

God's World Mission – Course Guide
Spring 2011 – Covenant Theological Seminary (St. Louis, MO, USA)

Dr. J. Nelson Jennings

Course Purpose

In ways that enable you to communicate with and serve-lead others accordingly, you should be gripped in a personal and integrated way by “God’s World Mission” as “the living, triune, universal-omnilingual God of the Bible's redemption of the cosmos wherein He grants, among all the world’s peoples, faith in Jesus Christ, maturing of the Church, and foretastes of the heavenly city.” A corollary purpose is to develop a permeating, instinctive international-Christian self-identity.

Course Objectives

- Instinctively know **God** as the universal-omnilingual Creator-Covenant-King of all peoples
- Hear afresh, with the help of the rest of the universal Church, the **biblical meaning of the gospel**
- Become more **aware** of the “world,” God’s “mission” and the Church’s “missions” efforts therein
- **Integrate** world mission with a Reformed - Covenantal theology and worldview
- Identify the current **historical** situation of world mission and missions
- Become conversant with influential **missiological concepts and terminology**
- Reconsider and plan towards our necessary and particular **involvements** in world mission:
 - Cultivating world mission emphases/programs in/as the local church
 - Going as/sending out/receiving short-/long-term cross-cultural missionaries
 - Money matters
 - On-site tactics, methods, issues
 - Living as Christian people, particularly in (and in relation to) North America
 - Prayer

Required Texts and Other Materials

Althen, Gary. *American Ways: A Guide for Foreigners in the United States*. Yarmouth, Maine: Intercultural Press, Inc., 1988. [Intro: pp. xv-xvii; ch.1-3: pp. 3-34] – **ON RESERVE** and on the Portal (1st ed.)

Jennings, J. Nelson. *God the Real Superpower: Rethinking our Role in Missions*. Philipsburg, New Jersey: P&R Books, 2007.

Mission to the World Church Relations Department, comp. *Establishing an Effective Missions Program For Your Church*. Atlanta, GA: Mission to the World, 2002 (available online at <http://www2.mtw.org/home/site/content/documents/EstablishingAnEffective.pdf>).

Myers, Bryant L. *Exploring World Mission: Context and Challenges*. Monrovia, CA: World Vision International, 2003.

Ramachandra, Vinoth. Web blog: <http://vinothramachandra.wordpress.com/2009/02/16/welcome/>. In addition to this welcome message, read at least twelve posts.

Websites and journals listed elsewhere in the course guide.

God's World Mission Recommended Reference Readings (Partial list)

