



WM 645 God, the Church and the World

Ambrose Seminary

General Information

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Office Hours: By appointment or on Skype: miriam.charter

1. Catalog Description

This course introduces the learner to some of the basic concepts related to the mission of God, the Church and our world. It is an interactive course designed to educate, inspire and challenge the learner to active and meaningful global engagement. It uses a variety of learning experiences to examine the biblical, historical, strategic and cultural dimensions of mission.

2. Course Outcomes

The course is designed to . . .

- . . . examine the theological and biblical principles which provide the theoretical basis for Christian mission;
- . . . provide an understanding of the historical factors which have influenced the development of Christian missions in various regions of the world;
- . . . assist participants in discovering how applied anthropology intersects with the goals and mandate of Christian mission;
- . . . explore a variety of issues related to the implementation of strategy recognizing the complexities involved in the cross-cultural communication of the gospel.

3. Texts & Course Materials

Required: Kairos: God, the Church and the World (Course Reader). 2011. 4th edition Living Springs International.

Recommended: Winter, Ralph and Steve Hawthorne, Editors. (2009). Perspectives on the World Christian Movement: A Reader. 4th ed. Pasadena, CA: Wm. Carey Library.

4. Course Outline

Over the course of our time together, participants will engage the following themes:

BIBLICAL

- God's Purpose and Plan: We will discover from the Bible, that mission lies at the center of all God's concern.

- Israel, The Covenant People: We will study God’s dealing with the nation of Israel in His desire to fulfill His purposes through them.
- The Messiah, the Message and the Messengers: We will see that God’s concern for all nations is still His central purpose as we move into the New Testament.

HISTORICAL

- Expansion of the World Christian Movement: We will trace the advance of Christianity from its beginning to the present day.

STRATEGIC

- Mission Strategy: We will consider the place, value and nature of strategy in world Christian mission.
- The Task Remaining: We will look at the mission task remaining, who and where the majority of the unreached are, and what methods should be used to reach them.
- World Christian Teamwork: We will look at the variety of exciting ways the whole church can and must get involved in accomplishing strategic world mission.

CULTURAL

- Cross-Cultural Considerations: We will address issues related to communicating the gospel cross-culturally and church contextualization and its implications for reaching the unreached.

5. Course Structure

The course time utilizes a variety of adult learning styles including group discussions, short lecture introduction, devotions, video teaching and student participation in specially designed activities.

6. Course Assignments & Requirements

NOTE: All assignments will submitted directly to the Professor of Record, either in hard copies or electronically via email.

Assignment Summary	Module	Post - Module	Due Date
1. Participation – Course Attendance (required)	x		May 02
2. Worksheets (Breadth) Based on Sessions & Reader (15%)	x		May 02
3. Prayer Journal -- Integrative Learning (10%)	x		July 31
4. Applied Assignment (Option #1 or #2) Qualitative Learning (15%)		x	July 31
5. Research Paper -- Quantitative Learning (40%)		x	July 31
6. Additional Reading – Depth (20%)		x	July 31

1. Participation (Weeklong Sessions) [required , no grade]

The learner is expected to attend all the sessions and submit (Appendix # 1; received in class) a record of attendance at every session.

2. Worksheets (Breadth) [15%]

Worksheet Reflection: At the end of each session you will be provided with a worksheet to reflect on the material covered during the session. Record on Appendix #1 the completion of each worksheet.

3. Prayer Journal – [10%]

Keep a journal what you are learning regarding prayer and praying for the unreached blocs. Develop journal and submit a summary of your insights (Minimum of 4; maximum of 6 pages of reflective summation).

4. Applied Assignment – [15%]

The course gives the choice between 2 applied assignments. Choose ONE (1).

4.1. Temple Tour

Attend at least two different Temples/Mosques (worship centres) representing two or more of the unreached people blocs highlighted in the course.

or

4. 2. International Worker (Missionary) Interview

Interview a Christian worker who has had more than 10 years of intercultural ministry

Choose either option, after which a report in which concepts/learning from the course itself provide the platform for informed reflection on the experience/information shared. (Minimum of 4; maximum of 6 pages of reflective writing; See Appendix #2 for guidance on reflective writing; this appendix will be sent to each student by the professor as an email attachment)

5. Research Paper (Depth) – [40%]

The class will require a major research paper developing a strategy to establish a community of faith (church) amongst an unreached bloc of people of your choice. This should be verified with the Professor prior to engaging in the project. If there is distinct overlap with an assignment completed for another course, dialogue with the professor may lead to another topic being chosen. Hence, details of this assignment will be developed in consultation with the Professor.

- By June 1st, a proposal must be submitted for approval by the professor which will include the topic chosen, a thesis statement and 6 – 10 of the primary resources you will use to develop this thesis.
- This paper must be developed using the prescribed format for all academic writing. See Appendix #3 for direction (This Appendix will be sent by email to each student as an Email attachment)

6. Additional Reading and Reporting – [20%]

The learner will select and read 500 pages of additional reading from a variety of books and

papers related to world Christian movement (See Winter's book as an example) and a submit a summative reading report.

- By June 1st (or earlier) a plan for additional reading should be submitted to the professor for approval before the reading is done.

7. General Course Policies

Attendance: Comply with the requisite attendance policy of the Kairos course.

Late Assignments will be accepted, but at a penalty of 2% per day (& weekend).

Grading: The available letters for course grades are as follows:

Letter Grade Description

A+

A Excellent

A-

B+

B Good

B-

C+

C Satisfactory

C-

D+

D Minimal Pass

F Failure

Important Notes/Dates:

The last day to enter a week-long course without permission and /or voluntary withdrawal from a course without financial and academic penalty (**drop**): 4 PM of the first day of classes. These courses will not appear on the student's transcript. If you wish to drop a class, please drop by the Registrar's Office or send an email to registrar@ambrose.edu.

Students may change the designation of any class from credit to audit, or drop out of the "audit" up to the "drop" date indicated above. After that date, the original status remains and the student is responsible for related fees. If you wish to change to audit, please drop by the Registrar's Office or send an email to registrar@ambrose.edu.

Withdrawal from courses after the Registration Revision period will not be eligible for tuition refund. The last day to voluntarily withdraw from a course without academic penalty (**withdraw**): 1 pm on the fourth (4th) day of your class. 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.

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 Student Handbook and 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.