

WM 613-2

Trends & Issues in Mission

Semester: Fall, 2014
 Days: Directed Study-Katie Bowler
 Room: n/a
 Lab – day: n/a
 Lab–Room: n/a

Number of credits: 3

Prerequisite:
 AAA 110

Instructor: Charles Cook, PhD
 Email: ccook@ambrose.edu
 Phone: 403-410-2000 Ext 7901
 Office: L2045
 Office By appointment
 hours:

Course Description:

In this *Trends and Issues in Mission* course, you will be exposed to and grapple with several contemporary issues in missions, and you will seek to discern how you would approach these issues in your personal life and ministry. Among the themes considered are: contextualization, syncretism, conversion and worldview transformation, church planting strategies, the role of the International Worker (IW) in church development, church-mission relationship, the indigenous church, spiritual warfare, and the role of short-term missions.

Further Course Information:

Furthermore, the learner will be exposed to the historical, theological and cultural foundations of Islam and its basic teachings. Learners will learn to appreciate how Guinean Muslim thinks about faith and life, and will have opportunities to interact with them on these topics. Likewise, the learner will also explore various ways of effectively communicating the gospel and begin developing an approach to establishing a community of faith among Muslims.

Expected Learning Outcomes:

It is the aim of the course that students acquire the following skills:

1. explain the various facets and complexities of several key mission issues;
2. develop their personal approach and perspective on these various issues and explain the rationale for their perspective;
3. recognize and become more aware of the challenges of spiritual engagement and power encounters.
4. describe the basic teachings and beliefs of Islam as well as its

Important Dates:

First day of classes: September 3, 2014
 Registration revision period: September 14, 2014
 Last day to request revised examination: October 27, 2014
 Last day to withdraw from course: November 12, 2014
 Last day to apply for time extension for coursework: November 24, 2014
 Last day of classes: December 9, 2014

Final Exam: n/a
Time: n/a
Room: n/a

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- historical development;
 - 5. interact with Muslims and discover their personal beliefs and practices;
 - 6. explain and apply several approaches to sharing the gospel in a Muslim context;
 - 7. identify principles and methods of church planting in a Muslim context.

Learning Context:

1. The learner will participate in a 10-hour seminar on mission issues where they will be exposed to and discuss these issues together. They will then interact with at least 4 different International Workers to discover their approach to 4 or 5 of these issues and write a reflection paper (see Learning Outcomes below).
2. The learner will participate in an 8-hour seminar on spiritual engagement in ministry and will also interact with this subject by interviewing and discussing it with at least 3 different national and international workers. They will then read 200 pages on this subject and give a 5-page reflection paper on the topic of Spiritual Warfare, including insights and principles that will influence their life and ministry.
3. The learner will participate in the video seminar "Battle for their Hearts." Each of the 12 sessions will include a one-hour video presentation AND a half hour discussion on the topics presented. This course presents historical foundations of Islam, its basic teachings and practices, and principles and methods for reaching Muslims with the Gospel.
4. The learner will participate in a 10-hour Church Planting Movements seminar taught by IWs engaged in this ministry. In this seminar, the learner will learn church planting principles and strategies in a Muslim context and will be exposed to the "CAMEL" method and the "storying" approach to sharing the Gospel in a Muslim context. Opportunities will be given to try these approaches in their personal interactions with Muslims.
5. The learner will participate in a 2-hour round table presentation on Muslim evangelism and church planting. Several international workers (IW's) who have been involved in these ministries will present their experience (e.g. best practices, things that did not work, etc.), then they will respond to questions about their involvement in reaching Muslims for Christ.

The learner will have opportunity to interact with a variety of IWs from several different missions about the way they engage in church planting amongst Muslims. Furthermore, the learner will interact with Guinean Christians and missionaries who are seeking to reach Muslims and will learn from them the challenges and approaches they encounter in this task.

