

Introduction to World Missions
January 25 – April 25, 2016
6:30 pm – 9:00 pm

Instructor:

Dr. Fred Farrokh

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Course Description:

This class connects us to God's missionary heart by exploring cross-cultural ministry encounters in the Bible and in today's world. After defining the concepts of cultures and sub-cultures, we will study ethnic groups in the Mohawk Valley, with special emphasis on those yet unreached by the Gospel. The class will feature dramatic presentations, guest speakers from various ethnic groups, interactive discussions, and videos.

Course Objectives:

1. Fully grasp God's Great Commission plan for every ethnic group—to reach them with the Gospel, make disciples and plant churches among them.
2. Nourish the spiritual qualities for impactful cross-cultural ministry.
3. Explore the concepts of culture and sub-culture.
4. Gain familiarity with various cultures and contexts in the Bible.
5. Develop a meta-cultural grid for understanding and evaluating cultures.
6. Engage various ethnic groups in the Mohawk Valley through research, prayer and interaction with members of their communities.

Required Readings:

Elmer, Duane. 2006. *Cross-Cultural Servanthood: Serving the World in Christlike Humility*, Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

Johnson, Alan. *Apostolic Function: The Paradigm of Missionary Identity* (an electronic PDF version will be distributed)

Weekly Schedule			
Date	Week	Topics	Reading(s)
Jan 25	1	Introductions Syllabus & team assignments Grand Biblical narrative	Syllabus
Feb 1	2	Biblical overview of Missions	Elmer, Chap 1 Matthew 28:18-20 Acts 1:8; Acts 17:16-31 Rev. 5:9; Rev. 7:9-12
Feb 8	3	Unreached people groups	<i>Apostolic Function</i> by Alan Johnson, pp. 1-51
Feb 15	4	The concept of culture Utica's ethnic mosaic	Elmer, Chap. 2-3 Genesis 11:1-9
Feb 22	5	Cultures in the Bible	Elmer, Chap. 4 Genesis 46:28-34 Acts 13-14
Feb 29	6	Sub-cultures, Marginalization Ingroups/outgroups	Elmer, Chap. 5 Hebrews 10:32-36
March 7	7	Cross-cultural communication	Elmer, Chap. 6 John 4
March 14	8	Understanding covenants	Elmer, Chap. 7-8 Acts 19:11-41
March 21	9	Contextualization	Elmer, Chap. 9-10 Phil. 2:5-11
March 28	10	Spiritual warfare in missions	Elmer, Chap. 11 Ephesians 6:10-20
April 4	11	Healthy boundaries	Elmer, Chap. 12
April 11	12	Contemporary issues in Missions	Elmer, Chap. 13
April 18	13		Elmer, Chap. 14
April 25	14	Final Exam	

Note: Our class will frequently feature speakers from local ethnic groups. Those dates will be communicated later.

Requirements:

1. Attend class sessions.
2. Read the required texts in their entirety.
3. Participate in class discussions and reviews of assigned readings.
4. Team Projects: Each student will be assigned to a team that will dramatize various Bible narratives. More details will be given in class.

5. Missions Paper: Write a five-page paper on a missions topic of your choice. The topic must be approved by the instructor. Suggested topics will be discussed in class. **The paper is due Monday, March 21st by 6:30 pm.**
6. Ethnic Group Research Paper: Write a ten-page paper on a local non-Christian ethnic group. The paper must be based on an interview with a local person from that ethnic group. In this interview, be sure to find out where the person was born, his or her religion, language(s) spoken, holidays celebrated by the ethnic group, where people in the ethnic group live locally, where they worship, what caused him/her to immigrate, and the interviewee's perspective on immigrating to the Mohawk Valley. Conclude with the spiritual needs of the person and his or her ethnic group, and how Jesus uniquely meets those needs. You may use narrative or Question and Answer format. **The paper is due Monday, April 18, by 6:30 pm.**
7. Final Exam: A multiple-choice and short-answer exam will be given the last night of class.

Written papers should be double-spaced in 12 point font, Times New Roman. A title page may be included but will not count toward the total page count. References should be provided according to the Turabian parenthetical format, 8th Edition. An example is below. The instructor will expect that material from other authors be referenced, and direct quotes be set off in quotations.

The instructor prefers to receive papers as Word documents sent by email attachment to FredFarrokh@yahoo.com. Typed, hard copy papers will also be accepted.

Late papers will be reduced one letter grade per week late. No papers will be received after April 25, 2016.

Paper Grading Rubric:

Introduction: 10%
Organization/Flow of Paper: 10%
Use of Resources: 10%
Spelling/Grammar: 10%
Critical Thinking: 50%
Conclusion: 10%

Final Grade:

Attendance: 10%
Class Participation: 10%
Missions Paper: 15%
Team Projects: 20%
Ethnic Group Research Paper: 25%
Final Exam: 20%

Citation samples:

Duane Elmer defines “openness” as “the ability to welcome people into your presence and make them feel welcome” (Elmer 2006, 39).

The practice by Jihadists of deeming all other Muslims as infidels was developed in Egyptian jail cells in the 1960s (Milli 2006, 1).

References Cited: (on a separate page at the end of the paper)

Elmer, Duane. 2006. *Cross-Cultural Servanthood: Serving the World in Christlike Humility*, Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

Mili, Hayder. 2006. “Jihad Without Rules: The Evolution of al-Takfir wa al-Hijra.” <http://www.islamdaily.org/en/islam/4560.jihad-without-rules-the-evolution-of-al-takfir-wa-.htm> (accessed January 14, 2014).

Helpful Resources:

On the web:

www.AnsweringIslam.org for information on Islam and ministry to Muslims
www.globalmissiology.org Global Missiology online magazine
<http://trainingleadersinternational.org/jgc/current-issue>. Journal of Global Christianity

Books:

Cox, Harvey. *Fire from Heaven: The Rise of Pentecostal Spirituality and the Reshaping of Religion in the Twenty-First Century*. Redding, MA: Addison-Wesley Publishing Company, 1995.

Hodges, Melvin L. *The Indigenous Church, including the Indigenous Church and the Missionary*. rev. ed. Springfield, MO: Gospel Publishing House, 2009.

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

Hesselgrave, David J. *Communicating Christ Cross-Culturally*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1991..

Hesselgrave, David J., *Paradigms in Conflict: 10 Key Questions in Christian Missions Today*. Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Academic and Professional, 2005.

Hall, Edward. *The Dance of Life: The Other Dimension of Time*. New York: Anchor/Doubleday, 1983.

Rogers, Everett and Thomas Steinfatt. *Intercultural Communication*. Prospect Heights, IL: Waveland Press, 1999.

Wright, Christopher J. H. *The Mission of God: Unlocking the Bible's Grand Narrative*. Downer's Grove, Ill.: InterVarsity Academic, 2006. 581 pp.

Allen, Roland. *Missionary Methods: St. Paul's or Ours? [1913]*. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1962, 188 pp. (Any edition is fine.)

Bosch, David Jacobus. *Transforming Mission: Paradigm Shifts in Theology of Mission (American Society of Missiology Series, No. 16)*. New edition. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1991. 587 pages

Netland, Harold. *Encountering Religious Pluralism: The Challenge to Christian Faith & Mission*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2001. 368 pp.

Moreau, A. Scott. *Contextualization in World Missions: Mapping and Assessing Evangelical Models*. Grand Rapids: Kregel Academic & Professional, 2012.

Schreiter, Robert J. *Constructing Local Theologies*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1985.

Van Rheenen, Gailyn, ed. *Contextualization and Syncretism: Navigating Cultural Currents*. Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 2006.