

**SPRING TERM 2008  
COURSE SYLLABUS**

Department: Mission and Evangelism  
Course Title: Introduction to World Mission  
Course Number: ME 500  
Credit Hours: 3

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**I. COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course will introduce the student to the biblical, theological and historical **foundations** of world mission and explore the **scope** of mission practice. Attention will be given to an examination of issues related to evangelism, mission, missions, and dialogue and to the special subjects of persecuted Christians, unreached peoples, cross-cultural communication, justice, ‘spiritual warfare’ and the place of mission in the local church.

**II. TEXT BOOKS**

***Required Books***

Andrew Walls, *The Missionary Movement in Christian History* (Maryknoll: Orbis)

David Bosch, *Transforming Mission* (Maryknoll: Orbis, 1991)

Norman Thomas, ed. *Classic Texts in Mission & World Christianity* (Maryknoll: Orbis, 1995)

Students will also be expected to find and use additional resources in the completion of their final project.

**III. COURSE OUTLINE**

**A. Objectives:**

From time to time in her history the church becomes in-rown, focused on the institution and interested more in maintenance and self-preservation than in the propagation of the gospel. The aim of this course is to help future clergy and lay leaders of the church to remember that God is a God of mission and that He calls all of His people to be in mission.

## **B. General Approach:**

Classes will include lectures by the professor, discussion, video and some small group work. There will be weekly readings, and a final project to be handed toward the end of the course.

## **III. Course Requirements & Evaluation**

### **1. Attendance and participation. (40%)**

Students are expected to attend each class and be prepared to discuss the assigned work for the day. A one-two page summary of each weekly reading should be handed at the end of each class period.

### **2. Book Review (20%)**

A book review of Andrew Walls, *The Missionary Movement in Christian History* is due on **April 3**. The review should not be longer than 5 pages and should include both a summary of the books (rather varied...) contents and a critical analysis, that is, 'What are the strengths and weaknesses of the book?' 'What questions are left unanswered or ignored?' 'Do the ideas which Walls presents conflict with your understanding of the Bible or some aspect of Christian tradition?'

### **3. Final Paper. (40%)**

The purpose of the final project is to explore the barriers and bridges which emerged in the ministry of one person or group to reach a specified people with the message of the gospel or to live out the mission of the gospel in a particular setting. Each student should choose her or his topic by **February 28** and report their choice to the professor, with a bibliography of at least 10 items included.

Choose one of the people listed below. Research their life and ministry keeping in mind the following:

1. Describe the worldview among whom the person worked. Identify possible cultural barriers to their understanding of the gospel and possible features of their worldview which might give them an openness to communicating or receiving the gospel.
2. What mission work (if any) had taken place among this people in the past? Evaluate the effectiveness of the past work compared with the effectiveness of your person.
3. What were the main motivations, strategies and outcomes of this person's mission?

A paper of 8-10 pages (with bibliography and footnotes!) should be submitted by **May 8**.

Possible persons / groups for research:

Samuel Ajayi Crowther	Sadhu Sundar Singh	Bernard Mizeki
Simon Kimbangu	Vedanayakam Samuel Azariah	Oscar Romero
Apolo Kivebulaya	The Martyrs of Uganda	Florence Li
William Wadé Harris	Kamehameha & Emma	Festo Kivengere
Fruentius & Aedesius	Francis Xavier	Matteo Ricci
Joseph Schereschewsky	Perpetua and her Companions	Robert de Nobili

Jim Elliot  
David Livingstone  
Henry Venn

St. Augustine of Canterbury  
Henry Martyn  
St. Francis

The Martyrs of Japan  
Hudson Taylor

#### IV. TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

Week of	Topic	Reading
January 31, 2008	<b>Prof is away in Ethiopia: no class</b>	
February 7, 2008	<b>Sorry – have to be at the Board Meeting: no class again</b>	
February 14, 2008	Introduction	Bosch pp. 1-11; 389-392; 489-519 Thomas chapter 6
February 21, 2008	Mission in the biblical story	Bosch chapter 1 and <b>either chapter 2, 3 or 4</b>
February 28, 2008	Mission in the church's story	Bosch chapters 5-8 Thomas chapter 3
March 6, 2008	Mission in the church's story	Bosch chapter 9 <b>Report final paper topic</b>
March 13, 2008	Mission as evangelism, church planting, reaching unreached peoples	Bosch pp. 393-399; 409- 419 Thomas chapters 7 & 9
March 20, 2008	<b>Maundy Thursday: no class</b>	
March 28, 2008	Mission in a multi-religious dialogue	Bosch pp. 474-88 Thomas chapter 15
April 3, 2008	The persecuted church	<b>Hand in Review of Walls</b>
April 10, 2008	<b>Reading Week: no class</b>	
April 17, 2008	Mission as justice and mercy	Bosch pp. 400-408; 432- 46 The book of Amos Thomas chapters 8 & 11
April 24, 2008	Crossing cultures	Bosch 420-31; 447-56 Thomas 10 & 12
May 1, 2008	Mission and 'spiritual warfare'	
May 8, 2008	Mission and the local church	Bosch 368-88; 457-73 Thomas 5 & 13 <b>Hand in final papers</b>

