

ISSUES AND TRENDS IN CHRISTIAN MISSIONS WME 350 (3 hours)

Canadian Bible College

First Semester, 2003-2004

Instructor: Dr. Emma Karin Emgård

Prerequisite: WME 101

Course Description

This seminar class will examine contemporary issues and trends that have shaped missions in recent years. We will discuss topics such as ecumenism, contextualization, syncretism, liberation theology, religious pluralism, and power evangelism, with an emphasis on student research and participation.

Course Objectives

After completing the course, you should be able to:

- clarify the missionary mandate of the church.
- understand historical precedents in mission and draw insights for today.
- recognize changes (political, economic, social and spiritual) in contemporary societies that impact the Church's mission.
- think creatively about how the church need to address the new frontiers.

Course Outline

The following are some of the main topics we will cover. Some of the topics will be combined in one lecture; others might take a few lectures to cover.

- contextualization
- holistic mission
- liberation theology
- Muslim missions
- parachurch organization vs. churches
- Pentecostalism and mission
- power evangelism
- religious pluralism
- short term mission
- syncretism
- women in mission

Contact Information

I will be in my office (#513) most days between 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. If you prefer to call my office phone number is 410 – 4903 and my e-mail is eemgard@cbccts.ca

The best way to reach me at home is via e-mail: Emma@emgard.com I check my emails a number of times a day, even at home. However, if you need to call my home number is 208-6990.

Required Reading

Moreau, Scott ed.

2000 *Evangelical Dictionary of World Missions* Baker Book House. (You will read a number of selected articles (listed on page 5) but not the whole dictionary.)

Additional articles in mission magazines and journals (200 pages).

I will give you some articles to read; you will find your own articles relating to the area you chose for your research paper.

Description of Assignments and Due Dates

In this class I have five different kinds of assignments that you will be graded on. I want all the written assignments (except for final exam) to be emailed to BOTH my email addresses. You will get the assignments back the same way, with my comments.

- 1 **Active Class Participation** (10 % of the grade)
 - Active participation means more than just being present and arriving on time. You need to take active part in class discussions.

- 2 **Reflection paper** (10% of the grade)
 - From your readings of about **five** significantly different topics in the Encyclopedia, write a half page of reflection. Write about what you feel and think when you read and how it applies to your ministry, whatever ministry you feel God is preparing you for, or a current ministry. Note that this assignment will help you for the final exam!
 - You will be graded on the thoughtfulness of you reflection.
 - Due dates:
 - ◆ One—September 12
 - ◆ Two—September 26
 - ◆ Three—October 10
 - ◆ Four—October 24
 - ◆ Five—November 5

- 3 **Interview** (25 % of the grade)
 - You will interview two missionaries. They need to either currently be serving or have just come back from the field. They must be involved in cross-cultural ministry, and they cannot have been back in their own culture for more than two years.
 - First, you will hand in your plan for the interview. I will have it back to you within one week and after that time you can go ahead and do the interview. Do not contact the people until after I have approved your plan.

➤ **a) Planning stage**

- ◆ Your plan will be a one-page write up where you tell me the following information
 - What is your main area of interest for the interview? (i.e. Muslim ministry, contextualization, relief work etc.)
 - Who are you planning to interview? And Why?
 - What are the 10 questions you plan to ask them? Note that the questions should concentrate on the area of mission you are particularly interested in. You are wise to carefully select your questions.
 - How will you do your final write up from the interview? Bear in mind that you must analyze the data you are collecting, not just write the answers.

➤ **b) Contacting the people to be interviewed**

- ◆ Ask if the people are willing to help you answer some questions. I suggest you use email. The assignment will take you a lot longer if you choose to do face-to-face interview. Regardless of whether you choose to do the interview in person, on the phone or via email, ask them to set aside one hour to answer questions. You should not go beyond this time. Most people are busy and you need to respect their time. I suggest you say that you ask for the answer at an earlier date than you really need.
- ◆ Explain what you are doing and why. (It is an assignment for class, but something you are very interested in.)
- ◆ If you do personal interviews I suggest you give them the questions ahead of time to allow them to think. Ask if you can tape the session. You need to carefully transcribe the answer. If you do your interview by email you will save time.
- ◆ Make sure you are courteous and thankful for the time they spend with you. Ask if they are interested in having a copy of your assignment. If you promise to send it, please to follow through on your promise.

