



# Nazarene Theological Seminary

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## MSS645 Practice of Intercultural Missions Fall 2009

### ***Instructor Information***

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### **Catalog Description**

Introduction to the practice of intercultural ministry including specific skills useful to living and ministering cross-culturally.

### **Course Narrative & Rationale**

The context of intercultural ministry involves a variety of complex social, organizational and personal issues. This is a practical mission course that addresses aspects of these issues through the development of some of the key elements of cross cultural ministry which include cultural self-awareness, cultural intelligence and other practical aspects to the missionary.

### **Educational Assumptions**

1. God's direction is essential for this class to be successful.
2. We will learn in the context of community. Appropriate ideas as well as doubts may be expressed and developed in a safe environment of mutual respect.
3. Students are valued not only as persons who have potential to learn, but also as persons who already have significant knowledge and experiences to contribute to the purposes of the course. Consequently, some of the course assignments will require cooperative efforts among students.
4. This is a graduate course. The quality of thinking, writing, speech, and class participation should reflect a graduate level quality. Higher levels of thought (e.g., analysis, synthesis, and evaluation), writing style, spelling, grammar, as well as faithful attendance, consideration of fellow students and their ideas, and timely submission of assignments is expected.

## Course Outcomes

With the help of the Lord in this class students will:

1. Have the opportunity to obtain or advance some of the essential tools for intercultural ministry through active involvement in reading, class discussions and guest lecturers.
2. Have the opportunity to explore some of the practical aspects of being a missionary through interaction with guest lecturers, class discussion, and reading.

## Required Texts & Course Materials

Bonk, Jonathan J., *Missions and Money*, Orbis, 2006 (**make sure you get the revised and expanded version and not the earlier version**) ISBN: 13: 978-1-57075-650-4

Elmer, Duane, *Cross-cultural Servanthood: Serving the World in Christlike Humility*, 2006

Foster, Richard, *Freedom of Simplicity*, San Francisco, Harper, 1998. ISBN: 9780061043857

Lingenfelter Sherwood G. and Marvin K. Mayers, *Ministering Cross-Culturally. An Incarnational Model for Personal Relationships*: Grand Rapids, MI: BakerBook House, 1986

Livermore, David A., 2006. *Serving with Eyes Wide Open: Doing Short-Term Missions with Cultural Intelligence*: Grand Rapids, Michigan, BakerBooks.

*\*Note: Additional reading in the form of essays and journal articles related to the topics of this course will be included as assigned reading.*

## Course Outline

The course will be divided into three principle units which are as follows:

### Unit 1: The role of a missionary in a new culture

- Motives for mission service
- Culture Shock
- Language Acquisition
- Interpersonal relationships in an atypical setting

### Unit 2: Mission Theory which affects mission practice

- The development of the “three self” concept.
- The development of Nazarene World Mission, mission theory.

### Unit 3: Changing trends which affect mission practice

- Short Term Missions
- Majority World Missions
- Money and missions

## Course Assignments & Requirements

### A. Read and orally interact with assigned readings for each day.

Write a 3-4 page Interaction paper of each required reading book.

- These papers must be printed and turned in on the day that they are due (see course map)
- Each interaction paper should provide a thoughtful analysis of the book (3-4 pages). These are NOT book reports or simple summaries. Neither are they your random reflections after reading the books.
- The papers are to carefully analyze the book and provide critical evaluation. Papers should include four parts:
  - A brief statement of the argument/thesis/main idea of the book (less than a half page).
  - An evaluation of the sources used for the study- ask the question: “What sources did the author draw from to write this book?” and “Is this valid to support their argument or main thesis?” (Half to one page)
  - Several paragraphs tracing the development of the main idea throughout the book. (One to one and a half pages)
  - Provide your own evaluation of the book: Did the book demonstrate the thesis? Did you like the book? Etc. (Half to one page)
- Note that I have also posted a sample book review on the course documents which uses this format. Please note that this is an example from a book which may be completely distinct from the book you will review, but it should give an idea of the format which you will need to use. *See due dates on the course calendar.*
- There will be several days on which you will be asked to lead class discussion based on assigned readings. You will be graded on this participation as well.

