

Missional Theology:
Foundations of Global Engagement
M.F.02-U
Undergraduate Level
Spring 2018

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Professor of Record: Dr. Jim Horsthuis

Location: Pathways School of Ministry
159 Panin Road, Burlington Ontario

In-class Schedule: April 16-19, 2018

Course Description:

Missional Theology is an interdisciplinary course in which biblical theology, hermeneutics, ecclesiology and missiology come together. The goal is to allow students to develop a theological and biblical framework that supports the practice, and nature of mission. It is also expected that the student will be able to develop and deploy culturally relevant mission within the student's ministry context. Students will also be able to articulate a theological and biblical perspective of mission as a logical extension of God's mission to redeem and restore His creation for His glory.

Course Objectives:

Knowing

1. To understand the concepts of and practices of cultural sensitivity and cross cultural contexts
2. To understand the foundations, historical developments and contemporary issues of mission
3. To understand how the mission of God implicates the student

Being

1. The student will develop their personal theology of mission.
2. The student will articulate their ministry role within the context of a greater mission.
3. The student will discover how to deal gracefully with differing opinions as it relates to mission.

Doing

1. To develop and deploy mission focused ministry
2. To articulate missional concepts from a theologically and biblically informed world view
3. To plan strategically around the fulfillment of the great commission

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Our Time Together

A core value of our class is that it is a “learning community,” designed to be a place where each member of the community can grow through positive affirmation and constructive input. We should all come to the community as people in process, open to be deconstructed and formed through our mutual learning experience.

It is the professor's responsibility to empower each class member as a learner by treating each student with respect and dignity. We come to position ourselves as fellow learners in the community and to offer information, reflection, experience and questions for us to reflect on together. Further, it is our responsibility to give good evaluation and feedback to your thinking, both as you offer it to the class and through written work so that your growth through this class can be maximized because of our collaboration.

As a responsible member of our learning community you will be expected to commit yourself to the class throughout the time that we are together. This means that in our class interactions you will endeavor to treat all members of our class with respect and dignity. Your attendance is required as your presence is necessary for our community (that is our class) to function at an optimal level.

Assignments should be handed in on time and in good order. All late assignments may be docked at the rate of 2% for each day (including weekends) late. Assignments can be submitted in hard copy on standardized paper or electronically in a word document.

I am available and would welcome making connections with each of you outside class time. Please feel free to make an appointment with me if there is any way that I can assist your learning experience in this course.

I trust that our time together will enrich your understanding of mission, your engagement in it, and your capacity to inspire others to participate in the sacred trust given the church in the great commission.

Required Texts:

Newbigin, Lesslie. *The Open Secret : Sketches for a Missionary Theology*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1978.

Ott, Craig, et al. *Encountering Theology of Mission : Biblical Foundations, Historical Developments, and Contemporary Issues*. Encountering Mission. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker Academic, 2010.

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Wright, Christopher J. H. *The Mission of God : Unlocking the Bible's Grand Narrative*. Downers Grove, Ill.: IVP Academic, 2006.

Course Outline & Teaching Schedule:

Pre-class:

Book report: “The Mission of God”

In Class

Day 1

Introduction to Missional Theology;
Missional Hermeneutics

Day 2

Contextualization of the Gospel
Case Study in Contextualization

Day 3

Dr. Horsthuis Lecture. Spirituality and the Missional Church
Guest Presenter

Day 4

History of Modern Missions
Contemporary Issues in Missions

Post-class:

Book report: “The Open Secret”

Book report: “Encountering Theology of Mission”

Personal Theology of Mission Paper

Course Requirements:

1. Book Report

- a. Read text *The Mission of God*
- b. Prepare a written report that includes a summary of the material and critical engagement with the material. The summary portion is expected to be the smaller portion.

This paper should 8-10 pages double spaced.

Due Date: April 16, 2018

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2. Book Report

- a. Read, *Encountering Theology of Mission*.
- b. Prepare a written report that includes a summary of the material and your critical engagement with the material. The summary portion is expected to be the smaller portion.

This paper should be 5-8 pages double spaced.

Due Date: April 23, 2018.

3. Book Report

- a. Read, *The Open Secret*
- b. Prepare a written report that includes a summary of the material and your critical engagement with the material. The summary portion is expected to be the smaller portion.

This paper should be 6-8 pages double spaced.

Due Date: April 27, 2018.

4. Personal Theology of Missions Paper.

This paper is to be the culmination of your week's interaction in this course and will include:

- a. Your personal theology of mission, including;
 - i. A biblical framework for mission.
 - ii. A working definition of mission.
 - iii. The relationship if any between the church and mission.
 - iv. Your personal engagement in mission and future expectations.
 - v. How you would develop a voice that encourages mission in your church and beyond.
 - vi. What's next for you in mission.

This paper should be 8-10 pages double spaced.

Due Date: May 7, 2018

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Additional Notes:

Academic Dishonesty – Academic dishonesty is a serious offence in the academic world that may take any number of forms, including plagiarism, the submission of work that is not one’s own or for which previous credit has been obtained, and/or unauthorized collaboration with other students. Academic dishonesty can result in severe consequences, e.g., failure of the assignment, failure of the course, a notation on the transcript, and/or suspension or expulsion from the program. It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. Please refer to the Student Handbook located on the Pathways website at <https://cmapathways.com/students/>

Inclusive Language ~ Pathways School of Ministry uses inclusive language in student written materials, and all of its publications. In reference to biblical texts, the integrity of the original expressions and the names of God should be respected. The NRSV is a good example of the use of inclusive language. It is expected that all students will use inclusive language in all Pathways assignments.

Sexual Harassment ~ Sexual harassment is a violation of the integrity of persons in the form of unsolicited, unwelcome, verbal or physical behavior, which discriminates on the basis of gender about a person’s body, attire, gender, marital status or economic status. Among faculty, staff, and students, sexual harassment of any kind will not be tolerated.

Disclaimer ~ This syllabus is the property of the instructor and is prepared with currently available information. The instructor reserves the right to make changes and revisions up until the first day of class.