➤ **c) Report from interview**

- ◆ Begin with a short introduction. Here you explain why you did the interview with whom, and where they serve. The introduction should be no more than 200 words)
- ◆ The body of the report is where you report your data. However, you must have analyzed it. Take the answers the person gave you and think about them. What does it mean? Why did they say what they did? Etc. Then, rather than copying all their answers, in narrative form write what you learned from the interview. I expect you to write two to four pages, not counting the introduction and conclusion.
- ◆ End with a short conclusion stating your main insight and some reflection on the assignment. The conclusion should be no more than 200 words.

➤ **d) Appendix**

- ◆ In the appendix you include the actual questions and all the answers.

- Due date:
 - ◆ For the Plan September 19
 - ◆ For the Written Report December 3

4 **Research paper** (35% of the grade)

- You will write an eight-page research paper (30%) and give a fifteen-minute class presentation (4%) with a one page summary handout (1%).
- You can use any of the themes we have spoken about in class. If you want to use another theme please clear it with me first.
- Note if you write your research in the same area as your interview you will save time and be able to go into further depth in the paper. However, you are not required to study the same topic in both assignments.

- Writing the research paper

- You will have three parts to the paper
 - ◆ Introduction
 - In one or two pages you explain why you choose this issue, introduce the topic, and give an overview of what you did in your research.
 - Note this introduction will either get the reader excited to continue, or make them yawn and wish they did not have to read the rest! So, it is important that you get the reader's attention here. You will get a brownie point for an interesting yet relevant opening.
 - ◆ The "body" of the paper
 - In the following five to six pages you will give the information you have gathered and analyzed. Make sure to organize it so the reader can easily understand your information.
 - Reference your sources properly. I expect you to use at least two references for the Internet, at least two books, and a few articles.
 - ◆ Conclusions
 - In the last two pages you will state your conclusions. This part is the "So What?" of the whole assignment. What have you learned and how does it affect your view of mission?
 - Note that this part is your own conclusion. Here, I do not want you to repeat what the books say, but share what conclusions you draw from what you have read.
- Be careful to follow the College's writing guidelines format. You will be graded on grammar, spelling, and format as well as content.

- Due date:
 - ◆ The class presentations December 3
 - ◆ Final paper is due the last day of the semester

5 **Final exam**. (20% of the grade)

- The entries in the dictionary and any other content covered during lecture will be on the final exam.

Time Management

Different people have different ability to read and write. Therefore, I know that the amount of time each one of you spend on the different assignments will differ. However, these are my guidelines.

	hours	% of grade
Class participation	25	10
Required reading and reading for research paper	30	0
Reflection	5	10
Interview	15	25
Research paper	12	35
Final exam	5	20
Total	92	100

Encyclopedia Entries

1.	10/40	24.	Biblical Theology of Mission
2.	Abrahamic Covenant	25.	Black Theologies
3.	Accommodation	26.	Buddhism
4.	Adaptation	27.	Burnout
5.	Adjustment To The Field	28.	Caribbean New Religious Movements
6.	African Initiated Church Movement (African New Religious Movements)	29.	Caste
7.	African Theology	30.	Child Evangelism
8.	Aids and Mission	31.	Chinese House Churches
9.	Alienation	32.	Christ and Culture
10.	American Board of Commission	33.	Christian and Missionary Alliance
11.	Amillennialism	34.	Christian Walk and Work
12.	Ancestral Beliefs	35.	Church Development
13.	Animism	36.	Church Planting
14.	Anthropology	37.	Colonialism and Missions
15.	Apologetics Sub Set: Apologetics and Mission	38.	Contextualization
16.	Armenian Theology	39.	Controversies in Contemporary Evangelical Mission Theory
17.	Asian New Theology	40.	Creative Access Countries
18.	Asian New Religious Movements	41.	Cross-Cultural Evangelism
19.	Attrition	42.	Cross-Cultural Ministry
20.	Aviation Mission Work	43.	Cultural Conversion
21.	Belief Systems	44.	Culture Shock
22.	Bible Societies	45.	Death Rites
23.	Bible Translation	46.	Deputation
		47.	Development