### B. Integrative Assignment

This paper is to be 20-30 pages in length and must follow carefully the style and format found in Turabian, Kate L.A Manual for Writers of Research papers, Theses, and Dissertations. Revised by Wayne C. Booth, et al. 7th ed. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2007. (See NTS student handbook, page 15 for further information) This assignment will connect with themes of the course, and should include a cross section of the literature related to the topic. In addition to the written assignment, each person will make a presentation. Note that this is a paper which should present varied aspects of a debate or polemic issues in missions. Some possible topics could include:

- Issues related to money and missions.
- Short Term Missions
- Mission Theory
- Cross Cultural conflict
- Third Culture Kids
- Other topic which will relate to the content of this course

*\*Content subject to approval by instructor*

## **Academic Integrity**

Be sure to read and understand the content and implications of the Plagiarism statement in the NTS Student Handbook as well. You may access the student handbook online at:

<http://nts.edu/Websites/nts/Images/pdfs/handbooks/Student%20Handbook%20Final%202008-2009.pdf>

All assignments in this course are made with the expectation that the work you submit is your own work. Failure to adhere to these requirements will result in a failing grade for the course. The paper will be graded on the following basis:

- Accurate summary of the current debate or issue
- Use of relevant literature including journal articles
- Thorough analysis of the issues involved.
- Fair assessment and/or evaluation of the issue including theological and biblical argumentation.
- Statement and argumentation of the student's own position on the issue.

Give careful attention to the use of Internet sources. While the Internet provides easy access to a wealth of resources, as with all other resources, Internet resources must be carefully selected and properly cited and referenced.

The class presentation of this project will be 20 minutes in class. The student will present a concise summary of his/her integrative paper. The presentation will be followed by questions and discussion. Utilize visual aids (white board, power point or handouts) as part of the presentation. The paper should not be simply read. The presentation grade will be based on the didactic and coherent presentation of the issue and the response to questions.

## **C. Critique of a Fellow Student's Integrative Paper**

Each student will be assigned to critique in writing on other student's paper. The critique will be presented in class following the presentation of the paper (lasting no more than five minutes). The written critique is due on the same day as the class presentation and should be 3-5 pages (double spaced, hard copy to the professor). The critique should address the paper's strengths and give suggestions for improvement (don't just summarize the paper). The reviewer should especially assess the argumentation and use of the literature. (Good reviews often check the author's sources.) A late critique will not be accepted, and the student will receive zero credit for the assignment.

## Computer Use in Class

The use of computers during class sessions is permitted for assisting with class notes, for presentations involving PowerPoint or various media, and for connecting with the Internet for specific questions directly related to the topic at hand. Other uses of computers during class sessions are considered inappropriate and relate directly to student involvement in the course. If you have urgent business involving computer use that needs to be attended to please do so outside of the classroom.

## Late Work

I do not accept late work except in cases of severe illness requiring extended hospitalization, a note from the dean, or a death in the family.

## Course Grading

100-91: A      90-81: B      80-71: C      70-60: D      59 or Below: F

## Grade Descriptions

### A. Excellent

A to A- This is work that is outstanding in every way, exceptional, marked by accuracy, creativity, scholarship, and/ or integrative thinking combined with good style.

### B. Good to Very Good

- i. B+ to B: This is work that is very good, accurately done, reflecting a proper grasp of the material, and done with interesting style.
- ii. B to B-: This is work that is good, but tends towards inaccuracy and imbalance, is written in a flat and un-engaging style, ideas are present, but not developed.

### C. Fair

- i. C+ to C: This is work that is marginally satisfactory because it is deficient in identifiable areas of accuracy, clarity, balance; ideas are vague and disorganized.
- ii. C to C-: This is work that is not far from being unacceptable, reflecting serious inadequacies in dealing with the material.

### D. Unsatisfactory; Just Passable

This is work that has been submitted, but is not satisfactory. It has dealt with the material, but in such an inaccurate or incomplete way that it cannot be judged as acceptable work.

### E. Failure

This is a grade assigned to a paper, exam, or course in which the student has not submitted the required work or who has so completely distorted the assignment that it bears no resemblance to what was required.

Assignment	Due Date	Weight for course grade
A. Missions and Money Book Review	October 6th	10%
B. Cross-cultural Servanthood: Serving the World in Christlike Humility Book Review	September 22nd	10%
C. Freedom of Simplicity Book Review	September 29th	10%
D. Ministering Cross-Culturally. An Incarnational Model for Personal Relationships Book Review	October 13th	10%
E. Serving with Eyes Wide Open: Doing Short-Term Missions with Cultural Intelligence Book Review	October 27th	10%
Integrative paper	October 27th	30%
Critique	November 3rd	10%
Participation in daily work/attendance		10%
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>100%</b>