



On-Campus Course Syllabus

EMS 550

HISTORY AND THEOLOGY OF MISSIONS

SPRING 2021

Class Information

Day and Time: M 7:30-10:00 PM

Room Number: E211

Contact Information

Instructor Name: J. Scott Bridger, PhD

Instructor Email: sbridger@criswell.edu

Instructor Phone: (O) 214.818.1323; (M) 443.937.3026 (for messaging/texting)

Instructor Office Hours: M 6:00–7:30 PM; W 9:00–11:30AM– by appointment only (phone/zoom)

Course Description and Prerequisites

An advanced study and analysis of major missiological motifs. An examination of the biblical foundation for missions, theological ramifications of cross-cultural communication of the Gospel, strategies for applied missiology, and the historical expansion of Christian missions. The historical survey highlights the modern mission era and draws attention to trends shaping missionary activity in the twenty-first century. (Prerequisite may be taken concurrently: EMS 501)

Course Objectives

1. Construct a canonically shaped and biblically normed theology of mission.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of key persons and events in post-biblical missions history.
3. Demonstrate mastery of the major concepts and terms used in the discipline of missiology.
4. Articulate the challenges involved in communicating the gospel across various boundaries – e.g., cultural, religious, linguistic, etc.
5. Demonstrate knowledge of select issues among majority world Christians in the emerging global theological discourse.

Required Textbooks

Moreau, A. Scott, Gary Corwin, and Gary B. McGee. *Introducing World Missions: A Biblical, Historical, and Practical Survey*. 2nd Edition. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker Academic, 2015. ISBN: 9780801049200.

Tennent, Timothy C. *Theology in the Context of World Christianity: How the Global Church is Influencing the Way We Think About and Discuss Theology*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Zondervan, 2007. ISBN: 9780310275114.

Tucker, Ruth A. *From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya: A Biographical History of Christian Missions*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Zondervan, 2004. ISBN: 9780310239376.

Course Requirements and Assignments

- A. **CLASS PARTICIPATION (10%)**: Throughout the semester, we will read primary source materials in class and engage in discussions. To receive credit for each class attended, students should **record at least 3 “takeaways”** that you garner from each class’s activities, lectures, etc. You will write these on a piece of paper with your name and date at the top and **hand it in to the professor at the end of each class**. Absences, whether excused or not, will negatively impact your grade since you’re not present to participate.
- B. **READING QUIZZES (30%)**: A 10-15 question quiz will be administered via Canvas each week to determine the student’s comprehension and mastery of the required reading assignments (see schedule below). All quizzes are open so that you can work ahead; however, you must complete the assigned reading and corresponding quiz **by midnight on the evening before class** according to the schedule. The quizzes are **open book, but they are timed**. Thus, there will be **no make-up quizzes**, but your **two** lowest grades will be dropped. The quizzes cover the Moreau and Tucker books only.
- C. **TENNENT REFLECTIVE SUMMARIES (20%)**: During the designated week in the schedule, students will read four chapters from Tennent’s book. After reading the assigned chapters, you are to write four **single-spaced 2 page** reflective summaries for each of the chapters (i.e, four separate 2 page summaries). The reflective summaries should contain each of the following three elements clearly marked with headings: (1) content summary, (2) positive evaluation and negative evaluations, and (3) application. No cover page is necessary, but you should include your name and the chapter number at the top. The positive and negative evaluations as well as the application are designed to be areas where you offer your own critical reflections on the reading material. No footnotes are necessary, but please put page numbers in parentheses when quoting. Additionally, each student will be assigned a chapter and lead the class in a discussion of the material. The summaries must be **combined into one PDF document** (see YouTube if you don’t know how to do this) and **uploaded to Canvas by midnight on the evening before class** according to the schedule.
- D. **MID-TERM EXAM (20%)**: Students are required to complete a mid-term exam covering the first half of the course during the scheduled time. See Canvas for details.
- E. **FINAL EXAM (20%)**: Students are required to complete a final exam covering the second half of the course during the scheduled time. See Canvas for details.

Class Attendance

Students are responsible for enrolling in courses for which they anticipate being able to attend every class session on the day and time appearing on course schedules, and then making every effort to do so. When unavoidable situations result in absence or tardiness, students are responsible for acquiring any information missed. Instructors are not obliged to allow students to make up missed work. Per their independent discretion, individual instructors may determine how attendance affects students’ ability to meet course learning objectives and whether attendance affects course grades.

