry Maddock Phone: 243-8741

COURSE SCHEDULE AND ASSIGNMENTS DUE

JAN. 31
COURSE ORIENTATION AND OVERVIEW
Location: see above

FEB. 6/7
THE MISSION OF GOD
Instructor: Michael Paquarello, Asbury Theological Seminary

FEB. 13/14
ISRAEL AND THE MISSION OF GOD
Instructor: Mary Fisher, Asbury Theological Seminary
Winter and Hawthorne: Articles 1-9 (pp. 3-63)
Reading interaction reports: Articles 2, 5, 9
Moreau, Corwin, McGee: Chapters 1-2 (pp. 11-39)
Case study: Chapter 2 (pp. 38-39)

FEB. 20/21
JESUS AND THE MISSION OF GOD
Instructor: Geoff Maddock, Communality
Winter and Hawthorne: Articles 10-19 (pp. 64-126)
Reading interaction reports: Articles 10, 15, 18
Moreau, Corwin, McGee: Chapters 3-4 (pp. 40-70)
Case study: Chapter 4 (pp. 68-69)

FEB. 27/28
THE CHURCH AND THE MISSION OF GOD
Instructor: Greg Leffel, Communality
Winter and Hawthorne: Articles 20-32 (pp. 127-192)
Reading interaction reports: Articles 20, 22, 27
Moreau, Corwin, McGee: Chapter 5 (pp. 71-89)
Case study: Chapter 5 (pp. 88-89)

MAR. 6/7
THE WORLD CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT: AD100 – 1750
Instructor: Roger Schroeder, Catholic Theological Union
Winter and Hawthorne: Articles 33-43 (pp. 195-292)
Reading interaction reports: Articles 33, 36, 39
Moreau, Corwin, McGee: Chapter 6 (pp. 93-113)
MAR. 13/14  **THE WORLD CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT: AD1750 – 2000**  
Instructor: Ruth Tucker, Calvin Theological Seminary  
Winter and Hawthorne: Articles 44-50 (pp. 293-338)  
Reading interaction reports: Articles 44, 48, 50  
Moreau, Corwin, McGee: Chapters 7-8 (pp. 114-155)  
Exam 1 Assigned

MAR. 20/21  **THE WORLD CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT IN A GLOBAL AGE**  
Instructor: Michael Rynkiewich, Asbury Theological Seminary  
Winter and Hawthorne: Articles 51-53; 72-75 (pp. 339-370; 509-540)  
Reading interaction reports: Articles 51, 72, 75  
Exam 1 Due

MAR. 28  **MISSION AND COMMUNICATING THE GOSPEL CROSS-CULTURALLY**  
Instructor: Darrell Whiteman, cultural anthropologist  
Winter and Hawthorne: Articles 54-66 (pp. 373-459)  
Reading interaction reports: Articles 55, 60, 62, 64  
Moreau, Corwin, McGee: Chapters 9-11 (pp. 159-202)  
Case study: Chapter 10 (pp. 188-189)

APR. 3/4  **MISSION AND INCARNATION**  
Instructor: Terry LeBlanc, My People International  
Winter and Hawthorne: Articles 67-71 (pp. 460-506)  
Reading interaction reports: Articles 68, 71  
Moreau, Corwin, McGee: Chapters 12-13 (pp. 205-232)  
Case study: Chapter 13 (pp. 230-231)

APR. 10/11  **MISSION AND TRANSFORMATION**  
Instructor: Jay Moon, SIM missionary  
Winter and Hawthorne: Articles 76-85 (pp. 541-591)  
Reading interaction reports: Articles 83, 84, 85  
Moreau, Corwin, McGee: Chapters 14-15 (pp. 233-262)  
Case study: Chapter 14 (pp. 240-241)

APR. 17/18  **MISSION AND RECONCILIATION**  
Instructor: Jim Swearingen/James Brown, Urban Concern  
Winter and Hawthorne: Articles 86-99 (pp. 592-667)  
Reading interaction reports: Articles 87, 96-99 (treat as one article)  
Moreau, Corwin, McGee: Chapters 16-17 (pp. 265-294)  
Case study: Chapter 17 (pp. 291-293)

APR 24/25  **THE CHURCH IN MISSION STRATEGY**  
Instructor: Leslie Hill, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship  
Winter and Hawthorne: Articles 100-111 (pp. 668-701)  
Reading interaction reports: Articles 100, 104, 110  
Moreau, Corwin, McGee: Chapters 18-19 (pp. 295-314)  
Case study: Chapter 18 (pp. 307-308)
MAY 1/2  LEADING THE CHURCH IN MISSION
Instructor: Russell West, Asbury Theological Seminary
Winter and Hawthorne: Articles 112-120 (pp. 702-743)
  Reading interaction reports: Articles 114, 116, 119
Escobar: Five-page reading report due
Exam 2 Assigned

MAY 8/9  GLOBAL CHRISTIAN VISION
Instructor: Jim Pluedeman, SIM/Trinity Evangelical Divinity School
Winter and Hawthorne: Articles 121-124 (pp. 744-763)
  Reading interaction report: Article 124
Exam 2 Due
READING INTERACTION REPORT
MI 610 – Introduction to Christian Mission

Name/Date:

Chapter(s) or Article Title:

Summary:

What new insights have you gained from reading this material?

1. 

2. 

3. 

4. 

What are some applications of these insights to interpersonal evangelism?

1. 

2. 

3. 

4. 

What are some issues, concerns, or questions you would like to see discussed in class?
What contributions can you make from your own experiences?