

REFORMED THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, DC

MISSIONS COURSE SYLLABUS

APR 1-3; 8-10, 2027

Classes from 7pm to 10pm on weekdays; 9am to 5pm on Saturdays

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PURPOSE

The purpose of the course is to help prepare those seeking to serve in cross-cultural global missions and to equip those who will serve in the US/ North American context to encourage cross cultural global missions in their churches.

OBJECTIVES

Through this course students should be able to:

1. State clearly and demonstrate biblically the church's calling to make disciples among the nations.
2. Interact knowledgeably with current issues in global missions.
3. Be able to identify and disciple those interested in long term missionary service.
4. Be equipped to lead a local church toward global missions.

ASSIGNMENTS

1. **Required Reading:** Each required reading assignment will require a one-page double spaced summary of the work and a one-page double spaced reflection. (For the *Perspectives Reader* choose only one assigned article)* **Due: May 1**

DeYoung, Kevin and G. Gilbert, *What is the Mission of the Church?: Making Sense of Social Justice, Shalom, and the Great Commission*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2011.

Erlacher, Jolene and Katy White. *Mobilizing Gen Z: Challenges and Opportunities for the Global Age of Missions*. Littleton, CO: William Carey Publishing, 2022.

George, Jason *3D Gospel: Ministry in Guilt, Shame, and Fear Cultures*. Time Press, 2017.

Hibbert, Evelyn and R. Hibbert, *Leading Multicultural Teams*. Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 2014.

Leonard, John, *Get Real: Sharing Your Everyday Faith Everyday*. Greensboro, NC: New Growth Press, 2013.

Newkirk, Matthew, *Fill the Earth: The Creation Mandate and the Church's Call to Missions*. Eugene, OR: Wipf and Stock, 2020.

*Winter, Ralph and S. Hawthorne, eds. *Perspectives on the World Christian Movement: A Reader*. 4th ed. Pasadena: William Carey Library, 2009. (Articles indicated in Tentative Course Outline below)

2. **Supplementary Reading:** This is a resource list to go deeper into topics covered in class or to study topics not discussed in class.

- Bavinck, J. H. *An Introduction to the Science of Missions*. Phillipsburg: P&R, 1960.
- Alcorn, Randy. *Treasure Principle: Unlocking the Secret of Joyful Giving*. Portland: Multnomah, 2017.
- Allen, Roland. *Missionary Methods: St. Paul's or Ours? A Study of the Church in the Four Provinces*. Cross Reach Publications, 2017.
- Bosch, David J. *Transforming Missions: Paradigm Shifts in Theology of Missions*. American Society of Missiology Series 16. Mary Knoll, NY: Orbis Books, 2011.
- Chambers, Garry. *Make it or Break it: A Guide to Doing Short Term Missions Well*. Atlanta: Christian Discipleship Ministries, 2017.
- Chan, Simon, Finny Philip, E.D. Burns. *State of the Great Commission: Report Prepared for Lausanne Global Congress Seoul-Incheon*. Lausanne Movement, 2024.
<https://lausanne.org/report>
- Chaplin, Carl, and S. Harris. *Kingdom Pursuit: Exploring the Many Facets of Missions*. Atlanta: Christian Discipleship Ministries, 2017.
- Corbet, Steve, and B. Fikkert. *When Helping Hurts: How to Alleviate Poverty without Hurting the Poor and Yourself*. Chicago: Moody, 2012.
- Conn, Harvie M. *Evangelism: Doing Justice and Preaching Grace*. Phillipsburg, NJ: P&R, 1982.
- DeVries, Brian. *You Will be My Witnesses: Theology for God's Church Serving in God's Mission*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2024
- Erlacher, Jolene and Katy White. *Mobilizing Gen Z: Challenges and Opportunities for the Global Age of Missions*. Littleton, CO: William Carey Publishing, 2022.
- Garrison, David. *Church Planting Movements: How God is Redeeming a Lost World*. Monument, CO: WIGTake Resources, 2004.
- Greenway, Roger S, ed. *The Pastor-Evangelist*. Phillipsburg: P&R, 1987.
- Keller, Timothy J. *Ministries of Mercy*. 2nd ed. Phillipsburg: P&R, 1997.
- Lingenfelter, S., and M. Mayers. *Ministering Cross-Culturally*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1986.
- Mandryk, Jason. *Operation World: The Definitive Prayer Guide to Every Nation*. 7th ed. Downers Grove: IVP, 2010.
- McKnight, Scott. *Kingdom Conspiracy: Returning to the Radical Mission of the Local Church*. Grand Rapids, MI: Brazos Press, 2014.
- Menikoff, Aaron and Harshit Singh. *Prioritizing Missions in the Church*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2025.
- Metzger, Will. *Tell the Truth*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1981.
- Miller, C. John. *Powerful Evangelism for the Powerless*. Phillipsburg: P&R, 1997.
- Packer, J. I. *Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 1961.
- Piper, John. *Let the Nations be Glad*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2010.
- Rhodes, Matt. *Persecution in Missions: A Practical Theology*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2026.

- Richardson, Steve. *Is the Commission Still Great?* Chicago: Moody, 2022.
- Robertson, Ryan and Matt Bennett. *The Path to Being a Missionary*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2026.
- Schell, Justin. *The Mission of God: And the Witness of the Church*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2024.
- Shim, Albert. *Gospel and Grace: Discovering the Heart of Discipleship*. Grace, Kingdom Mission: Small Group Studies for Missional Engagement Volume 1. Atlanta: MTW, 2019.
- Shim, Albert. *Kingdom and Mission: Following the Sent and Sending God*. Grace, Kingdom Mission: Small Group Studies for Missional Engagement Volume 2. Atlanta: MTW, 2020.
- Wells, Paul; Lillback, Peter; Stoker, Henk. *A Covenantal Vision for Global Missions*. Phillipsburg, NJ: Westminster Seminary, 2020.
- Wright, Christopher. *Mission of God: Unlocking the Bible's Grand Narrative*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP, 2006.