48.	Dialogue
49.	Dualism
50.	Dynamic Equivalence
51.	Eternal Life
52.	Ethics
53.	Ethnicity
54.	Ethno Theologies
55.	Ethnocentrism
56.	Evangelical Moment
57.	Evangelism
58.	Evangelism and Social Responsibility
59.	Exorcism
60.	Extent of Missionary Identification
61.	Fads in Mission
62.	Faith Mission
63.	Festivals Religious
64.	Financing Missions
65.	Flaw of the Excluded Middle
66.	Folk Religion
67.	Foreign Financing of Indigenous Workers
68.	Forgiveness
69.	Friendship Evangelism
70.	Furlough
71.	Globalization
72.	Gods and Goddesses
73.	Great Commission
74.	Guilt
75.	Hinduism
76.	Holism, Biblical
77.	Holistic Mission
78.	Homogenous Unit Principle
79.	Honesty
80.	Hope
81.	Human Condition in World Religions
82.	Hunger
83.	Idolatry
84.	Image of God
85.	Incarnational Mission
86.	Inculturation
87.	Independent Non-Denominational Mission Agencies
88.	Indigenous Churches

89.	Initiation Rites
90.	Intenerate Missionary
91.	Intercultural Communication
92.	Intercultural Competencies
93.	Interserve
94.	Islam
95.	Islamic New Religious Movements
96.	Jesus and Mission
97.	Jesus Film
98.	Jewish Mission
99.	Kingdom of God Theme
100.	Land
101.	Language
102.	Latin American New Religious Moments
103.	Liberation
104.	Liberation Theology
105.	Lifestyle Evangelism
106.	Liminality
107.	Literacy
108.	Magic
109.	Marginal, Marginalization
110.	Marriage
111.	Medical Mission Work
112.	Member Care in Mission
113.	Migration
114.	Millennial Thought
115.	Minority
116.	Miracles in Mission
117.	<i>Missio Dei</i>
118.	Mission Affluence
119.	Mission and Missions
120.	Missionary
121.	Missionary Call
122.	Missionary Children
123.	Missionary Task
124.	Moratorium
125.	Muslim Mission Work
126.	Mystic, Mysticism
127.	Myth
128.	Nevius Method
129.	Non-Residential Missionary
130.	Non-West
131.	NT Theology Of Mission
132.	Options for the Poor

133.	OT Theology of Mission
134.	Parachurch Agencies
135.	Paternalism
136.	People Movements
137.	Peoples, Groups
138.	Persecution
139.	Pioneer Missionary Work
140.	Pluralism
141.	Polygamy
142.	Polytheism
143.	Power Encounters
144.	Power Missions
145.	Premillennial
146.	Presence Evangelism
147.	Primal Religions
148.	Prison Mission Work
149.	Problem of Evil
150.	Proclamation
151.	Proselytism
152.	Receptivity
153.	Redemption and Lift
154.	Redemption in Other Religions
155.	Refugee Mission Work
156.	Relief Work
157.	Reverse Culture Chock
158.	Rites and Passage
159.	Ritual and Ceremony

160.	Sacrifice in Other Faiths
161.	Shaman
162.	Shame
163.	Sociological Barriers
164.	Short Term Missions
165.	Strategies in Mission
166.	Symbol
167.	Syncretism
168.	Taboo
169.	Taoist
170.	Team
171.	Tent Maker Mission
172.	Tesol
173.	The Gospel and Culture
174.	The Heathen
175.	Third Culture Kid
176.	Three Self
177.	Unevangelized
178.	Universalism
179.	Urbanization
180.	Village Evangelism
181.	Witchcraft—Sorcery
182.	Witness
183.	Women in Mission
184.	World Council of Churches
185.	Worldviews
186.	Zen Buddhism