



TYNDALE
- INTERCULTURAL MINISTRIES CENTRE



Theology and Practice of Diaspora and Multiethnic Missions

Fall 2025

Course Information

- **Dates:** September 29 – December 12, 2025 (12 weeks; 24 hours)
- **Lecture Time:** Monday at 7:30-10:00 pm
- **Modality:** Online (via Zoom)
- **Venue:** Tyndale University, 3377 Bayview Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M2M 3S4

Course Lecturer

Rev. Dr. Daniel (Sung Ho) Ahn currently serves as a Research Fellow and Managing Editor for *A Dictionary of Asian Christianity* at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary in Greater Boston, USA. He has extensive experience in teaching and intercultural missions with Overseas Missionary Fellowship (OMF) across Europe, North America, and Asia. He has also served various multiethnic, diaspora, and refugee communities in the Global North.

He earned a Ph.D. in World Christianity from the University of Edinburgh, UK, and holds a Master of Divinity and a Master of Arts in Intercultural Studies from Fuller Theological Seminary in the US. Prior to his academic career, he worked as a mechanical engineer at the R&D center of a motor company, holding a B.S. and M.S. in mechanical engineering.

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Course Description

In the current era, marked by the post-colonial period, the effects of globalization have prompted a diaspora movement, predominantly from the Global South to the Global North. This has resulted in a rich tapestry of cultural, ethnic, and linguistic diversity in major Western cities, including Toronto. Consequently, the nature of Christianity is transforming from Western Christianity toward Global Christianity.

In light of this, this course is designed to deepen students' theological, theoretical, and historical understanding of multiethnicity and global diaspora mission movement. This course aims to prepare students to effectively engage in multiethnic societies and ministries and serve diaspora and refugees locally and globally.

Course Objectives/Outcomes

By the end of this semester, students will have developed the ability to:

- Articulate the theological and theoretical foundations of race, multiethnicity, and diaspora and refugee ministries as depicted in the Scriptures.
- Distinguish among the concepts of multicultural, cross-cultural, and intercultural communities.
- Trace the historical development of global diaspora missions through various time periods.
- Explain the current trends in the global diaspora movement, the global refugee crisis, and the missiological responses to these issues.
- Critically examine and compare personal and collective worldviews and cultural frameworks, both their own and those of others.
- Develop the ministry competence to effectively engage in ministries for multiethnic, diaspora, and refugee groups.

Course Overview

This course is structured around four major units that guide students through a progression from foundational understanding to practical application:

1. **Theological and Theoretical Foundations of Race, Multiethnicity, and Diaspora**
Students will explore biblical and theological frameworks that address race, ethnicity, and the movement of peoples. Theological reflection will be integrated with contemporary theories of identity, culture, and migration.
2. **Historical Development of Multiethnicity and Global Diaspora Missions**
This unit traces the historical trajectory of diaspora and multiethnic mission movements, examining key developments from the early church to the present. Emphasis will be placed on shifts in mission paradigms and the global reconfiguration of Christianity.
3. **Case Studies in Multiethnic, Diaspora, and Refugee Ministries in the Global North**
Students will engage with real-world examples of diaspora and refugee ministries in North America and other Global North contexts. These case studies will highlight best practices, contextual challenges, and innovative ministry approaches.
4. **Contextual Engagement in Toronto: Field Research and Final Presentations**
Drawing on the diversity of Toronto, students will conduct field research with local churches, ministries, or organizations serving multiethnic and diaspora communities. The course will culminate in a final presentation and paper that integrates theological reflection with practical insights from their research.

Required & Recommended Texts and Articles

Required Texts & Articles

- Daniel S. H. Ahn, “Global Diaspora Theology: The Scattered and Sent” (A Series of Four Articles: non-peer reviewed), *Pastoral Ministry and Theology* (Seoul: Duranno Publishing, September-December 2023)
안성호 저, “글로벌 디아스포라 신학: 흩어진 & 보냄을 받은 공동체” (4 편의 연재 아티클) 목회와 신학, 2023 년 9-12 월
- Daniel S. H. Ahn, “The Moravian Missional Refugee Community as the Contact Point of the Reformation with the Mission for the Refugees in Europe”, *Korea Mission Quarterly*, Korea World Mission Association, Vol. 63 (Fall 2017), pp. 188-201
안성호 저, “유럽 종교개혁과 유럽의 난민선교의 접촉점: 모라비안 난민 선교공동체”, KMQ 한국선교저널, 2017 년 가을호, 제 63 권, pp. 188-201.
- “Missiological Analysis of the Leadership Delivery from Jerusalem Church to Antioch Church in the Book of Acts, and Its Implication to the Diaspora Churches”, *Korea Mission Quarterly*, Korea World Mission Association, Vol. 58 (Summer 2016), pp. 40-60
안성호 저, “선교학적 관점에서 바라본 디아스포라 교회의 리더십 이양: 사도행전의 예루살렘 교회와 안디옥 교회를 중심으로”, KMQ 한국선교저널, 2016 년 여름호, 제 58 권, pp. 40-60.
- Global Diaspora Network, *Scattered and Gathered: A Global Compendium of Diaspora Missiology* (Carlisle: Langham Global Library, 2020);
테츠나오 야마모리, 사디리 조이 티라, Harry Kim, 문창선 저, 디아스포라 선교학 (더메이커: 2018)

Recommended Texts & Articles

- Enoch Wan, *Diaspora Missiology: Theory, Methodology, and Practice*, 2nd ed. (Portland: Create Space, 2014) 2nd ed.

