



MISS6343 Intercultural Communication of the Gospel
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Division of Church Ministry
Spring 2023 (Tu/Th 8-9:20a) Flex Option

Dr. Gregory Mathias
Associate Professor of Missions
Director, Global Missions Center
Global Missions Center
504.816.8063
gmathias@nobts.edu

<p>Course Grader Victoria Dixon assocreg@nobts.edu</p>

Mission Statement

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College prepare servants to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.

Course Description

This course involves a study of the dynamics of communicating the Christian faith interculturally. Attention is given to techniques for understanding culture and worldview, and to the relationship of culture to the gospel, evangelism, discipleship, and other concerns of the Christian faith.

This course addresses all curriculum competencies.

Student Learning Outcomes

In order to help prepare servants, the students, by the end of the course, should:

1. The student will develop an understanding of culture and worldview by defining these terms.
2. The student will appreciate key cultural traits of other cultures.
3. The student will demonstrate the ability to describe the worldview of a people group with whom they may be involved in present or future ministry.
4. The student will develop a model for communication and sharing the gospel in culturally appropriate ways to people groups in other cultures.

Course Teaching Methodology

A variety of teaching methods will be utilized such as class presentations by the professor using Power Point and handouts. Other teaching methods include small and large group discussion, multi-media presentations, utilization of missions related websites, and other communication mediums. A Canvas shell for the class will be utilized extensively as a resource for students. Students will be expected to be thoroughly prepared for class discussions through readings and the Canvas weekly unit supplements.

Textbooks

In addition to the Bible as a course text, the following are required:

Elmer, Duane. *Cross-Cultural Connections: Stepping Out and Fitting in Around the World*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2002.

Georges, Jayson. *The 3D Gospel: Ministry in Guilt, Shame, and Fear Cultures*. Timē Press, 2016.

Moreau, A. Scott, Evvy Hay Campbell, Susan Greener. *Effective Intercultural Communication*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2014.

Schultze, Quentin J. *Communicating With Grace and Virtue*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2020.

Various articles as provided via Canvas.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. **Course Lectures** – Each student is expected to attend and participate in all course lectures.
2. **Required Reading** – Each student is responsible to have completed assigned course texts and/or articles as required according to the course schedule.

- a. The student will read *Cross-Cultural Connections: Stepping Out and Fitting in Around the World*. A **single-spaced report is due, via Canvas, on February 10, 2023 by 11:55pm**. The report should include a title page (NOBTS preferred format, see attached example), a bibliographical entry (top of page one), a declarative sentence indicating the percentage of the book that the student read (failure to provide this information will result in a 50% assumption and will be reflected in the grading), a brief summary of the entire book (1 page), an interactive answering of discussion questions, and a concluding paragraph indicating the student's personal evaluation of the book. The major portion of this report will be interactive in focus so first person is acceptable for a majority of the paper. The student will answer one discussion question from each of the twenty-one chapters. At least one paragraph should be written for each of the questions. The chapter title and question should be given before the answer. Example: Chapter 1: Monkeys, Mission and Us Question #2: Have you seen anyone act like the monkey? Have you ever acted like the monkey? What was the result? Answer...

NOTE: Failure to read the entire book will result in a penalty equal to the amount not read. Example: if a student reads 80% of the book, the grade will be lowered by 20 points.

- b. The student will read *The 3D Gospel: Ministry in Guilt, Shame, and Fear Cultures*. A **single-spaced reflection is due, via Canvas, on March 3, 2023 by 11:55pm**. There is no need for a title page. This is a reflection paper. Do include your name, bibliographic information, and a declarative sentence at the top of the paper. After reading the book, there are discussion and reflection questions at the end of the text.

Students will provide brief, clear, and substantive answers to the first discussion question under the heading “Theology (ch3),” and the first two discussion questions under the heading, “Ministry (ch 4).”

NOTE: The same reading % guidelines apply. Also, if you do not have a relevant ministry context, you can substitute question #3 under “Ministry” and one other discussion question from the list.

3. Students will be split into 2 groups to present on the text, *Communicating with Grace and Virtue*. Group 1 will teach the class thru chs.1-4 and Group 2 will teach the class thru chs. 4-8. For the group session, a handout should be provided to the class with key teaching points and quotes from each chapter. Additionally, each student should submit a signed reading % and group participation statement. More details to come in class. **These class teaching sessions with take place on March 28 and March 30.**
4. Each student will prepare a 3-5 minute video presentation on how to communicate the gospel to another people group or cultural subgroup based upon CCC methods and principles. The student should incorporate at least 2 of the 7 Dimensions of CCC. The student should consider all of the dimensions, but only needs to highlight 2 (or more) for the presentation. It should be a creative presentation. **The presentation will be presented in class beginning April 20, 2023.**
 - a. In this presentation, feel free to include the following:
 - i. Information on the country, city, people, subgroup, etc. that is helpful in giving context as well as in dealing with the dimensions of ICC.
 - ii. Also address these questions:
 1. “What have I learned about intercultural communication?”
 2. “What are a few of the biggest lessons God taught me about loving Him and loving neighbor?”
 3. “How you will cultivate an ongoing missional lifestyle.”
 - iii. Be creative in your video presentations!
5. The student will take a final examination via Canvas, which can include questions based upon readings, lectures, and other materials shared in class.

EXAMPLE FOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL ENTRY & DECLARATIVE SENTENCE

Bibliographical Entry

Elmer, Duane. *Cross-Cultural Connections: Stepping Out and Fitting in Around the World*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2002.

