



TYNDALE

• SEMINARY •

Course Syllabus

Winter 2013

INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION

MISS 0688

January 7-11, 2013

8:30 AM – 4:00 PM

INSTRUCTOR: ROBERT COUSINS, DMin (Cand)

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Office Hours: Available for appointments before and after class;
please e-mail to arrange a meeting.

To access your course material, please go to <http://mytyndale.ca>

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Effective cross-cultural communication involves the acquisition of sound communication skills coupled with an understanding of the cognitive processes of western and non-western peoples. Explores how people in different cultures learn their own culture and process new information and ideas. The student will study how the message of the Gospel can be made meaningful and significant to people of other cultures.

Communicator and receptor, form and meaning, message and media, verbal and non-verbal communication will all be discussed in this course. The difficulties encountered in Intercultural communication and the problem of overcoming them will also be studied in the light of biblical principles. Role playing, video, interactive activities, case studies, and discussion will be used to highlight some difficulties in cross-cultural communication.

II. LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of the course students will:

- understand the process of intercultural communication
- be aware of how their own cultural values influence communication

- understand cultural differences and how they impact communication
- appreciate the adaptation process of entering another cultural context
- have some skills for effective in intercultural relationships
- develop skills for handling intercultural conflict
- have developed self-awareness regarding his/her intercultural leadership capacity
- be able to articulate a biblical theology of cultural diversity, and offer insights on the intersection of multicultural social theory and Christian theology

III. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A. **REQUIRED TEXTS – Class Readings See page 6**

- Branson, Mark Lau and Juan F. Martinez. Churches, Cultures and Leadership. Downers Grove, Illinois: IVP Academic, 2011
- Thomas David C. and Kerr Inkson. Cultural Intelligence: People Skills for Global Business. San Francisco: Berrett-Koehler, 2003
- Course handouts on key topics will be placed on mytyndale web site for this course
- Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI) \$10 to be paid in class

B. **ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING**

1. **Class attendance & Participation - 10%**

Students are expected to attend all classes and actively participate in class discussions

2. **Class presentation on critical contextualization - 20%**

Due Date: 24th January 2013

- This will be a small group presentation on the last afternoon of class
- Read Paul Hiebert's article "Critical Contextualization"
- Your group should choose a cross-cultural case study that presents a cross-cultural, contextual incident
- Using the "Critical Contextual" approach show how you would address this critical incident and what possible solution might honour both the local culture as well as fidelity to the Word of God
- Write a 5 page reflection paper describing how you applied the Critical Contextual approach and what conclusions you reached.

3. **Personal Reflection and Self-Awareness - 30%**

Due date: 21th February 2013

- Identify your present location on the IDI continuum and, using insights and materials encountered in this course, describe the factors that have influenced your development to this point.

- Students are expected to write a paper of *8 pages* in which they, additionally, reflect on one intercultural incident from their experience that illustrates a certain location along the continuum. Reflect on this experience using the describe/interpret/evaluate (DIE) device introduced in the course.
- Evaluation of this incident should include an informal interview to check insights against reality. Please indicate possible steps forward that would aid in developing intercultural competence.

4. Research paper

- 40%

Due Date: 10th March 2013

Length: 10 – 12 pages, double-spaced. Research Topics may include the following:

- Cross-cultural challenges facing refugees in Canada
- Reaching International Students living in Canada
- The missionary and the cross-cultural adjustment process
- Challenges facing the Intentional Multi-Cultural Church in Canada
- Folk religion and its impact on Christian discipleship
- Challenges facing 1.5 & 2nd generation immigrants
- Effective Communication of the gospel in a Post-Modern context
- Other topics approved by the instructor

This research paper should reflect the following:

- Research from key library resources and literature on your chosen topic.
 - Research through personal interviews
 - Clear thesis statement as to the objective of the research paper
 - Integration of key intercultural principles discussed in class
 - Understanding of the barriers and bridges in communicating the gospel
- Format: The essay must be a standard essay, with introduction (including thesis statement), body and conclusion. Use 12-point font and standard 1-inch margins. Number each page except the first. For proper citation style, consult the [Chicago-Style Quick Guide](#) (Tyndale e-resource) or the full edition of the [Chicago Manual of Style Online](#), especially [ch. 14](#).

C. GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR THE SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN WORK

Academic Integrity

Integrity in academic work is required of all our students. Academic dishonesty is any breach of this integrity, and includes such practices as cheating (the use of unauthorized material on tests and examinations), submitting the same work for different classes without permission of the

instructors; using false information (including false references to secondary sources) in an assignment; improper or unacknowledged collaboration with other students, and plagiarism. Tyndale University College & Seminary takes seriously its responsibility to uphold academic integrity, and to penalize academic dishonesty.

Students should consult the current *Academic Calendar* for academic policies on Academic Honesty, Gender Inclusive Language in Written Assignments, Late Papers and Extensions, Return of Assignments and Grading System. The *Academic Calendar* is posted at <http://tyndale.ca/registrar/calendar/2010-2011>.

D. SUMMARY OF ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Class attendance & Participation	10%
Class presentation and 5 page paper	20%
Personal Reflection Paper on IDA	30%
Research Paper	40 %
Total Grade	100 %

IV. COURSE SCHEDULE (TENTATIVE)

- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| <p>1. Overview of Intercultural Communication
Trends leading to Intercultural communication
Making sense of multiculturalism: social theory and theology
Developing a theology of cultural diversity
Administer Intercultural Inventory Development (IDI)</p> | <p>Day One</p> |
| <p>2. Acquiring intercultural skills
Intercultural Development Inventory
Describe, Interpret, Evaluate (DIS)
Cultural Self Awareness
Ethnocentrism, Prejudice & Stereotypes
Two Models of Culture</p> | <p>Day Two</p> |
| <p>3. Becoming an interculturally competent leader
Owning our cultural identity
Cross-cultural value orientations
Profile of a Multicultural, Interculturally-Competent Church</p> | <p>Day Three</p> |
| <p>4. Exploring Cultural Worldviews
Animistic worldview
Communicating the Gospel Cross Culturally
Non Verbal Communication</p> | <p>Day Four</p> |

5. The Gospel and Culture
Contextualizing the Gospel

Day Five

Reading Resources to be read in preparation for each Class

Readings for Day 1 class

Churches, Cultures & Leadership	pages 11- 58
Cultural Intelligence	1-39
Critical Contextualization - Paul Hiebert	

Readings for Day 2 class

Churches, Cultures and Leadership	59 – 77, 170- 185
Cultural Intelligence	40-79

Sheffield, “Can Multicultural Social Theory Help Us in Leading Multicultural Congregations?” Evangelical Missiological Society, *volume forthcoming*, 2011.

Readings for Day 3 Class

Churches, Cultures & Leadership	78 – 94, 132 - 169
Cultural Intelligence	122 - 161

Readings for Day 4 Class

Churches, Cultures and Leadership	97 – 113 , 189 – 209
Cultural Intelligence	80 - 121
Animism	

Readings for Day 5 Class

Class Presentation

V. SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY:

- Augsburger, David. [Conflict Mediation Across Cultures](#). Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox, 1992.
- Bellah, Robert N., R. Madsen, W.M. Sullivan, A. Swidler and S.M. Tipton. [Habits of the Heart](#). New York: Harper and Row, 1985.
- Bosch, David J. *Transforming Mission: Paradigm Shifts in Theology of Mission*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1991.
- Elmer, Duane H. [Cross-Cultural Conflict: Building Relationships for Effective Ministry](#). Downers Grove, IL: Intervarsity Press, 1993.
- Engel, James F. *Contemporary Christian Communications: Its Theory and Practice*. Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson, 1979.
- _____. *Getting Your Message Across*. Bloomingdale, IL: Media Associates International, 1988.
- Hall, Edward. [Beyond Culture](#). New York: Anchor Books, 1976.
- _____. *The Hidden Dimension*. Reprint, New York: Anchor, 1969.
- _____ and Mildred R. Hall. [Understanding Cultural Differences: Germans, French and Americans](#). Yarmouth, ME: Intercultural Press, 1989.
- Hess, J. Daniel. *The Whole World Guide to Culture Learning*. Yarmouth, ME: Intercultural Press, 1994 (see also [1997abridged edition](#)).
- Hesselgrave, David J. *Communicating Christ Cross-Culturally: An Introduction to Missionary Communication*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1991.
- Hiebert, Paul G. *Anthropological Insights for Missionaries*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1985.
- _____. *Anthropological Reflections on Missiological Issues*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1994.
- Kraft, Charles H. *Anthropology for Christian Witness*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1996.
- _____. *Christian Theory for Christian Witness*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1996.
- Lingenfelter, Sherwood. *Transforming Culture: A Challenge for Christian Mission*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1998.
- _____. *Ministering Cross-Culturally*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 2003.
- Mayers, Marvin K. [Christianity Confronts Culture: A Strategy for Cross-Cultural Evangelism](#). Grand Rapids, MI: Academic Books, 1987.
- Myers, Bryant L. *Walking with the Poor: Principles and Practices of Transformational Development*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1999.
- Newbigin, Lesslie. [The Gospel in a Pluralistic Society](#). Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1989.
- Samovar, L.A. and R.E. Porter. *Intercultural Communication: A Reader*. 9th ed. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Inc, 2000.
- Smith, Donald K. [Creating Understanding: A Handbook for Christian Communications Across Cultural Landscapes](#). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1992.
- Stewart, Edward C., and Milton J. Bennett. [American Cultural Patterns: A Cross-Cultural Perspective](#). Yarmouth, ME: Intercultural Press, 1991.
- Storti, Craig. [Figuring Foreigners Out](#). Yarmouth, ME: Intercultural Press, 1999.
- _____. [The Art of Crossing Cultures](#). Yarmouth, ME: Intercultural Press, 1990.