Grading Scale

Assigning grade definitions (i.e., above average, average, below average) is optional. Please delete the last column below if not assigning definitions. Additionally, delete these instructions when completing syllabus.

			Grade Definitions (optional)
A	93-100	4.0 grade points per semester hour	
A-	90-92	3.7 grade points per semester hour	
B+	87-89	3.3 grade points per semester hour	
B	83-86	3.0 grade points per semester hour	
B-	80-82	2.7 grade points per semester hour	
C+	77-79	2.3 grade points per semester hour	
C	73-76	2.0 grade points per semester hour	
C-	70-72	1.7 grade points per semester hour	
D+	67-69	1.3 grade points per semester hour	
D	63-66	1.0 grade point per semester hour	
D-	60-62	0.7 grade points per semester hour	
F	0-59	0.0 grade points per semester hour	

Incomplete Grades

Students requesting a grade of Incomplete (I) must understand that incomplete grades may be given only upon approval of the faculty member involved. An "I" may be assigned only when a student is currently passing a course and in situations involving extended illness, serious injury, death in the family, or employment or government reassignment, not student neglect.

Students are responsible for contacting their instructors prior to the end of the semester, plus filing the appropriate completed and approved academic request form with the Registrar's Office. The "I" must be removed (by completing the remaining course requirements) no later than 60 calendar days after the close of the term or semester in which the grade was awarded, or the "I" will become an "F."

Academic Honesty

Absolute truth is an essential belief and basis of behavior for those who believe in a God who cannot lie and forbids falsehood. Academic honesty is the application of the principle of truth in the classroom setting. Academic honesty includes the basic premise that all work submitted by students must be their own and any ideas derived or copied from elsewhere must be carefully documented.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to:

- cheating of any kind,
- submitting, without proper approval, work originally prepared by the student for another course,
- plagiarism, which is the submitting of work prepared by someone else as if it were his own, and
- failing to credit sources properly in written work.

Institutional Assessment

Material submitted by students in this course may be used for assessment of the college's academic programs. Since programmatic and institutional assessment is done without reference to specific students, the results of these assessments have no effect on a student's course grade or academic standing at the college. Before submitting a student's work for this type of assessment, the course instructor redacts the work to remove anything that identifies the student.

Institutional Email Policy

All official college email communications to students enrolled in this course will be sent exclusively to students' institutional email accounts. Students are expected to check their student email accounts regularly and to respond in an appropriate and timely manner to all communications from faculty and administrative departments.

Students are permitted to setup automatic forwarding of emails from their student email accounts to one or more personal email accounts. The student is responsible to setup and maintain email forwarding without assistance from college staff. If a student chooses to use this forwarding option, he/she will continue to be responsible for responding appropriately to all communications from faculty and administrative departments of the college. Criswell College bears no responsibility for the use of emails that have been forwarded from student email accounts to other email accounts.

Disabilities

Criswell College recognizes and supports the standards set forth in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, and similar state laws, which are designed to eliminate discrimination against qualified individuals with disabilities. Criswell College is committed to making reasonable accommodations for qualifying students, faculty, and employees with disabilities as required by applicable laws. For more information, please contact the Student Services Office.

Intellectual Property Rights

Unless otherwise specifically instructed in writing by the instructor, students must neither materially nor digitally reproduce materials from any course offered by Criswell College for or with the significant possibility of distribution.

Resources and Supports

Canvas and SONIS: Criswell College uses Canvas as its web-based learning tool and SONIS for student data. Students needing assistance with Canvas should contact the Canvas Help Support line at (844) 358-6140. Tech support is available at this number, twenty-four hours a day. Students needing help with SONIS should contact the Campus Software Manager at studenttechsupport@criswell.edu.

Student Services: The Student Services Office exists to foster and encourage success in all areas of life—physical, intellectual, spiritual, social, and emotional. Students are encouraged to reach out for assistance by contacting the office at 214.818.1332 or studentservices@criswell.edu. Pastoral and certified counseling services are also available to Criswell students. Appointments are scheduled through the Dean of Students, at deanofstudents@criswell.edu.