** Dr. J. will introduce all of these in class. **

- Allen, Roland. *Missionary Methods: St. Paul's or Ours?* Grand Rapids, Michigan: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1962. First published in 1912.
- Barrett, David B., Johnson, Todd M., and Kurian, George M. *World Christian Encyclopedia: A Comparative Study of Churches and Religions in the Modern World*. 2nd ed. New York: Oxford Univ Press, 2001.
- Beaver, R. Pierce. *All Loves Excelling American Protestant Women in World Mission*. Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock Publishers, 1999.
- Bonk, Jonathan J. *Missions and Money: Affluence as a Western Missionary Problem...Revisited*. Rev Exp ed. Maryknoll, N.Y.: Orbis Books, 2007.
- Bosch, David J. *Transforming Mission: Paradigm Shifts in Theology of Mission*. Maryknoll, New York: Orbis Books, 1991.
- Carson, D.A. *Christ and Culture Revisited*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Eerdmans, 2008.
- Conn, Harvie M. *Eternal Word and Changing Worlds: Theology, Anthropology, and Mission in Dialogue*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Academie Books, 1984.
- Christianity Today International, "The Christian Vision Project":
http://www.christianvisionproject.com/2007_mission/
- Dyrness, William A. and Veli-Matti Kärkkäinen, eds. *Global Dictionary of Theology*. Downers Grove, Illinois: IVP Academic, 2008.
- Engel, James F. and William A. Dyrness. *Changing the Mind of Missions: Where Have We Gone Wrong?* Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2000.
- Hawthorne, Steven C. and Ralph D. Winter, eds. *Perspectives on the World Christian Movement: A Reader*. 3rd ed. Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 1999.
- Hiebert, Paul G. *Transforming Worldviews: An Anthropological Understanding of How People Change*. Baker, 2008.
- Hsu, Albert Y. *The Suburban Christian: Finding Spiritual Vitality in the Land of Plenty*. InterVarsity Press, 2006.
- Irvin, Dale T. *Christian Histories, Christian Traditioning: Rendering Accounts*. Maryknoll, New York: Orbis Books, 1998.
- Jenkins, Philip. *The Lost History of Christianity: The Thousand-Year Golden Age of the Church in the Middle East, Africa, And Asia, and How It Died*. New York: HarperOne, 2008.
- *The Next Christendom: The Coming of Global Christianity*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2002.
- Jennings, J. Nelson. "God's World Mission and the Lord's Prayer." February 2000 Covenant Theological Seminary SMF Lectures (three sermons and study guide):
<http://www.livingchrist360.com/thelivingroom/resourcesforlife/podcasts/150/>
- Johnstone, Patrick. *The Church is Bigger Than You Think: The Unfinished Work of World Evangelisation*. Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 1998.
- Kaplan, Steven, ed. *Indigenous Responses to Western Christianity*. New York: New York University Press, 1995.
- Kim, Sebastian and Kirsteen Kim, *Christianity as a World Religion*. London: Continuum, 2008.
- Livermore, David A., *Serving with Eyes Wide Open: Doing Short-Term Missions with Cultural Intelligence*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: BakerBooks, 2006.
- Moffett, Samuel Hugh. *A History of Christianity in Asia. Volume I: Beginnings to 1500*. 2nd rev. ed. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1998. (Cf. Vols. II and III)
- Moreau, Scott A., gen. ed. *Evangelical Dictionary of World Missions*. Baker Reference Library Series. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Books, 2000.
- Müller-Fahrenholz, Geiko. *America's Battle for God: A European Christian Looks at Civil Religion*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 2007.
- Ott, Craig and Stephen J. Strauss, *Encountering Theology of Mission* (Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Academic, 2010).

- Piper, John. *Let the Nations be Glad! The Supremacy of God in Mission*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Books, 1993.
- Pocock, Michael, Van Rheenen, Gailyn, and McConnell, Douglas. *The Changing Face of World Missions: Engaging Contemporary Issues and Trends*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Academic, 2005.
- Ramachandra, Vinoth. *The Recovery of Mission: Beyond the Pluralist Paradigm*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: W. B. Eerdmans Pub. Co., 1997.
- Reeves-Ellington (Editor), Barbara, Kathryn Kish Sklar and Connie A. Shemo, eds., *Competing Kingdoms: Women, Mission, Nation, and the American Protestant Empire, 1812-1960*. American Encounters/Global Interactions Series. Durham, N.C.: Duke University Press, 2010.
- Robert, Dana L. *American Women in Mission: The Modern Mission Era 1792-1992*. Modern Mission Era, 1792-1992 Series. Macon, GA: Mercer University Press, 1997.
- Sanneh, Lamin. *Disciples of All Nations: Pillars of World Christianity*. Oxford, 2008.
- . *Translating the Message: The Missionary Impact on Culture*. Maryknoll, New York: Orbis Books, 1989.
- Shaw, R. Daniel and Charles E. Van Engen. *Communicating God's Word in a Complex World: God's Truth or Hocus Pocus?* Lanham, Maryland: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc., 2003.
- Shenk, Wilbert R. *Changing Frontiers of Mission*. American Society of Missiology Series, No.28. Maryknoll, New York: Orbis Books, 1999.
- Smith, Susan E. *Women In Mission: From the New Testament to Today*. American Society of Missiology Series. Maryknoll, N.Y.: Orbis Books, 2007.
- Taylor, William D., ed., *Global Missiology for the 21st Century: The Iguassu Dialogue*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2000.
- Tennent, Timothy C. *Invitation to World Missions: A Trinitarian Missiology for the Twenty-first Century*. Invitation to Theological Studies Series (Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Publications, 2010).
- Tiplady, Richard, ed. *One World or Many? The Impact of Globalisation on Mission*. Pasadena, California: William Carey Library, 2003.
- Verkuyl, J. *Contemporary Missiology: an Introduction*. Trans. and ed. by Dale Cooper. Grand Rapids, Michigan: W. B. Eerdmans Pub. Co., 1978.
- Walls, Andrew. *The Cross-Cultural Process in Christian History*. Maryknoll, New York: Orbis Books, 2002.