Taylor, William D., ed. *Global Missiology for the 21st Century: The Iguassu Dialogue*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 2000.

ANIMISM

Burnett, David. *Unearthly Powers*. Eastbourne: MARC, 1988.

Hiebert, Paul G., R. Daniel Shaw, and Tite Tienou. *Understanding Folk Religion: A Christian Response to Popular Beliefs and Practices*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 1999.

Love, Rick. [*Muslims, Magic and the Kingdom of God*](#). Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 2000.

Moreau, A. Scott, ed. *Deliver Us from Evil: An Uneasy Frontier in Christian Mission*. Monrovia, CA: World Vision Publications, 2002.

Steyne, Philip M. *Gods of Power*. Houston, TX: Touch Publications, 1989.

Van Rheenen, Gailyn. [*Communicating Christ in Animistic Contexts*](#). Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 1996.

ISLAM

Chapman, Colin. *Cross and Crescent: Responding to the Challenge of Islam*. Leicester: Inter-Varsity Press, 1995.

Cragg, Kenneth. *The Call of the Minaret*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1956.

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_____. *Islam from Within: Anthology of a Religion*. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Publishing Company, 1980.

_____. *Jesus and the Muslim: An Exploration*. London: George Allen and Unwin, 1985.

_____. [*The Arab Christian: History in the Middle East*](#). Louisville, KY: Knox, 1991.

Dretke, James. *A Christian Approach to Muslims: Reflections from West Africa*. Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 1979.

Jomier, Jacques. *How to Understand Islam*. New York: Crossroad, 1991.

Livingstone, Greg. *Planting Churches in Muslim Cities: A Team Approach*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 1993.

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McCurry, Don, ed. *The Gospel and Islam: A 1978 Compendium*. Monrovia, CA: MARC, 1979.

Musk, Bill. [*The Unseen Face of Islam: Sharing the Gospel with the Ordinary Muslim*](#). Rev'd ed. London: Monarch, 2003.

_____. *Passionate Believing: The "Fundamentalist" Face of Islam*. London: Monarch Publications, 1992.

_____. [*Touching the Soul of Islam: Sharing the Gospel in Muslim Culture*](#). 2nd ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel, 2004.

Nazir-Ali, Michael. *Frontiers in Muslim-Christian Encounter*. Oxford: Regnum Books, 1987.

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Parshall, Phil. *New Paths in Muslim Evangelism: Evangelical Approaches to Contextualization*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1980.

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_____. [*The Cross and the Crescent: Understanding the Muslim Mind and Heart*](#). Wheaton, IL: Tyndale, 2002.

POSTMODERNISM

Grenz, Stanley J. [*A Primer on Postmodernism*](#). Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1996.

Hunter, George G. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1992.

McGrath, Alister E. [*Intellectuals Don't Need God and other Modern Myths*](#). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1993.

Newbign, Lesslie. [*The Gospel in a Pluralistic Society*](#). Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1989.

Loscaizo, Craig A. [*Apologetic Preaching, Proclaiming Christ to a Postmodern World*](#). Downers Grove, IL: IVP, 2000.

Phillips, Timothy R. and Okholm Dennis L. [*Christian Apologetics in a Postmodern World*](#). Downers Grove, IL: IVP, 1995.

Veith, Gene. [*Postmodern times: A Christian Guide to Contemporary Thought and Culture*](#). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 1994.