

NORTHWESTERN COLLEGE
Syllabus - Biblical Theology of Mission – ICS 4207
Spring Semester, 2012 Tuesday/Thursday 8:00-9:40 a.m.
Riley 2319 Instructor: Dr. Garry Morgan

Purpose

To develop skills in theologizing biblically, leading to a God-centered view of the mission of the Body of Christ in today's world.

Objectives – Students will:

1. Develop a biblical rationale for the missionary activity of the Church.
2. Discern biblical methods for carrying out this activity.
3. Discover biblical motivations for involvement in Missions.
4. Determine biblical responses to current issues in Missions.
5. Develop skills in biblical exegesis and theologizing as they seek answers to the above questions.

Warning! Each student is responsible to read and understand this syllabus. If something is not clear, please ask. While every effort is made to remind students of course requirements, due dates, etc., failure to read the syllabus is not an acceptable reason for late or improperly done assignments.

Texts

The Holy Bible (NIV, ESV or NASB) – bring your Bible to every class session
Kaiser, Walter C. *Mission in the Old Testament*.
Larkin, William J. and Joel F. Williams, eds. *Mission in the New Testament*.
Piper, John. *Let the Nations Be Glad*. 3rd Edition

Attendance policy

This course is primarily carried out through reading and discussion. Your absence affects all students. Therefore, more than three unexcused absences will result in the final grade being reduced 2 points for each additional absence. Three late arrivals equal one absence.

CAPSS/DOSS statement

NWC students requiring accommodations for academic support or support for other reasons in association with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) are directed to notify the Disabilities Office for Support Services (DOSS) immediately. Accommodations must receive prior approval. Confidentiality is respected! ADA accommodations are processed through the DOSS office which is under the direction of The Center of Academic Programs for Support Services (CAPSS). Contact:
Mr. David Golias, DOSS & CLT OR Dr. Yvonne RB-Banks, Dean, Academic
Assistant Director Support Services
651-286-7446, dpgolias@nwc.edu 651-631-5221, yrbanks@nwc.edu
N4237 N3124

Electronic technology in the classroom: Improper use of digital media in the classroom, e.g. texting, IM, Facebook, email, games, etc. *distracts* both you and others and *detracts* from the learning experience. As a courtesy to others in the class and to enhance your own learning, please turn off cell phones and use laptops only for taking notes. Failure to respect yourself and others in this way will result in your being asked to leave the room, and you will be counted as absent for the day.

Office Hours: W 10:00-12:00 a.m. and 2:00-3:00 p.m.; R 3:30-5:30 p.m. Other times are available by arrangement. Questions and suggestions about the course, missions and life are always welcome.

Office: Nazareth 4127

Email: grmorgan@nwc.edu Telephone: 651-631-5157

EFOLIO REQUIREMENTS (Department of Christian Ministries Majors only):

Your eFolio site, which you started in the Introduction to Ministry class (MIN1005) should be on-line and made viewable (public) to this professor. For this course your final research paper should be added to your e-folio site.

Assignments and grading (100 points total) Unless otherwise noted, all written assignments should be saved as MS Word documents or as Rich Text Format (.rtf) files and submitted on the Moodle course site.

- 10 points – class participation. Ask questions! Make a genuine effort to understand the material and be an active learner. Please contribute your thoughts in class. It not only helps your grade, it enhances your and others' learning!
- 30 points - daily assignments. Much of the classroom time will be discussion and questions based on the assigned reading. Therefore, adequate preparation is essential. Responses should be posted to the Moodle course site before class begins on the date due. Please remember what you wrote, as class discussion is largely based on the assigned reading for that day. Print yourself a copy or bring your laptop to class. *Grades will be based on the writing rubric below.* Late daily assignments will **not** be accepted. If you are absent due to illness, the assignment should still be posted before class time (unless you are hospitalized or in a full body cast).
- 10 points – Write a 4-5 page, double-spaced paper on “The Eternal State of Those Who Have Never Heard the Gospel of Jesus Christ.” Consider the role of General Revelation in your response. You must state an opinion and support it with Scripture (both Old and New Testaments). Other sources, especially Piper, should be used as well (cite as appropriate and include a bibliography). Also, describe the personal implications of your conclusion. Criteria from the rubric for daily assignments will also be applied to this paper. Due **February 28**
- 10 points (5/5) - Scripture memory (Please use NIV, ESV or NASB unless another version has been approved *in advance* by the instructor; if you are learning another language, I encourage you to memorize these verses in that language, as long as you

make arrangements with me in advance): Gen. 12:2-3; Ps. 86:8-10; and Ez. 33:11 will be tested on **February 28**. Mt. 28:18-20; 2 Cor 5:20-21; and Rev. 7:9-10 will be tested during the last day of class on **May 3**.