Wallace Library: Students can access academic resources and obtain research assistance by contacting or visiting the Wallace Library, which is located on campus. For more information, email the Wallace Library at library@criswell.edu. Offsite login information is available in Canvas in the “Criswell Student Training Course” under “Library Information.”

Tutoring Center: Students are encouraged to consult with tutors to improve and enhance their skills and confidence in any subject matter taught at the college. Tutors have been recommended by the faculty to ensure that the tutor(s) are qualified to serve the student body. Every tutor brings experience and expertise in an effort to provide the proper resources for the subject matter at hand. To consult with a tutor, students can visit the Tutoring Center located on the second floor in room E203, or schedule an appointment by emailing tutoringcenter@criswell.edu or by calling 214.818.1373.

Course Outline/Calendar

	DATE	ASSIGNMENTS (M=Moreau; T=Tucker; N=Tennent; DBs=Discussion Boards)	DUE DATE
Week 1	Jan 18	MLK DAY – NO CLASS	
Week 2: Biblical Theology of Mission	Jan 25	Introduction to the Course Quiz # 1: M (Pref, 1); T (Pref, 1)	Midnight 1/24
Week 3: Biblical Theology of Mission	Feb 1	Quiz # 2: M (2); T (2)	Midnight 1/31
Week 4: Biblical Theology of Mission	Feb 8	Quiz #3: M (3); T (3-4)	Midnight 2/7
Week 5: Biblical Theology of Mission	Feb 15	Quiz #4: M (4-5); T (5)	Midnight 2/14
Week 6: Historical Paradigms	Feb 22	Quiz #5: M (6); T (6)	Midnight 2/21
Week 7: Historical Paradigms	Mar 1	Quiz #6: M (7); T (7)	Midnight 2/28
Week 8: Historical Paradigms	Mar 8	Quiz #7: M (8); T (8)	Midnight 3/7
Week 9	Mar 15	SPRING BREAK	
Week 10	Mar 22	MID-TERM EXAM	Midnight 3/22
Week 11: Issues in Global Christian Discourse	Mar 29	Reading: N (1-3, 10) Be prepared for in-class, student-led discussions	Midnight 3/28
Week 12: Contemporary Issues	Apr 5	Quiz #8: M (9-11); T (9-10)	Midnight 4/4
Week 13: Contemporary Issues	Apr 12	Quiz #9: M (12-13); T (11-12)	Midnight 4/11
Week 14: Contemporary Issues	Apr 19	Quiz #10: M (14-15); T (13-14)	Midnight 4/18
Week 15: Contemporary Issues	Apr 26	Quiz #11: M (16-17); T (15-16)	Midnight 4/25
Week 16: Contemporary Issues	May 3	Quiz #12: M (18-19); T (17-18)	Midnight 5/2
Week 17	May 10	FINAL EXAM	Midnight 5/10



HISTORY AND THEOLOGY OF MISSIONS

In the event that Criswell College has to close the campus to on-campus classes in during the SP21 semester, this addendum specifies how your instructor intends to adjust the course in order to allow students to meet the course objectives.

The course requirements, assignments, calendar, and attendance requirements from the syllabus for this course are replicated below. Notes and changes to the information in syllabus are highlighted. Information that is no longer relevant is indicated with a strike through the font and replacement or new information is placed in italics.

Course Requirements and Assignments

- A. **PARTICIPATION (10%)**: Throughout the semester, we will read primary source materials in class and engage in discussions. To receive credit for each class attended, students should **record at least 3 “takeaways”** that you garner from each class’s activities, lectures, etc. ~~You will write these on a piece of paper with your name and date at the top and hand it in to the professor at the end of each class.~~ *These should be emailed to the professor immediately after the end of the class on Zoom.* Absences, whether excused or not, will negatively impact your grade since you’re not present to participate.

Class Attendance

Attendance and participation requirements are the same except that we will meet via Zoom.

Remote Class Sessions: Identity and Participation Verification

All students are required to meet at the regularly scheduled time on Zoom (the professor will provide that information on Canvas). Your video should be on and voice muted (except when engaging in class discussions and/or answering questions). Students who have technology challenges (bandwidth issues, etc.) or need technological accommodations should contact the professor directly to ensure they are able to participate fully in the course.