Requirements:

1. Mission Issues Reflections Paper: 40%
Students will receive 40% of the final grade for their 15-20 page (3750-5000 words) reflection paper. In this paper, they will describe 4 to 5 different mission issues that were presented in the seminar, and they will present their personal perspective and approach to each of these issues. **Due December 12, 2014**
 2. Spiritual Engagement Report: 20%
Students will receive 20% of their final grade for their report on what they have learned about spiritual warfare. In their report, they will discuss how the issue of spiritual warfare could influence their personal life and ministry in this context. **Due December 12, 2014**
 3. Interacting with Islam
Students will participate in the "Battle for their Hearts" seminar and the round-table presentation on Muslim ministry and will write a 3-5 page (750-1250 word) paper on the key ideas and insights that they learned from the seminar and how it will influence their interactions with Muslims. (10% of the final grade) **Due December 12, 2014**
 4. Ethnographic Research
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Students will engage in conversations with 4-6 different Muslims and will ask questions about their beliefs and practices. These questions will be discussed during the seminar “Battle for their Hearts,” and an interaction report form will be given to students. They will complete at least 4 report forms on their interactions and will receive 20% of their final grade for these interaction reports. (12% for 4 reports.) **Due December 12, 2014**

5. Strategic Plan for Engaging Islam

Based on the church planting movements seminar and what they learned in “Battle for their Hearts” students will develop an action plan that indicates how they intend to engage in Muslim evangelism and church planting during the remainder of their time in Guinea. This 5-page (1250 words) plan will include strategies for developing relationships and interacting with Muslims, the approach to evangelism that they intend to use and how they intend to follow up and disciple those who indicate interest and respond to the message. (This project will count for 18% of the final grade.) **Due December 12, 2014**

Submission of Assignments:

Assignments are to be submitted by email to the instructor by the date indicated above.

Grade Summary:

The available letters for course grades are as follows:

<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Description</u>
A+	
A	Excellent
A-	
B+	
B	Good
B-	
C+	
C	Satisfactory
C-	
D+	
D	Minimal Pass
F	Failure

If you will be using percentages, please provide a scale which indicates how percentages in your class will be translated to letter grades. These equivalencies are at the discretion of the instructor, but **MUST** be stated in the syllabus. Because of the nature of the Alpha 4.00 system, there can be no uniform College-wide conversion scale. The relationship between raw scores (e.g. percentages) and the resultant letter grade will depend on the nature of the course and the instructor’s assessment of the level of each class, compared to similar classes taught previously. Please note that final grades will be available on student registration system. Printed grade sheets are no longer mailed out.

Textbooks:

- Keidel, Paul. *Career Defining Crises in Mission: Navigating the Major Decisions of Cross-Cultural Service* (William Carey Library)
 - Garret, David. *Church Planting Movements: How God is Redeeming a Lost World*. (WIGTake Resources)
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- Musk, Bill, *Touching the Soul of Islam: Sharing the Gospel in Muslim Cultures*. (Monarch Books)
 - Smith, Steve and Ying Kai. *T4T: A Discipleship Re-Revolution*. (WIGTake Resources)
 - Video: "Battle for Their Hearts" (developed by Transworld Radio and SIM International for the African context)
 - Guinea International Workers

Additional Resources:

- Accad, Fouad Elias. *Building Bridges: Christianity and Islam*. (Navpress)
- Anderson, Neil T. *The Bondage Breaker: Overcoming Negative Thoughts, Irrational Feelings, Habitual Sins*. (Harvest House Publishers)
- ----- *Helping Others Find Freedom in Christ: Connecting People to God through Discipleship Counseling*. (Regal Books)
- ----- *Victory Over the Darkness: Realizing the Power of your Identity in Christ*. (Regal Books)
- Cooper, Anne ed. *Ishmael My Brother*. (MARC)
- Hoskins, Edward J. *A Muslim's Heart: What Every Christian Needs to Know to Share Christ with Muslims*. (NavPress)
- Livingstone, Greg. *Planting Churches in Muslim Cities*. (Baker Book House) Owusu, Sam. *Spiritual Warfare: Equipping the Church to Confront and Overcome the Enemy*. (DaySprings Media)
- Parshall, Phil. *New Paths in Muslim Evangelism*. (Baker Book House)
- Pocock, Michael, Gailyn Van Rhee, Douglas McConnell. *The Changing Face of World Missions: Engaging Contemporary Issues and Trends*. (Baker Academic)
- Priest, Robert J, ed. *Effective Engagement in Short-Term Missions: Doing it Right*. (William Carey Library)
- Sutter, K. *Keys to Church Planting Movements*. (Asteroidea Books)
- Woodberry, J. Dudley, ed. *Muslims & Christians on the Emmaus Road*. (MARC)

Policies:

All students have received an Ambrose e-mail account upon registration. It is the student's responsibility to check this account regularly as the Ambrose email system will be the professor's instrument for notifying students of important matters (Cancelled class sessions, extensions, requested appointments, etc.) between class sessions. If students do not wish to use their Ambrose accounts, it is highly recommended that they forward all messages from the Ambrose account to the other account.

