MW 768 Issues in Third-World Christianity

Eunice L. Irwin
Course Description:
A study of particular issues raised by people practicing the Christian faith in the context of churches in Two-Thirds World countries, including their aspiration for a holistic experience of Christianity, adequate response to political, economic and social structures, as well as discovery of their identity and role within the world Christian community. The course will be taught primarily as a seminar.

Course Objectives and their Relationship to Texts, Activities and Assignments:
1. To examine issues that Christians from other parts of the world confront in light of the new emerging paradigm of global Christianity today. JENKINS, SANNEH
2. To listen and gain information firsthand from leaders of the non-Western church. SHENK, INTERVIEWS OF NON-WESTERN CHURCH LEADERS
3. To identify the voice of the church in response to issues of concern, and to note where and how Christian communities raise these issues. YAMAMORI/ PADILLA
4. To investigate how Christians in other parts of the world attempt to focus awareness and change theological and ecclesial perspectives of the global community in order to resolve issues related to their practice of the faith. ESCOBAR, GUEST LECTURERS
5. To investigate roles and responses taken by the global community; and particularly, to study how world Christians and Christian mission groups have understood and responded to these issues in solidarity and through partnerships. FIELD TRIP(S)
6. To devise and propose strategies in response to selected issues facing Christians in the Third World. SEMINAR REPORT AND RESEARCH PAPER

Course Requirements:
1. Attendance and reading assigned materials for discussion in class. On occasion, written interaction with theories presented in the seminars. (15%)
2. Interview of four non-Western church leaders regarding issues in their regions. (15%)
3. Participation on a field trip to visit a ministry dedicated to serving the church and Christian populations in other parts of the world. (Field notes/ discussion.) (15%)
4. Presenting a 45-minute seminar report on an issue of Third-World Christians. 
(20%)
5. Writing a research paper on same topic related to Third-World Christianity, including: 
   a. Current relevant source bibliography (and examples of successful response, if any). 
   b. Outline of basic research findings and conclusions (for use in seminar presentation). 
   c. Submission of paper in final draft form (25-page pages).  DUE: May 5th  (35%)

Required Texts:

Escobar, Samuel  
Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

Jenkins, Philip  
2002  *The Next Christendom: The Coming of Global Christianity.*  New York:  
Oxford University Press.

Sanneh, Lamin  
2003  *Whose Religion is Christianity? The Gospel beyond the West.*  Grand Rapids:  
Eerdmans.

Shenk, Wilbur  
2004  *Enlarging the Story: Perspectives in Writing Christian World History.*  

Yamamori, Tetsunao and C. Rene Padilla, eds.  
2004  *Local Church, Agent of Transformation: An Ecclesiology for Integral 
Mission.*  
Buenos Aires: Kairos.

Course Schedule:  (This is a TENTATIVE Course Schedule, to be adjusted after Feb. 10)

Feb 10  Introductions & Syllabus: *Locating Third World Christianity's Issues*  
Supplemental: MC7-30: "What God is Doing to Shape the New Millennium" 
by Henry Blackaby; WTI-46: "Setting the Stage" + Escobar

Feb 17  *Emergence of Third World Christian Perspectives*  
Supplemental: MC31- 79: "Context of the New Millennium" 
WT47-99: "Establishing the macro context of the major issues" 
Students report on interviews of non-Western church leaders.

Feb 24  **Guest Lecturers:** Drs. Nantachai and Ubolwan Mejudhon
Mar 3  
*Theological Education I: Indigenous Propagation of Faith via Scriptures*  
WTI49-205: "The Scriptures, the Church and Humanity"  

Mar 10-11  
*Tentative Visit to the headquarters of Overseas Council. Inc., Indianapolis*  
In preparation for trip, read website materials from OC, Inc.

*Theological Education II: Programs & Curricula of Non-Western Schools*  
Processing of Field Trip: Bring field trip notes to discuss.  
Also scan books: Elmer & McKinney, *With an Eye to the Future*.  
Smallman, *Able to Teach Others Also*

Mar 17  
*Partnership: Roles and Relationships in the Global Church*  
Read: "Soul Wars" by John Wine, Jr. in Stackhouse et al., pp. 182-192.  
Supplemental: MCI71-209: "Working Together Strategically in the New Millennium"; WTI01-148: "Evangelical Missiology"

Mar 24  
SPRING READING WEEK (Class will not meet.)