Assignments & Assessments

Assignments	Percentage
Weekly Journals	20%
Article Review Paper	10%
Research Paper	20%
Field-Based Research & Final Paper and Presentation	40%
Attendances	10%
Total	100%

Weekly Journals (20%) -----

Weekly journals are designed to help students critically reflect on their learning throughout the course and observe how their perspectives develop over time.

Each journal entry should be a minimum of 250 words and should thoughtfully address the following:

- Key insights gained from that week's lectures, group discussions, and required readings.
- Reflection on how the material challenged, affirmed, or shifted your understanding of the weekly topic.
- Areas of continued curiosity or questions, and how you might apply what you have learned to real-world ministry settings.

Students are expected to integrate and reference course readings and lectures in their reflections.

Submission: Journals are due by **6:00 p.m. each Friday** and should be submitted directly to the instructor via the course platform (as directed in the first-class session).

Article Review (10%) -----

The article review assignment invites students to engage critically with a selected academic or ministry-related article provided by the instructor. This assignment consists of three key components: a structured summary, a critical evaluation, and a personal reflection with application to ministry.

Assignment Requirements:

- Length: Minimum of 500 words (excluding cover page)
- Content:
 - **Summary:** Clearly outline the article's structure and main arguments or sections.
 - **Critique:** Analyze the article's organization, clarity, and depth. Consider what the article includes, excludes, or assumes, and comment on its strengths and limitations.
 - **Reflection & Application:** Reflect on how the article has shaped your understanding of diaspora or multiethnic ministry, and how its insights can be applied to your current or future ministry context.

Submission Guidelines:

- Articles will be provided by the professor.
- Submit the completed review directly to the lecturer by the assigned due date.
- Papers must follow the required format below.

Formatting Instructions:

- Body Format:
 - Font: Times New Roman, 12 pt
 - Spacing: Double-spaced
 - Margins: 1 inch (top, bottom, left, and right)
- Cover Page: Include the following:
 - Title: Article Review Paper (top of the page)

- Paper Title (below the header)
- Course Title
- Instructor's Name
- Your Full Name and Student ID Number

Research Paper (20%): Theological Foundation of Race, Ethnicity, and Multicultural Ministry-----

One of the overarching themes throughout the Bible is God's redemptive mission for all nations, expressed through the development of multicultural communities. A prime example is seen in the Book of Acts, where the early Christian movement expanded from a monocultural Jewish base in Jerusalem to a multicultural, Hellenistic church in Antioch—serving as a launching point for global mission in the Greco-Roman world (Acts 9–13).

For this research paper, you will:

- Choose a biblical case study that demonstrates a multicultural ministry community.
- Examine how God intentionally shaped that community to reflect multiethnic inclusion.
- Analyze how God used this community as an instrument for global mission.
- Avoid duplicating any topics already covered in the lectures.

Required Components:

- Scriptural Basis: Identify and exegete relevant biblical passages.
- Contextual Background: Provide historical, cultural, and archaeological context for the selected case study.
- Theological Analysis: Articulate key theological principles related to race, ethnicity, and multicultural ministry drawn from the text.

Students are encouraged to use scholarly resources such as Bible commentaries, Bible dictionaries, Archaeological resources, and Biblical maps and atlases.

Formatting & Submission Guidelines:

- Length: Minimum of 500 words (excluding cover page).
- Cover Page Must Include:
 - Title: Research Paper (top of page)
 - Paper Title (centered)
 - Course Title
 - Lecturer's Name
 - Student's Full Name and ID Number
- Body Format:
 - Font: Times New Roman, 12 pt
 - Spacing: Double-spaced
 - Margins: 1 inch (top, bottom, left, and right)

Field-Based Research & Final Paper and Presentation (40%) -----

This capstone assignment enables students to apply theological, theoretical, and practical insights gained throughout the course by engaging with a multiethnic, diaspora, or refugee church through field research, group writing, and a final presentation. Students will critically evaluate the ministry practices of the selected church and reflect on its implications for multicultural and diaspora ministry.

Overall Breakdown (40% of Final Grade):

- Field-Based Research – 20 points
- Final Group Paper – 40 points
- Final Group Presentation – 40 points

1. Community/Church Selection

Students will select a multiethnic, diaspora, or refugee church in the Greater Toronto Area to serve as the focus of their project.