- 25 points - an integrated paper on a biblical passage of the student's choice that is significant to mission. The paper should be **10-12 pages** (typed, double-spaced) in length and include material from other relevant biblical passages, the textbooks and at least four other sources in addition to the texts (no more than half of these sources may be from the Internet). Either MLA style with in-text citations or SBL Documentation is acceptable. If you are unsure what this means, pick up a style guide from the ALPHA Center. Grammar and spelling are expected to be of college level. Criteria from the rubric for daily assignments will also be applied to this paper. Topic/passage of choice to be submitted for approval by email no later than **March 20** Paper due **May 3 at 5:00 p.m.** Late papers will be reduced in grade 4 *points* (not percent) per day, including weekends. No papers will be accepted after May 10. Superior papers will utilize more than the minimum number of sources and show evidence of good thinking, sound biblical interpretation and solid theologizing.
- 15 points – final exam (Monday, **May 7** 1:30-3:30). Exam is open Bible but no textbooks or notes.

Grading scale is as follows:

95-100 A	78-80 C+	61-63 D-
91-94 A-	74-77 C	60 and below F
88-90 B+	71-73 C-	
84-87 B	68-70 D+	
81-83 B-	64-67 D	

See the Student Handbook, for explanations of excused absences, and policies regarding cheating and plagiarism. Available online on the Community Life tab of theROCK.

Northwestern College Student E-mail policy

E-mail is an efficient and effective method of communication. Therefore, Northwestern College provides an e-mail account for each registered day-school student. This account, represented by a college e-mail address, is the only address that the college (i.e. faculty and staff) will use to communicate electronically with traditional day-school students.

Students are held responsible for all information communicated from the college by e-mail.

“The ALPHA Center strives to help all members of the Northwestern Community learn more about writing and become better writers. The ALPHA Center peer tutors work with writers in one-to-one consultations on any stage of the writing process. To make an appointment with the ALPHA Center go to theROCK, click the Campus Services tab, then ALPHA Center Schedule.”

Rubric for daily assignments. Note: although the point values will be different, the same criteria will apply to all written assignments for this course.

Points	Criteria and Standards
30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interpretation of content is completely accurate • Identifies and describes precise and explicit supporting evidence (facts) • Strongly connects new content to previous learning (elaboration) • Strongly integrates new material to a personal life experience • Draws an accurate conclusion based upon interpretations, connection, and integration • Provides a strong reason(s) for the conclusion • Writing is clear, logical and easy to follow • No grammatical errors
25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interpretation of content is somewhat accurate • Identifies supporting evidence; description is somewhat accurate or clear • Satisfactorily connects new content to previous learning • Superficially integrates new material to a personal life experience • Draws a somewhat accurate conclusion based upon interpretations, connection, and integration • Provides an adequate reason(s) for the conclusion • Writing is somewhat difficult to follow; slightly convoluted • Some grammatical errors but less than 3 per page
20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interpretation of content is inaccurate; facts are misleading • Supporting evidence is missing, incorrect, or irrelevant • Fails to elaborate or elaboration is extremely weak • Fails to integrate or integration to a life experience is vague • Conclusion drawn or reasons supporting it are inadequate or missing • Writing is difficult to understand • More than three countable errors per page

Concept courtesy of Jennifer L. Romack, California State University, Northridge

Reading schedule - Note: There is not a reading assignment for every class day. Follow the schedule carefully. You still need to attend class even if there is not a reading assignment. Any questions you have about the reading content should be included in your daily assignment **and** raised during class discussion.