Declarative Sentence Entry

On my honor and with a clear conscience, I read (number) % of the assigned book for the book review. (include name after)

EVALUATION/GRADING:

Assignments for this course will be evaluated according to the following criteria. However, please refer to the grading rubrics for each assignment, posted on Canvas.

1. Does the work illustrate the student's grasp of basic concepts, definitions, and principles related to...?
2. Does the student demonstrate clear and specific interaction with the assigned reading material and class discussion?
3. Is there evidence of the student's personal reflection on the topics discussed? Does the work illustrate the student's independent research and learning?
4. Does the work reflect the student's responsibility to prepare both academically and practically (i.e., has the student attempted to apply the material to his/her ministry setting or to the local church in general)?
5. Does the work fulfill the assignment by the required date? Because ministry itself demands discipline, students are expected to meet established deadlines for submitted work.
6. Is the assignment written at a level appropriate for master's level work? Does the work follow proper style?

COURSE GRADING WEIGHT:

Course Reading/Participation/Teaching	20%
CCC Book Assignment	20%
3D Reflection	20%
ICC Video Presentation	20%
Final Exam	20%

COURSE GRADING:

Grading for the course will follow the guidelines in the NOBTS Academic Policies: A = 93-100; B = 85-92; C = 77-84; D = 70-76; F = below 70.

Technical Assistance

For assistance regarding technology, consult ITC (504-816-8180) or the following websites:

1. www.NOBTS.edu/itc/- Email for general technical questions/support requests.
2. Selfserve@nobts.edu- Email technical questions/support requests with the Selfserve.nobts.edu or My.nobts.edu site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, Faculty portal, etc.)
3. Canvas@nobts.edu Click on the "Help" button for technical questions/support requests regarding the NOBTS Canvas System. You can also email questions to Canvas.nobts.edu / nobts.instructure.com.
4. Bluejeanshelpdesk@nobts.edu - Email technical questions/support requests with Bluejeans and NOBTS Bluejeans classrooms (On and Off-Campus).
5. TelephoneHelpDesk@nobts.edu- Email technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Nextiva Phone system.
6. [504.816.8180](tel:504.816.8180) - Call for any technical questions/support requests. (Currently available Mon-Thurs 7:00am-9:00pm & Fri 7:00-7:00pm Central Time).

Attendance

Students are expected to attend all classes. Absence of more than 9 hours will result in a failing grade. Any student missing 6 or more hours of class will receive a one letter grade reduction in his or her grade. Tardiness will impact grades. Three tardies will be considered as one hour's absence. In the event that the normal NOBTS schedule is impacted due to a natural event or epidemic go to the seminary website for information. Our class will continue through our Canvas site. Please note announcements and assignments on the Canvas site in the event one or more of our classes is cancelled.

Academic Integrity

Each student is responsible for the academic integrity of his/her work. The following are examples of violations of academic integrity: cheating on an exam, plagiarism, turning in work done by someone else, and submitting a paper which has been submitted in another class. These and other violations of academic integrity may result in failure of the course.

Help for Writing Papers at "The Write Stuff"

NOBTS maintains a Writing Center designed to improve English writing at the graduate level. Students can receive writing guides, tips, and valuable information to help in becoming a better writer.

Plagiarism on Written Assignments

NOBTS has a no tolerance policy for plagiarism. Plagiarism in certain cases may result in expulsion from the seminary. See the NOBTS Student Handbook for definition, penalties, and policies associated with plagiarism.

Writing Style Guide

Writing assignments should follow the NOBTS/Leavell College Manual of Form and Style (revised August 2019). A copy of the approved NOBTS Style Guide can be found in the course Blackboard shell, or can be located online at the Writing Center's page on the seminary website at https://www.nobts.edu/_resources/pdf/writing/StyleGuide.pdf

Reading and Assignment Schedule (subject to change at professor's discretion)

Cross-Cultural Connections (*CCC*)
The 3D Gospel (*3D*)
Communicating With Grace (*CWG*)
Effective Intercultural Communication (*EIC*)

Class Meeting Week	Reading/Assignments
Jan 17	
Jan 24	Read <i>CCC</i> <i>EIC</i> , pp. 1-52 NOBTS TOWN HALL
Jan 31	Read <i>CCC</i> <i>EIC</i> , pp. 53-82
Feb 7	<i>CCC</i> report due (2/10)
Feb 14	Read <i>EIC</i> , pp. 83-110
Feb 21	Read <i>3D</i>
Feb 28	Read <i>EIC</i> , pp. 111-153 3D Reflection Due (3/3) GLOBAL MISSIONS WEEK
Mar 7	Read <i>CWG</i>
Mar 14 (SB)	<i>Spring Break</i>
March 21	Read <i>CWG</i>
March 28	<i>CWG</i> Teaching Sessions
Apr 4	Read <i>EIC</i> , pp. 154-210
Apr 11	Read <i>EIC</i> , pp. 211-269 APRIL 13 SERVE DAY
Apr 19	Presentations in Class
April 25	Read <i>EIC</i> , pp. 270-314 Presentations in Class Cont'd.
May 2	Read <i>EIC</i> , pp. 315-358
May 4-10	Final Exam (May 9th)

THE TITLE OF THE PAPER

A Book Report [or term paper or whatever]

Presented to

Professor's Name

in partial fulfillment of the requirements for
class number and class name

Student Name

School Name

Date