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MS-791
Missions and Contextualization: Sociology of Evangelicalism Since WWII

Fall 2018 - Spring 2019

Dr. Michael A. Milton
James Ragsdale Chair of Missions and Evangelism
President, D. James Kennedy Institute
of Reformed Leadership

ERSKINE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
Due West, South Carolina

For Appointments: Arrange through Mrs. Christine Hartung: chartung@faithforliving.org or call
704-593-6506
CLASS MEETING TIMES AND LOCATION

- Introduction Meeting between Professor and Student
- Eight-week intensive Independent Study
- Oral Review with Professor and Student
- Book report and final essay due at the conclusion of the Semester

CONTACT INFORMATION

For appointments with the Professor of Record contact Mrs. Hartung:
chartung@trinitychapelclt.org

DESCRIPTION

This course is designed to provide a reading-and-research-method course with assessment through theological reflection demonstrated by graduate-level research papers (one book report 3-5 pages and one 3-5 page essay, with cover page and bibliography). The book report will demonstrate a mastery of concepts in assigned readings. In the research paper, the student moves from event to experience, experience to Scripture, prayer, and on through critical thinking, that is, the application of the theological reflection to pastoral ministry.

“Theological reflection describes the process of learning directly from our experience. As an intentional and systematic activity in the classroom as well as through personal assignments, it attempts to enable individuals to discover God's presence in their experience, the difference God's presence makes in their lives, and what God expects as a result” (Kinast, 1990).

This syllabus includes guidance for master-level degree (MDIV, MATS, MAPM, ThM) and the Doctor of Ministry. The DMIN learning experience differs only in the amount of reading and the case study paper at the conclusion of the course.

Three credit hours.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs)

This course is designed to introduce the theological student to the Biblical and theological foundations and resources to discern, practice, and sustain a spiritually healthy ministry as Christian shepherd and person. The purpose of this course is to help the seminary student to explore and grow in Biblical and theological understanding of vocation and the ongoing personal ministry of formation and transformation.
through Word, Sacrament, and Prayer, expressed through a variety of spiritual formation resources available.

By the completion of this course, the student will:

1. Understand and be able to articulate the major themes in social contextualization since WWII. (MATS SLOs 1.2, 1.3, 2.2)

2. Think and speak with precision about the theological nature of missions and context in a pastoral setting. (MATS SLOs 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 2.2, 2.3)

3. Discover a method for assessing, diagnosing, and treating various presenting expressions of dying churches from a pastoral-theological perspective. (MATS SLOs 1.1,12,13,21,22,23)

4. Be able to assess the theology of spiritual principles in missions and contextualization. (MATS SLOs 1.1,12,13,21,22,23)

5. Articulate a methodology for missions that is Biblically faithful and contextually aware. (MATS SLO2 1.2, 1.2., 2.1)

6. Be able to articulate the nature of the mission of God in the world according to Scripture. (MATS SLOs 1.1, 1.3, 2.1)

7. Demonstrate an understanding of the necessary relation of this study to the Church. (1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 2.1)

**GRADING, MODE OF INSTRUCTION, AND REQUIRED ASSIGNMENTS**

**GRADING AND EVALUATION**

The grading scale published in the seminary catalog will be used to arrive at your final grade. The assignments will be given letter grades. For letter grades, the scale is:

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**MODE OF INSTRUCTION**

The class will be taught using these modes of instruction: (1) Professor-Student meetings; (2) Readings and Research; (3) a final research paper on a theme from within the course (8-10 pages).
• Reading Component: 70%
• Critical Book Review: 10%
• Final Research Paper: 20%
• Points: 100%

REQUIRED ASSIGNMENTS

Summary of deliverable products for the course:

1. Readings and Research (70%). (CLOs 1, 2)
2. Critical Book Review of one of the books read: (10%) (CLOs 1, 2)
3. Theological Reflection Paper with peer-reviewed citations (20%). (CLOs 1,2,3, and 4)

CLASS OUTLINE

▪ First Meeting
▪ Reading, Research, and Writing
▪ Final Interview

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

Students are expected to secure their own copies of all required textbooks. As a convenience, the seminary has this bookstore portal. There you will find links to familiar vendors (CBD and Amazon) and can check availability of texts, compare prices, and place orders. The ETS SBA will receive a modest percentage of the profits from students’ and professors’ purchases through this portal. The Erskine Campus Bookstore will carry a limited number of copies of every required text and orders for books can be placed through the Campus Bookstore.

REQUIRED READING AND VIEWING


BIBLIOGRAPHY

Note: This bibliography is for your scholarly and pastoral pursuits. Its inclusion should not be misconstrued as a blanket endorsement of any or all the entries by our faculty. We do believe that the titles represent a broad and good study of the subject.


SEMINARY POLICIES

All written work must conform to the latest edition of the Turabian manual of style and typed in twelve point type, Times New Roman (or similar), normally double-spaced, with open margins. Some reflection papers (which do not use footnotes) may be single spaced. See syllabus requirements for each assignment.


Additional writing guidelines are available in the Sample Paper and Writing Aids folder found on the Seminary’s web site. Here you will find sample papers for several courses, a “Seminary Research Paper Template,” a Bibliography sample, footnote samples, and more.
Students who may need more assistance are encouraged to make use of the Write Here Center (Click Here) for improved writing skills.

Students may find the Erskine Theological Seminary Writing Rubric (Click Here). Scroll down to the Writing Assessment Rubric and download.

All written work presented is expected to be the student’s own unless credit for the ideas, words, etc. of others is clearly identified. Plagiarism in sermons costs pastors their jobs. Plagiarism in class will not be tolerated and penalties will be assigned in keeping with the Seminary’s Catalog.

Students are strongly encouraged to review the provisions of the Seminary’s Catalog, particularly those governing registration for and withdrawal from classes, class attendance, grades (including incomplete), academic conduct, and expectations for written assignments.