January

- 12 **Kaiser, pp. 7-17; Genesis, Chapters 1-11**
 1) In your own words, why do you think it is important to establish a biblical basis for Mission? 2) List 2-3 problems or errors that may arise if we do not have this foundation. 3) What input do you see regarding Mission in the first three chapters of God's word? 4) What is significant about God's dealings with humankind before Abraham? 5) How would you explain sin to someone who believes they are basically a good person? i.e. what is a definition of sin that helps "good" people understand why they need salvation? 6) Why is it necessary for God to judge the world? Why can't he just accept the best half and condemn the worst half? How is God fair in this judgment?
- 17 **Kaiser, pp. 17-28; Larkin, pp. 11-20; Genesis 12-19; Exodus;** 1) Why is the Abrahamic covenant so significant for Missions? 2) What is the basis for seeing any connection between the covenant with Abraham and Christians today? 3) What lessons can a missionary learn from the life of Moses?
- 24 **Kaiser, pp. 39-50; Numbers 13-14; Nehemiah** 1) How do you feel about the concept of "Holy War?" How do you see it applying to Missions? 2) What parallels and differences do you see between the Old Testament prophets and today's missionaries? 3) How did the Monarchy and divided kingdom contribute to Israel's failure to carry out its missionary mandate? 4) Do you think that Israel actually had a *missionary* mandate? 5) What leadership principles from Nehemiah can be applied to working on a cross-cultural ministry team?
- 31 **Kaiser, pp. 29-38; Psalms; choose one Psalm (other than Ps 86)** that you see as significant in some way for Missions and describe the significance. Be prepared to share this in class.

February

- 7 **Kaiser, pp. 51-63; Isaiah; Ezekiel 33:1-11;** 1) Describe two principles or applications to Missions from Isaiah and one from Ezekiel; 2) What is the relationship between evangelism and social justice?
- 9 **Kaiser, pp. 65-74; Jonah; Joel; Amos; Zechariah;** 1) What do we learn about God from each of these prophetic books? How do they apply to Missions? Write a paragraph or two on each book.
- 14 **Larkin, pp. 21-29; Kaiser, pp. 75-82; Piper, Preface and Introduction to the Third Edition; Chapter 1.** What did you find significant in each of these four sections? Write a paragraph or two about each.
- 16 **Piper, Chapter 2;** 1) If prayer is so important to the task of missions, why do Christians do so little of it? 2) What would help you personally to pray more for world evangelization? Suggest a practical plan that you will follow for the next two weeks.

- 21 **Piper, Chapter 3.** What future role might suffering have in the Mission of the Church? In what ways might you be called upon to suffer in Mission?
- Piper, Chapter 4;** How would you respond to a post-modern relativist who calls you “arrogant” for claiming that faith in Jesus Christ is the only way of salvation? How do you know you’re right?
- 23 **Piper, Chapters 6 and 7.** 1) If God is sovereign, why bother with the hard work of missions? 2) What would you teach new believers in another culture about corporate worship?
- 28 **O.T. verse test. Paper on “The fate of those who haven’t heard” due**

March 1-11 – Mid-semester break: no class

Quad 4: Unless a specific question is given, for each day’s reading turn in a double-spaced 1- page (approximate) reaction paper interacting with something in the reading you see as significant or personally inspiring regarding missions. Responses may be longer if you’re really inspired, but in general should not be less than three quarters of a page.

For each of the Gospel accounts, describe how you can apply what you see in Jesus’ life and ministry to Mission and to your own ministry methods (current or anticipated).

March

- 13 Piper, Chapter 5;
- 15 Larkin Chapters 3 and 7; Matthew (one-page response to Larkin and one-page response to Matthew)
- 20 Larkin, Chapter 8; Mark; **Research paper topics due**
- 22 Larkin, Chapter 12; John;
- 27 Larkin, Chapter 9; Luke;
- 29 Larkin, Chapter 10; Acts;

April

- 5 Larkin, Chapter 6; Romans;
- 10 Larkin, Chapter 5; 1 Corinthians 7-15; 2 Corinthians;
- 17 Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians; (half page for each)
- 19 **No class meeting – Advising Day**
- 24 **No class meeting – Day of Prayer and Service**
- 26 **No class meeting**

May

- 1 Larkin, Chapter 11; Hebrews, 1&2 Peter;
- 3 Larkin, Chapter 13; Revelation; Review and **New Testament verse test; Research papers due 5:00 p.m.**
- 7 **Final exam (Monday, May 7 1:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.)**