



## IS505-1 COMMUNICATING CHRIST IN A PLURALISTIC WORLD

Fall 2022

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Office Hours: By Appointment in Person, and via ZOOM

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION** (*from the Student Handbook*)

This course provides a foundation for students to develop a personal and church-based approach to Christian witness in both global and local contexts. Students will be introduced to key topics in missiology as well as evangelistic and discipleship concepts that will help them find their place in fulfilling the Great Commission regardless of location.

### **COURSE OUTCOMES**

At the end of this course the student will:

1. Articulate a biblical understanding of evangelism, discipleship, and missions.
2. Outline major eras of mission history.
3. Identify and interact with important trends in missions.
4. Describe principles relating to missions mobilization and sending.
5. List and explain evangelistic and discipleship concepts.
6. Formulate both an individual and corporate approach to evangelism and discipleship.

### **REQUIRED COURSE TEXTS**

- Bradley, Zach. *The Sending Church Defined*. Knoxville: Upstream Collective, 2015. ISBN 978-0-9961847-0-0.
- Coleman, Robert E. *The Master Plan of Evangelism*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Revell, 2010. ISBN 978-0800788087. (Any edition will suffice.)
- Escobar, Samuel. *The New Global Mission: The Gospel From Everywhere to Everywhere*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2003. ISBN 978-0830833016.
- Koukl, Gregory. *Tactics: A Game Plan for Discussing Your Christian Convictions*. 10th Anniversary Ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2019, ISBN 978-0-310-10146-8.
- Moreland, J.P. and Tim Muehlhoff. *The God Conversation*. 2nd ed. Downers Grove: IVP Books, 2017, ISBN 978-0-8308-4486-9.
- Padilla, C. René. *Mission Between the Times: Essays on the Kingdom*. Revised and Expanded (2nd edition). Carlisle, U.K.: Langham Monographs, 2010. ISBN 978-1907713019.
- Pirollo, Neal. *Serving As Senders Today*. San Diego: Emmaus Road Intl., 2012. ISBN 978-1880185247.
- Winter, Ralph and Stephen Hawthorne, ed. *Perspectives on the World Christian Movement, A Reader*, 4th ed., Pasadena: William Carey, 2009. ISBN 978-0878083909.

### **RECOMMENDED BUT NOT REQUIRED:**

- Bierle, Don, *Surprised by Faith*. Minneapolis: Emerald Books, 1992. ISBN 978-0913367902.

Coleman, Robert E. *The Master Plan of Discipleship*. Old Tappan, NJ: Revell, 1987. ISBN 978-0800739133.

Costas, Orlando E. *The Church and Its Mission: A Shattering Critique from the Third World*. Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishing, 1974. ISBN 978-0842302753.

Duewel, Wesley. *Touch the World Through Prayer*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1986. ISBN 0-310-36271-7.

Dyrness, William A. *Let the Earth Rejoice! A Biblical Theology of Holistic Mission*. Eugene OR: Wipf & Stock, 1998. ISBN 978-0960263837.

Henderson, David J. *Culture Shift*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1998. ISBN 978-0801090592.

Köstenberger, Andreas J., and Peter T, O'Brien. *Salvation to the Ends of the Earth: A Biblical Theology of Mission*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2001. ISBN 978-0830825363.

Lindsell, Harold. "Precedent-Setting in Missions Strategy." *Christianity Today* 10 (1966): 41.

Neil, Stephen. *A History of Christian Mission*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. New York: Penguin Books, 1991. ISBN 978-0140137637.

Ramachandra, Vinoth. *The Recovery of Mission: Beyond the Pluralist Paradigm*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1996. ISBN 978-0802843494.

Stanley, Paul and Clinton, J. Robert. *Connecting*. Colorado Springs: NavPress, 1992. ISBN 978-3909131020.

Sugden, Chris. *Radical Discipleship*. London: MMS, 1981.

Wright, Christopher J.H. *The Mission of God: Unlocking the Bible's Grand Narrative*. Nottingham, UK: InterVarsity Press, 2013. ISBN 978-0830864966.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

<p><b>1. Reading and Reading Interactions [20%]</b> [Outcomes 1-6]</p>	<p>The reading assignments for this course are drawn from the eight course texts. Please complete the reading prior to class time. At the end of the course, students will be asked to verify that they have completed all of the assigned reading. <u>Failure to read all of the assigned material will result in the loss of one grade for the entire course.</u> There are also brief written interactions based on the readings that are due each week at the beginning of the class session beginning on the second week. Written Interactions should be between 200 to 300 words in length (approximately 2/3 to one page, double-spaced) in length and should reflect both a summary and personal reflection on the Reading Assignment.</p>
<p><b>2. Final Exam [25%]</b> [Outcomes 1-3, 5]</p>	<p>Final Exam: A take-home final exam will be handed out on the last class session. The final exam is due by 9:20 p.m. on December 8, 2022. Please consult the Course Schedule. A study guide for the final exam will be available on the course website.</p>
<p><b>3. Course Missions Paper [30%]</b> [Outcomes 4-5]</p>	<p>e students will also write a paper on a missions topic of their choice. This paper will be 6-8 pages in length. This paper will analyze the chosen topic by applying material derived from course content. There is no grading rubric for this paper, but there are guidelines and suggestions for the paper found under "Course Assignment</p>

	Guidelines" in this syllabus. The topic must be approved by the instructor. More detail regarding the paper can be found in "Course Assignment Guidelines." The proposed topic must be approved by the instructor. Please submit your topic during the 11 <sup>th</sup> week of the semester. The paper is due by 9:00 p.m. on December 8, 2022.
<b>Personal Witness Paper</b> [25%] [Outcomes 1, 5-6]	Students will pray for five non-Christian contacts during the semester with whom they have a relationship. At approximately midway through the course, they will write a follow through paper on how to continue to give a witness to one of these contacts. This paper will be 6-8 pages in length. A grading rubric for this paper will be on the course website. The paper is due by 9:20 pm on December 1, 2022.