During the **Registration Revision Period** students may to enter a course without permission, change the designation of any class from credit to audit and /or voluntary withdraw from a course without financial or academic penalty. These courses will not appear on the student's transcript. Courses should be added or dropped on the student portal by the deadline date, please consult the List of Important Dates. After that date, the original status remains and the student is responsible for related fees.

Students intending to withdraw from a course after the Registration Revision Period must apply to the Office of the Registrar by submitting a Request to Withdraw from a Course by the **Withdrawal Deadline**, please consult the List of Important Dates. Withdrawal from courses after the Registration Revision period will not be eligible for tuition refund. A grade of "W" will appear on the student's transcript.

Students wishing to withdraw from a course, but who fail to do so by the applicable date, will receive the grade earned in accordance with the course syllabus. A student obliged to withdraw from a course after the Withdrawal Deadline because of health or other reasons may apply to the Registrar for special consideration.

Students, who find a conflict in their exam schedule must submit a **Revised Examination** Request form to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date, please consult the List of Important Dates. Requests will be considered for the following reasons only: 1) the scheduled final examination slot conflicts with another exam; 2) three final exams within three consecutive exam time blocks; 3) the scheduled final exam slot conflicts with an exam at another institution; 4) extenuating circumstances. Travel is not considered a valid excuse for re-scheduling or missing a final exam.

Electronic Etiquette

Students are expected to treat their instructor, guest speakers, and fellow students with respect. It is disruptive to the learning goals of a course or seminar and disrespectful to fellow students and the instructor to engage in electronically-enabled activities unrelated to the class during a class session. Please turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices during class. Laptops should be used for class-related purposes only. Please do not use iPods, MP3 players, or headphones. Do not text, read, or send personal emails, go on Facebook or other social networks, search the internet, or play computer games during class. The professor has the right to disallow the student to use a laptop in future lectures and/or to ask a student to withdraw from the session if s/he does not comply with this policy. Repeat offenders will be directed to the Dean. If you are expecting communication due to an emergency, please speak with the professor before the class begins.

Academic Policies

It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies as stated in the Academic Calendar. Personal information, that is information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual, may be collected as a requirement as part of taking this class. Any information collected will only be used and disclosed for the purpose for which the collection was intended. For further information contact the Privacy Compliance Officer at privacy@ambrose.edu.

Extensions

Although extensions to coursework in the semester are at the discretion of the instructor, students may not turn in coursework for evaluation after the last day of the scheduled final examination period unless they have received permission for a "**Course Extension**" from the Registrar's Office. Requests for course extensions or alternative examination time must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date, please consult the List of Important Dates. Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise "due to circumstances beyond the student's control".

Appeal of Grade

An appeal for change of grade on any course work must be made to the course instructor within one week of receiving notification of the grade. An appeal for change of final grade must be submitted to the Office of the Registrar in writing within 30 days of receiving notification of the final grade, providing the basis for appeal. A review fee of \$50.00 must accompany the appeal to review final grades. If the appeal is sustained, the fee will be refunded.

Academic Integrity

We are committed to fostering personal integrity and will not overlook breaches of integrity such as plagiarism and cheating. Academic dishonesty is taken seriously at Ambrose University College as it undermines our academic standards and affects the integrity of each member of our learning community. Any attempt to obtain credit for academic work through fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest means is academic dishonesty. Plagiarism involves presenting someone else's ideas, words, or work as one's own. Plagiarism is fraud and theft, but plagiarism can also occur by accident when a student fails or forgets to give credit to another person's ideas or words. Plagiarism and cheating can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the university college. Students are expected to be familiar with the policies in the current Academic Calendar that deal with plagiarism, cheating, and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean and become part of the student's permanent record.

Students are strongly advised to retain this syllabus for their records.

Other

Any added features in the syllabus are optional. You may or may not wish to include elements such as a bibliography, reading list, schedule of lectures/topics, or reporting form.