Mar 31  
*Holistic Ministry: The Politics of Poverty and the Refugee Issue*  
Read: WT207-256  
In class: Theories from Bryant Myers, ed., *Walking with the Poor* and *Working with the Poor*.  
Tentative: Guest lecturers of SIFAT

Apr 7  
*Issues in Leadership Development: Making Disciples, and Training the Laity*  
Read: WT257 -388  
Read section: MC 211-235 "Leadership Needed for the New Millennium"  

Apr 14  
*Challenges to National Church and Mission Organizations & Structures*  
Read: MC81-156 and WT389-438  
Theories from edited text by Kraakevik & Welliver, *Partners in the Gospel*.

Apr 21  
*Identity and 'Soul": Finding Artistic Expressions of Faith*  
Read section: MC:158-179 "Working Together Doxologically in the New Millennium"
Apr 28  Responses to Post 9-11 Challenges of Third World Christianity
Read: WT439-556
Tentative: Guest lecturer on Terrorism

May 5  Non-Western Evangelism and World Missions
Theories from William D. Taylor, Too Valuable to Lose, and others

Term Research Papers Due

May 12 Disaster Relief, Community Development, Tentmaking
Guest Lecturer: Rev. Phil Skellie, CAMA Services

May 20  FINALS WEEK (Class may meet during exam time.)

Supplemental Texts:

Mulholland, Kenneth & Gary Corwin, eds.

Taylor, William D., ed.

Recommended Texts:

Augsburger, David W.

Barrett, David & Todd Johnson

Barrett, David, Kurian, & Todd Johnson

Bell, Brenda, John Gaventa, and John Peters, eds.

Dyrness, William

Elmer, Duane

Elmer, Duane and Lois McKinney, eds.

Evangelical Training Association

Fabella, Virginia and R. S. Sugirtharajah, eds.

Johnstone, Patrick and Jason Mandryk

Kraakevik, James H. and Dotsey Welliver, eds.

McKenzie, Peter

Paden, William

Pantoja, Luis, Jr., Sadiri Joy Tira, and Enoch Wan

Rundle, Steve and Tom Steffen
Siewert, John A. and Dotsey Welliver, eds.

Smallman, William H.
2001  Able to Teach Others Also: Nationalizing Global Ministry Training.
      Pasadena, CA: Mandate Press.

Snyder, Howard, ed.

Stackhouse, Max L., Tim Dearborn and Scott Paeth
      Grand Rapids: Eerdmans.

Sundquist, Scott & Dale Irwin

Taylor, William D., ed.

Yamamori, Tetsunao, Bryant L. Myers, Kwame Bediako and Larry Reed, eds.
1996  Serving with the Poor in Africa. Monrovia, CA: MARC.
Journals* and Websites:

SIFAT Journal [published by Servants in Faith and Technology: www.sifat.org]
Sojourners [pub. by Evangelicals for Social Action: www.sojo.net/magazine]
Studies in World Christianity Outlook
[ www.div.ed.ac.uk/subjects/religious_studies/journals/ studcont.htm]
Resources for Studies in World Politics
[http://library.wcc.hawaii.edu/class/worldpolitics.html]
Together [published by World Vision: www.worldvision.org]
"Through Hispanic Eyes Faculty Seminar", aeth.org [www.aeth@austinseminary.edu]
Trinity Western University
[ website: www.twu.ca/library/wwwsites2c.html#Third%20World%20Studies ]
United Nations [unitednations.org]
US Center for World Missions [www.uscwm.org]
Call to Prayer (published by World Gospel Mission) [no website?]
Word Made Flesh [www.wordmadeflesh.org]
World Pulse [formerly published by Evangelism and Missions Information Service: www.wheaton.edu/bgc/emis/pulsearticles/resourcenetwork.html]

Asian Report [email: AsianOutreach@XC.Org]
Association of Third World Studies, Inc. [http://itc/gsw.edu/atws]
Critical Reflect. Thought Africa
[www.adeanet.org/wgfe/publications/abel/abel1/html]
Global Missiology (Third-World web journal [global missiology.net]
Indian Christian Studies: Mission Issues: Theology of Mission
[ www.samyudhara.com/CHY_MIS_TH.html]
International Bulletin of Missionary Research [published by the
Mission Frontiers Overseas Missionary Study Center: www.omsc.org]
Overseas Council International [ www.mission.frontiers@uscwm.org]
Perspectives course & materials [www.octeam.org]
Salvation Army [www.perspectives@uscwm.org]
[ www.salvationarmy.org]
World Relief

* Also see listing of selected English-Language Journals on Issues in Third World Theologies in *Dictionary of Third World Theologies*, p. 249f.