### GRADING INFORMATION

Letter Grade	Percentage	Grade Points	Description
A+	100–97	4.0	
A	96–93	4.0	Excellent; superior achievement.
A-	92–90	3.7	
B+	89–87	3.3	
B	86–83	3.0	Good; commendable achievement.
B-	82–80	2.7	
C+	79–77	2.3	
C	76–73	2.0	Satisfactory; acceptable achievement.
C-	72–70	1.7	
D+	69–67	1.3	
D	66–63	1.0	Poor; marginal achievement.
D-	62–60	0.7	
F	59–0	0.0	Failure to advance in the course. No credit earned. Computed in GPA.

### SEMINARY ACADEMIC POLICIES

All Seminary policies affecting student work, appeals, and grievances, as outlined in the Student Handbook and/or the Academic Catalog will apply, unless otherwise indicated in this syllabus.

## ASSIGNMENT POLICIES

### 1. General

- a. All assignment (reading interactions, final exam, course paper) are to be typed. Please use a 12 pt. font and double spacing. Assignments that are not typed will not be accepted.
- b. All assignments must have a title page with your name and the assignment title. Assignments without a title page will not be accepted.
- c. All assignments are to be submitted electronically to [stjohnson@ps.edu](mailto:stjohnson@ps.edu)
- d. Late assignments will be docked 5 pts. per day after their due date.

### 2. Course Paper

- a. Unless specifically stated, papers may be longer than 10 pages, but no extra credit will be given for longer papers.
- b. Papers should conform to the instructions outlined in [\*Guidelines for Course Papers\*](#) (see <https://ps.edu/guidelines-for-course-papers/>)

## COURSE EVALUATIONS

Each student is required to complete an anonymous course evaluation on this course's page at <http://ps.mrooms.net>. All course evaluation results are reported anonymously: professors have no way of linking a particular student to a particular evaluation. This anonymous information will be processed and distributed to professors in summary form and used to strengthen their teaching methods and courses.

## COURTEOUS USE OF TECHNOLOGY IN THE CLASSROOM (PHONE, TABLET, LAPTOP)

Phoenix Seminary considers a student's character to be evidenced in part by their respect for their classmates, professors, and their valuable time in class. Please consider *how not to be rude* in the use of your technology by bearing in mind the following:

- Laptops and tablets are welcome in class to take notes and to access readings we're discussing. Using them for anything else (social networking, accessing non-course related websites, checking email) is discourteous and distracting to others.
- Phones must be silenced in class and stowed. That includes turning off the vibrate function. (We can hear it buzzing.) Is texting ok? No. If an emergency situation exists out of which you feel you must use your phone you should quietly step out of class to do so.

## COURSE PAPER GUIDELINES

- A. The Grading Rubric for the Personal Witness Paper will be the instrument used to evaluate and assign a grade for the course paper. Please read the rubric carefully. If you have any questions, please contact the professor. Course material used in the paper should reflect both reading and class lecture/guest presentations and classroom discussion and should be properly footnoted.
- B. The Missions Paper
  1. To help you get thinking about potential topics for the Missions Paper, here are a few ideas:
    - a. a biography of a famous missionary;

- b. a discussion of how to make short-term mission trips more effective;
  - c. developing a mission strategy for a local church;
  - d. describing a mission ministry e.g. reading a short book like "Peace Child" and evaluating the ministry described therein in light of what you have learned in the course;
  - e. The development and importance of Integral Mission for the local church;
  - f. How to accomplish cross-cultural discipleship;
  - g. How partnership can advance Christ's Kingdom work most effectively.
2. The bulk of the grade for the Missions Paper (85%) will be based on how well the student applies material from the course to their chosen topic.
  3. If you do a biography, you would evaluate the ministry of the missionary who is the focus of the biography e.g. how sensitive to culture (contextualization), what strategic issues, if any, were involved in their ministry, how do they reflect the historical context in which they ministered etc.?
  4. If you do something more immediate and practical e.g. making short-term mission trips more effective, what would be some of the issues you would need to deal with? Who will you partner with? What kind of cultural training will you give? How will you channel what the short-term mission participants have experienced into your congregation as a whole? How would you debrief etc.?
  5. If developing a mission for your church, how will you determine which people group or groups to focus on? How will you choose which mission agencies, if any, to partner with? How will you determine a budget? How will you keep the people you send out accountable? How will you support them beyond finances etc.?
  6. Some of you are already involved in cross-cultural ministries, and if you want to write about something that is more particular to your situation, please feel free to do so.
  7. If you have any questions, please let me know. I do need to approve your topic if for no other reason than to make sure that it is not too broad.
  8. 15% of the grade will be based on organization, clarity of expression and the proper use of grammar. Course material used in the paper should reflect both reading and class lecture/guest presentations and classroom discussion and should be properly footnoted.
- C. Both papers may be longer than 8 pages, but no extra credit will be given for longer papers.
- D. Both papers should conform to the instructions outlined in Guidelines for Course Papers (see <https://ps.edu/guidelines-for-course-papers/>).

### **READING/ATTENDANCE REPORT**

At the same time that you submit your missions paper, please include in a separate document like the one on the following page to state the number of classes attended and the number of assignments completed.

### **COURSE SCHEDULE**

The Course Schedule will be distributed on the first day of class.

**IS505-1**  
**READING/ATTENDANCE REPORT**

In a Word Document, please supply the following information:

1. I have attended \_\_\_\_\_ of 14 class sessions.
2. I have read \_\_\_\_\_ % of the assigned reading.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_