[journals]

Urban Mission (last issue June 1999)

Transformation - <http://www.ocms.ac.uk/transformation/>

Studies of World Christianity - <http://www.eupublishing.com/journal/swc>

Prism - <http://www.esa-online.org/Display.asp?Page=Prism>

Lausanne world pulse.com - <http://www.worldpulseonline.com/>

Mission Frontiers - <http://www.missionfrontiers.org/>

Missiology - <http://www.asmweb.org/missiology.htm> (intro info)

Journal of African Christian Thought

International Review of Mission - <http://www.wcc-coe.org/wcc/what/mission/irm.html>

International Journal of Frontier Missions - <http://www.ijfm.org/>

International Bulletin of Missionary Research - <http://www.internationalbulletin.org/>

Global Missiology - <http://www.globalmissiology.org/>

Global Future - <http://www.globalfutureonline.org/>

Evangelical Review of Theology - <http://www.worldevangelicalalliance.com/commissions/tc/ertcont.htm>

Evangelical Missions Quarterly (EMQ) - <http://www.emisdirect.com/>

East-West Church & Ministry Report - <http://www.eastwestreport.org/>

Chongshin Theological Journal

Asia Journal of Theology

Anvil - <http://www.anviljournal.co.uk/>

Africa Journal of Evangelical Theology - <http://www.theoledafrica.org/AJET/> (intro info)

Requirements

1. Class attendance, which will be checked at the beginning of each class period. Unexcused absence from class time exceeding the number of credit hours for the course will result in a deduction from the final grade of five percentage points per hour of such excessive unexcused absence.
2. Submit (as with all other assignments, via the Portal; Word format; last name listed first in filename) a 150-200 word self-introduction by 9:45 AM, Tues, Feb 1. Include whatever bio info you decide will help Dr. J. know you and your background. **4%** of total grade.
3. To help achieve the course objective of becoming more aware of and conversant with the wider world, by 9:45 AM before each Thursday class period (Feb 3 – May 5) read 5-7 minutes from each of the following websites: www.worldpress.org, <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/default.stm>, <http://english.aljazeera.net>, <http://www.foxnews.com/>, and <http://www.operationworld.org> (including “Pray Today”). That means approximately 30 minutes of combined time spent on these five websites between Thursday class periods. Indicate your completion of these reading assignments on the Reading Requirements Checklist (to be submitted by 9:45 AM, Thurs, Apr 28 via the Portal (under Req #4); **NOTE: Checklists submitted late will cause a one-point course grade reduction per 24-hour period late**). **10%** of total grade.
4. Read the course materials (along with the websites for requirement #2) at a steady pace throughout the course term. 9:45 AM due dates for each item are listed on the attached reading schedule (and Requirement Checklist). You will receive 1.5% credit towards your total course grade for each item completed on time (4% for the Jennings book; 2% credit will be given for completion of this book by the class period after the given deadline.) Indicate your completion of these reading assignments on the Reading Requirements Checklist (submit by 9:45 AM, Thurs, Apr 28 via the Portal; **NOTE ONCE AGAIN: Checklists submitted late will cause a one-point course grade reduction per 24-hour period late**). **10%** of total grade.
5. Submit a 500-word analysis of how your understanding of world mission / missions *has and has not* changed so far during this course. The *degree and clarity of self-reflection* will be the main criteria for grading. Due by 9:45 AM, Thurs, Mar 10. **10%** of total grade (**5%** possible if submitted by 9:45 AM, Mar 15).
6. As your self-selected small group, submit a 2000-word analysis of the development of world mission trends between 1910 and 2010. Evaluation will be based primarily on explicit, critical interaction with class discussions, the required readings, and at least six of the items listed on the two pages of reference reading materials in the course guide (or suitable equivalents. **NOTE: Please do not check out any of these materials from the library overnight after spring break**). Due by 9:45 AM, Tues, Apr 19. **33%** of total grade (**16%** possible if submitted by 9:45 AM, Thurs, Apr 28).
7. As your self-selected small group, take an oral final exam during the 30-minute period (either on projected class dates May 3-5-10 or during the exam period) for which you will sign up. Key preparation will focus on the Reflection Questions in *God the Real Superpower*. **33%** of total grade.
 - **Bonus Assignment 1:** Attend the Feb 26 EMS conference in Chicago; **5%** added to total course grade.
 - **Bonus Assignment 2:** Enter Bavinck-related paper contest, expl later; **5%** added to total course grade.

