



# Nazarene Theological Seminary

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## **MSS790 B: Mission Leadership and Strategy** Fall Module 2009

### ***Instructor Information***

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### ***Catalog Description***

*Mission Strategy* explores theological, anthropological and developmental issues related to global mission leadership. Emphasis will be placed on how these foundational issues inform the practical challenge of mission strategy development as well as cross cultural leadership development.

### ***Course Narrative & Rationale***

In a globalizing and changing world, ministry is complex. Without intentionally connecting praxis with theological and biblical understanding, ministry will tend to be faddish in nature, following pragmatic ministry practices without theological criteria. This course addresses the globalizing world context of ministry and works toward a balanced and informed criteria for creating Wesleyan ministry practices and for evaluating ministry practices utilized by other theological traditions.

### ***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:

1. Our class will work together as a community of learners to **gain theological, theoretical and practical insight** into the challenging task of developing leadership in cross cultural contexts.
2. We will be a community of learners better equipped to **be strategic leaders, work under leadership, and develop leaders** in other cultures.
3. We will function as a community of **scholars** making a contribution to the discipline through writing, practicing and teaching on leadership, strategy and culture.
4. We will **Explore and evaluate** organic as well as organizational forms of mission strategy.
5. We will **Develop** a grid for a philosophy of missions which builds on theological as well as contextual understanding.

## Required Texts & Course Materials

**\*note: it is highly recommended that these books be read before the class begins since there will be daily article reading during the module and very little time to complete these books once the class begins.**

Guder, Darrel L. 2000. *The Continuing Conversion of the Church*. Grand Rapids, Wm B. Eerdmans Publishing Co.

Gupta, Paul, R. and Lingenfelter, Sherwood G. 2006. *Breaking Tradition to Accomplish Vision: Training Leaders for a Church - Planting Movement*. Winona Lake, IN: BMH Books,

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

Nouwen, Henri, *In the Name of Jesus: Reflections on Christian Leadership*: New York: The Crossroad Publishing Company, 1989.

Wuthnow, Robert. 2009. *Boundless Faith: The Global Outreach of American Churches*. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press.

Articles:

- *Various articles/chapters will be included as daily assigned reading. These articles will be posted on Moodle or will be made available in the library.*

## Course Outline

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### ***Course Assignments & Requirements***

#### **Pre Course Assignments:**

1. Write a 3-4 page Interaction paper of each required reading book (with the exception of Nouwen).
  - a. These papers must be printed and turned in on the day that they are due (see course map)
  - b. 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.
  - c. 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 (half to one page) - 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?”
    - 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).
  - d. Note that I have also posted a sample book review on Moodle 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.
  - e. 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.
2. Write a brief 2-3 page overview of yourself which includes why are preparing for ministry, your dreams and goals for the future as well as an overview of your background. Please email this to the instructor no later than August 21<sup>st</sup>.

#### **During Module:**

During the time of the module, there will be light reading and activities to enhance the in class discussions.

Henri Nouwen’s book will be used as a devotional guide. Each day a student will use a section of the book as the basis for the class devotions of the day.

On the last day of this class, each student will present a proposal for a philosophy of mission based on the grid that we will develop during the course.

### **Post-Course Assignment-**

*Write an article that has the potential of being published. Write on a topic that relates to a practical problem in cross-cultural leadership to social science or theological insights. The length and style of the article will need to be in accordance with the publication for which you are submitting. This article will be submitted to the professor and to one of the following:*

- EMQ
- Missiology
- Mission Frontiers
- Nazarene publications such as *Holiness Today* or *Engage*.

### 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.

### **Method for Submitting Assignments**

Please bring hard copy to class unless otherwise directed.

### **Late Work**

**Late work** is not accepted for credit 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**

B+ to B: This is work that is very good, accurately done, reflecting a proper grasp of the material, and done with interesting style.

B to B-: This is work that is good, but tends towards inaccuracy and imbalance, is written in a flat and unengaging style, ideas are present, but not developed.

#### **C. Fair**

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.

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.

**F. 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.

**Grading**

Assignment	Due Date	Weight for course grade
Book Review: Jenkins		15%
Book Review: Gupta		15%
Book Review: Guder		15%
Book Review: Wuthnow		15%
Daily Participation/attendance		10%
Mission Grid		10%
Post-course assignment		20%
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>100%</b>

**Course Map**

Date	Unit	Class	Assignments due before beginning of class
8/25	- Introduction - Developing a theological/missiological grid for mission development	Syllabus and Course introduction	
8/26	From Local to Global anthropology and the implications for mission leadership and strategy	<b>Video:</b> Thomas Friedman - "The World is Flat"	1) Jenkins book review due. <i>Come to class prepared to lead discussion on the content and application of this book.</i> 2) Article from April 2, 2006, Missiology: <i>The Changing Face of Mission: Implications for the Southern Shift in Christianity</i> by Mark Lang.
8/27			1)Articles: - "Mission Structures and Management Principles for the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century" - "What's Wrong with the Label, 'Managerial Missiology'?"  <i>Prepare outline of key ideas to help with in class discussion.</i> 2)Box "B" of grid
8/28	-Leadership development and strategy - "Holistic vs. Managerial Missiology"		1) Articles: - "Management by Disciplined Vision" - "Measurable Objectives, No! Faith Goals, Yes!" - "Strategic Stumbling about in Search of Surprises" 2) Gupta Book Review due.

Date	Unit	Class	Assignments due before beginning of class
8/31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Leadership development and strategy</li> <li>- Situational Leadership</li> <li>- Theological Education in a "global context"</li> </ul>	A Nazarene strategy for global theological education.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Guder Book Review due</li> <li>2) Article: "The Church as Missionary"</li> </ul>
9/1			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Box "A" of grid</li> <li>2) Article - Beyond Independence to Mature Partnership"</li> </ul>
9/2			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Box "C" of grid</li> <li>2) Article - "The affective use of financial resources in missions partnerships"</li> <li>3) Wuthnow Review due.</li> </ul>
9/3	World Mission and Strategy		To be determined
9/4			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Philosophy of mission (bring to class) -</li> <li>2) Final Review</li> </ul>