2. Field-Based Research

Students will visit the selected church and gather data through observation, interviews (if possible), and reflection. Field notes should address the following:

- Founding story: when, how, why, and by whom was the church established?
- Leadership structure: Is it white-dominant, non-white-dominant, or ethnically balanced?
- Ethnic composition of the congregation (e.g., White, Asian, African, Latino, etc.)
- Worship and music style compared to your home church
- First impressions and visitor experience
- Youth, children, and Sunday school ministries
- How the church expresses or fosters diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging (DEIB)
- Strengths and weaknesses compared to a monoethnic or monocultural church

3. Final Group Paper

Each group will submit a research-based reflection paper that incorporates findings from their field research along with theological, missiological, and contextual analysis.

Paper Requirements:

- Length: Minimum 1,500 words (excluding cover page and bibliography)
- Structure:
 - Introduction with clear topic or thesis
 - Main chapters with supporting data, photos, observations, and analysis
 - Conclusion including application to ministry
 - Bibliography or works cited

- Formatting:
 - Times New Roman, 12 pt font, double-spaced, one-inch margins (top, bottom, left, right)
 - Cover Page Includes:
 - “Final Group Paper” (top header)
 - Title of the paper
 - Course title
 - Lecturer’s name
 - Student names and ID numbers

4. Final Paper Presentation

Each student will present their project in class, highlighting key insights and applications from their research.

- Presentation Time: 10 minutes per student, followed by 5 minutes of Q&A
- Grading: Presentations will be evaluated by the instructor and peer-reviewed by classmates.
- Submission: Each student will submit a PowerPoint (PPT) and word files to the lecturer before their scheduled time.

Attendance & Class Attitudes (10%) -----

Active presence and participation are essential to the learning environment of this course, particularly given its emphasis on intercultural understanding and collaborative engagement.

1. Attendance and Punctuality

- Students are expected to attend all classes on time and remain until the end of each session.
- Three instances of lateness will be counted as one absence.
- If you are unable to attend class for any reason, you must notify the instructor in advance and request that the absence be excused.
- Unexcused absences will affect your final grade.

2. Class Participation and Group Discussions

- Students are expected to come prepared, having completed all required readings, and to actively engage in group discussions and in-class activities.
- Participation is assessed not only by frequency of speaking but by the quality and constructiveness of your contributions to shared learning.
- Respectful listening, thoughtful engagement, and willingness to learn from others are essential.

3. Classroom Etiquette

- No food (including snacks) is permitted in the classroom.
- Be respectful of the learning environment and your peers by refraining from disruptive behavior, including side conversations or the use of electronic devices for non-class purposes.

Final Grade Scale

Letter	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F
%	100– 98	97– 94	93– 90	89– 87	86– 84	83– 80	79– 77	76– 74	73– 70	69– 67	66– 64	63– 60	59– 0

Course Schedule

Week #1 - 9/29: Welcome & Course Overview

- Reading: Course Syllabus
- Assignments: Journal Week #1

Part I: Theological Foundation of Race, Multiethnicity, and Diaspora

Week #2 - 10/6: Trinitarian Theology

- Reading: Lecture Note
- Assignments: Journal Week #2

Week #3 - 10/13: Theology of Multicultural Ministry in the Old Testament

- Reading: Lecture Note, *Diaspora Missiology*
- Assignments: Journal Week #3

Week #4 - 10/20: Theology of Multicultural Ministry in the Old Testament

- Reading: Lecture Note, *Diaspora Missiology*
- Assignments: Journal Week #4

Week #5 - 10/27: Theology of Multicultural Ministry in the Old Testament

- Reading: Lecture Note, *Diaspora Missiology*
- Assignments: Journal Week #5 & **Research Paper**

Week #6 - 11/3: Theology of Multicultural Ministry in the New Testament

- Reading: Lecture Note, *Diaspora Missiology*
- Assignments: Journal Week #6

Week #7 - 11/10: Theology of Multicultural Ministry in the New Testament

- Reading: Lecture Note, *Diaspora Missiology*
- Assignments: Journal Week #7

Week #8 - 11/17: Theology of Multicultural Ministry in the New Testament

- Reading: Lecture Note, *Diaspora Missiology*
- Assignments: Journal Week #8 & **Article Review Paper**

Part II, III & IV: Historical Progression, Case Studies, and Practical Applications

Week #9 - 11/24: Case Studies: Multiethnic and Global Diaspora & Refugee Missions in the Past

- Reading: Lecture Note, *Diaspora Missiology*
- Assignments: Journal Week #9

Week #10 - 12/1: Case Studies: Multiethnic and Global Diaspora & Refugee Missions in the Present

- Reading: Lecture Note, *Diaspora Missiology*
- Assignments: Journal Week #10

Week #11 - 12/8: Final Paper Presentation

- Assignments: Final Paper & PPT file submission

Week #12 - 12/15: Final Class

- Course Summary
- Reflection Sharing & Evaluation