Academic Honesty Statement

As part of our purpose to train servants of the triune God to walk with God in all of life, we expect godly integrity in the academic work done at Covenant. At the heart of this integrity is the commitment to accurately represent our work to others. This means that members of Covenant’s community will not engage in presenting the ideas of others as their own (plagiarism) or in violating the rules under which papers, projects, and examinations are to be completed (cheating). Please refer to the Student Handbook for a complete explanation of this policy. For tutorial help through the writing center, please contact the Dean’s office.

The first violation of academic honesty standards will result in failure of the assignment or test in question and could, depending on the assignment, result in failure of the class. A second violation will result in dismissal from the institution.

God's World Mission Course Reading Schedule (Spring, 2011)

Date	Readings Due by 9:45 AM	Recommended as well for class discussions:
1. Th, Jan 27	----	
2. Tu, Feb 1	----	<i>Jennings, thru p.xiii, Appendix B</i>
3. Th, Feb 3	5 websites, Myers	
4. Tu, Feb 8	----	<i>Jennings, thru Ch.1, Appendix A</i>
5. Th, Feb 10	5 websites	
6. Tu, Feb 15	----	<i>Jennings, thru Ch.2</i>
7. Th, Feb 17	5 websites	
8. Tu, Feb 22	<i>Althen</i>	<i>Jennings, thru Ch.3</i>
9. Th, Feb 24	5 websites	
10. Tu, Mar 1	----	<i>Jennings, thru "Checkup"</i>
11. Th, Mar 3	5 websites	
Tu, Mar 8	<i>[No class – Day of Prayer]</i>	
12. Th, Mar 10	5 websites	Jennings, thru Ch.5
13. Tu, Mar 15	<i>MTW</i>	
14. Th, Mar 17	5 websites	Jennings, thru Ch.6
TuTh, Mar 22, 24	<i>[No classes – Spring Break]</i>	
15. Tu, Mar 29	----	<i>Jennings, thru Ch.7</i>
16. Th, Mar 31	5 websites	
17. Tu, Apr 5	<i>Ramachandra blog posts</i>	<i>Jennings, thru Ch.8</i>
18. Th, Apr 7	5 websites	
19. Tu, Apr 12	----	<i>Jennings, thru Ch.9</i>
20. Th, Apr 14	5 websites	
21. Tu, Apr 19	<i>Jennings book</i>	<i>Jennings, thru Conclusion</i>
Th, Apr 21	[No classes – Easter Break]	
22. Tu, Apr 26	----	
23. Th, Apr 28	----	

Reading Requirements Checklist

Please submit (via the Portal, under Req #4) this completed form
by 9:45 am, Thurs, April 28 (the day of this course's last class period).
Forms submitted late will cause a **one-point course grade reduction per 24-hour period late**.

** Mark completed requirements in the appropriate blank. **

Name _____

	Requirement	
Due date	# 3 (Websites)	#4 (Readings)
1. Th, Jan 27		
2. Tu, Feb 1		
(Note: Req #2 due Feb 1)		
3. Th, Feb 3	_____	_____ (Myers)
4. Tu, Feb 8		
5. Th, Feb 10	_____	
6. Tu, Feb 15		
7. Th, Feb 17	_____	
8. Tu, Feb 22		_____ (Althen)
9. Th, Feb 24	_____	
10. Tu, Mar 1		
11. Th, Mar 3	_____	
12. Th, Mar 10	_____	
(Note: Req #5 due Mar 10)		
13. Tu, Mar 15		_____ (MTW)
14. Th, Mar 17	_____	
15. W, Mar 29		
16. Th, Mar 31	_____	
17. Tu, Apr 5		_____ (Ramachandra)
18. Th, Apr 7	_____	
19. Tu, Apr 12		
20. Th, Apr 14	_____	
21. Tu, Apr 19		_____ (Jennings)
(Note: Req #6 due Apr 19)		
22. Tu, Apr 26		_____ (Jennings late) ** Check here only if you did not complete the Jennings book by 9:45 am Apr 19 but did complete it by 9:45 am Apr 26. **