

GS 5110 – Contemporary Issues in Mission
Providence Theological Seminary
Winter 2010
Instructor: Daryl R. Climenhaga
Syllabus

Course Description

An examination of contemporary issues in the study and practice of Christian mission, focussing on issues identified by practitioners of mission as well as those identified in the academy.

Objectives

1. To survey significant issues in the study and practice of mission today.
2. To discern basic shifts in the contemporary world context for Christian mission.
3. To discover fruitful directions for the future of Christian mission.

Required Text

Muck, Terry and Frances S. Adeney

2009 *Christianity Encountering World Religions: The Practice of Mission in the Twenty-first Century*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic.

Pocock, Michael, Gailyn van Rheezen, and Douglas McConnell

2005 *The Changing Face of World Missions: Engaging Contemporary Issues and Trends*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic.

Taylor, William D., editor

2000 *Global Missiology for the 21st Century: The Iguassu Dialogue*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic.

Assignments

1. Review of Taylor. The student will write a 1500 word interactive review of *Global Missiology*. Part one should briefly summarize the book's content, part two state significant observations based on the reading, and part three give questions and critique of Taylor's ideas.
2. Review of Pocock, Van Rheezen, and McConell. The student will write a 1500 word interactive review of *The Changing Face of World Missions*. Part one should briefly summarize the book's content, part two state significant observations based on the reading, and part three give questions and critique of Taylor's ideas.
3. Review of Muck and Adeney. The student will write a 1500 word interactive review of *Christianity Encountering World Religions*. Part one should briefly summarize the book's content, part two state significant observations based on the reading, and part three give questions and critique of Taylor's ideas.

4. Final essay. The student will write an essay (approximately 3000 words) on the subject: “The Future of the Christian Missionary Task in the New Millennium.” The essay will cover the issues that the class has decided are most important for us to consider.

5. Class participation. Although not a percentage of the grade, non-participation can lead to a lower course grade, or failure of the course as a whole. Non-participation includes not coming to class and not doing assignments.

Grades

Taylor Review	25%
Pocock et al Review	20%
Muck and Adeney Review	20%
Essay	35%

Calendar

Jan 18	Introduction: Current Issues. The issues listed come from the instructor. We also seek to find what issues others say are critical today.	
25	The Bible and Mission	
Feb 1	Motives and Models for Mission	
8	Dependence, Independence, and Interdependence	Pocock et al Review due
15	Louis Riel Day	
22	Indigenization: forms and meanings	Muck and Adeney Review due
Mar 1	March Intrasession	
8	Contextualization: theology as well as church	
15	Theology of Religions	Taylor Review due
22	Christology and Mission	
29	Theology in the Two-Thirds World; New Religious Movements	
Apr 5	Issues Arising	
12	Issues Arising	Major Essay due
19	Exam Period: Negotiate as class period if necessary	