3. **Book Review:** Students will choose a book from the Supplementary list and type a 4-page, double-spaced review. A good review will contain three elements: (1) a brief summary of the contents; (2) a cogent critique; and (3) some personal reflections on the practical implications of the book to your future ministry. **Due May 1**
4. **Class Participation:** Active discussion on the topics presented.
5. **Final Paper.** Students will write a paper 10-15 pages double spaced on a topic related to missions. **Due Date: May 15**
6. **Office Hours:** Meetings will be scheduled upon request. lloyd.kim@mtw.org

ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT LEARNING

Breakout of Grading

- a) Class Participation (5%)
- b) Book review (15%)
- c) Readings (30%)
- d) Final Paper (50%)

TENTATIVE COURSE OUTLINE & READING ASSIGNMENTS

1. Definition of Missions

- a. Cultural Mandate and the Great Commission. **Readings:** Genesis 1-3; Matthew 28; Newkirk, *Fill the Earth*; DeYoung and Gilbert, *What is the Mission of the Church?*
- b. Missions and Evangelism. **Readings:** George, *3D Gospel*; Leonard, *Get Real*
- c. Missions History. **Readings:** Winter, "Three Mission Eras," *Perspective Reader*, 263-278; Beaver, "History of Missions strategy," *Perspectives Reader*, 228-238

2. Current Issues in Missions

- a. Cultural Imperialism and Missions. **Readings:** Woodberry, "The Social Impact of Christian Missions," *Perspectives Reader*, 286-290
- b. Women in Missions. **Readings:** Kraft and Crossman, "Women in Missions," *Perspectives Reader*, 294-298
- c. Ethnic Diversity and Missions. **Readings:** Hibbert, *Leading Multicultural teams*; Cornelius, "A Historical Survey of African Americans in World Missions," *Perspectives Reader*, 299-304
- d. Globalization - From Everywhere to Everywhere. **Readings:** Johnson and Lee, "From Western Christendom to Global Christianity," *Perspective Reader*, 387-392; Hibbert and Hibbert, *Leading Multi-Cultural Teams*; Newkirk, *Fill the Earth*
- e. Unreached People Groups. **Readings:** Winter and Koch, "Finishing the Task: The Unreached Peoples Challenge," *Perspectives Reader*, 531-546; Newkirk, *Fill the Earth*, 265-285
- f. Church Planting Movements and Disciples Making Movements. **Readings:** Garrison, "Church Planting Movements," *Perspectives Reader*, 646-648; Patterson, "The Spontaneous Multiplication of Churches," *Perspectives Reader*, 633-642

3. Local Church and Missions

- a. Mobilizing Missionaries. **Readings:** Erlacher, Jolene and Katy White. *Mobilizing Gen Z: Challenges and Opportunities for the Global Age of Missions*.
- b. Prayer and Missions. **Readings:** Matthew 6:5-13; Matthew 9:35-38
- c. Giving and Missions. **Readings:** Romans 12:1-8
- d. Mission conferences. **Readings:** <https://missionexus.org/symposium-get-rid-of-your-missions-conference/>
- e. Short-term Missions
- f. Becoming a Long-Term Global Missionary

Course Objectives Related to MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes

Course: Missions
 Professor: Lloyd Kim
 Campus: RTS DC
 Date: 10/6/2026

<u>MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes</u> <i>In order to measure the success of the MDiv curriculum, RTS has defined the following as the intended outcomes of the student learning process. Each course contributes to these overall outcomes. This rubric shows the contribution of this course to the MDiv outcomes.</i> <i>*As the MDiv is the core degree at RTS, the MDiv rubric will be used in this syllabus.</i>		<u>Rubric</u> • Strong • Moderate • Minimal • None	<u>Mini-Justification</u>
Articulation (oral & written)	Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks. Also includes ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.	Moderate	Will be demonstrated in reading reflections, book reviews, final paper, as well as in class discussions
Scripture	Significant knowledge of the original meaning of Scripture. Also, the concepts for and skill to research further into the original meaning of Scripture and to apply Scripture to a variety of modern circumstances. (Includes appropriate use of original languages and hermeneutics; and integrates theological, historical, and cultural/global perspectives.)	Moderate	Scripture will be the basis for reflection and discussion of various missiological topics
Reformed Theology	Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.	Moderate	Discussions related to missiological topics will be presented from a Reformed Perspective. Some reference to Confessions/Standards will be made in some discussions.
Sanctification	Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student's sanctification.	Moderate	The practical application topics seek to prepare students for personal growth as well as encouraging other's growth in sanctification
Worldview	Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God. Includes ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.	Strong	Christian worldview will be emphasized in foundational discussions related to missions
Winsomely Reformed	Embraces a winsomely Reformed ethos. (Includes an appropriate ecumenical spirit with other Christians, especially Evangelicals; a concern to present the Gospel in a God-honoring manner to non-Christians; and a truth-in-love attitude in disagreements.)	Strong	Different sections of the course will emphasize a winsomely Reformed ethos when engaging in foreign missions
Pastoral Ministry	Ability to minister the Word of God to hearts and lives of both church and unchurched, to include preaching, teaching, leading in worship, leading and	Strong	The course is directed to those who are pursuing

	shepherding the local congregation, aiding in spiritual maturity, concern for non-Christians.		a call to long term global missions as well as those who will be ministering in congregations for the advancement of missions.
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