ME 5000 | INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIAN MISSIONS:
Perspectives on the World Christian Movement

2 sem. hrs.

I. Course Description

A biblical, historical, cultural, and strategic perspective on God’s global purpose and the world Christian movement. The course examines the biblical rationale and imperative for world evangelization, the unique problems involved in communicating the gospel cross-culturally, and the expansion of the Christian movement across the world from the time of Christ to the present. The course will survey the missionary task yet to be accomplished and the basic components for strategic and intelligent planning necessary to complete it.

II. Course Objectives

Provide the minimum necessary perspective for effective participation in the complex tasks of world evangelization and international development.

Explore new avenues and opportunities available for obedience to God’s imperative for involvement in world missions from home or abroad.

III. Course Materials


IV. Course Requirements

A. Complete all readings and quizzes in Perspectives: Study Guide and Perspectives: A Reader. Complete all assignments for "graduate credit," which include quizzes at the completion of each lesson, located in the back of the Study Guide. The student must complete both the quiz and the personal response for each lesson.

B. A midterm must be taken after the lesson eight (8) and a final after the lesson fifteen (15). Exams are closed book, and will be administered via a proctor.

C. Participation is required in the discussion areas of TriNet. Thoughtful responses should be given to at least one question in each discussion area, and responses to the comments of other students are encouraged.

D. Two projects must be completed from the following list. No more than 1 project may be completed from each section.
1. **Section 1**

Was Israel given a mandate in the Old Testament to spread the gospel to other nations? Discuss the range of answers that have been proposed or conclusions which have been made concerning this question. Share your own conclusions based on scriptural data on the world-wide missionary mandate in the Old Testament. Discuss the relationship of the Bible to missions and missions to the Bible. Is God’s missionary concern the central focus of the Bible? If so, why have so few Christians seen it, and how can this message be more widespread?

Discuss the apostle Paul’s missionary calling, his preparation, missionary strategy and ministry, and what modern day missionaries can learn from him.

Discuss, explain, and differentiate between the two structures, explained in lesson 5, which God has always used in His redemptive work in the world. Indicate how this double structure of the Church relates to the task remaining in frontier missions.

Do an in-depth study on the life and work of one of four pioneers mentioned in Winter’s article, “Four Men, Three Eras, Two Transitions: Modern Missions” (pp. 253-261 in Perspectives: A Reader). Indicate what you have personally profited from studying the pioneer’s life and ministry and how other missions minded Christians could benefit as well.

2. **Section 2**

Develop a People Profile on an unreached people group. It is important that your research is as accurate and current as possible.

Outline the steps you would take and resources you would utilize in order to create a greater awareness of, and vision for, frontier missions in your local church. What would be necessary for your church to become effective in penetrating an unreached people group?

Write a report on one of the megasphere peoples of a region, e.g. the Muslims of North Africa, Hindus of South India, Buddhists of Thailand, or tribal peoples of China. Discuss some possible ways to evangelize and plant indigenous churches among them.

Write a paper on the theme “Strategy to Reach the Unreached.” Identify and discuss the key factors to be considered including the “people movement” concept, the Engel Scale, and the spiritual dimensions of the task.
3. **Section 3**

Discuss the role of missionaries as change agents, the dynamics of this role, the biblical justification for it, and the purpose and process of being an agent of change.

Describe the contextualization process of one of the following passages: Deut. 6:1-12; Matt. 22:17-21; Mark 7:1-9; Acts 15:1-21; 1 Cor. 7:17-19. Define the principle being taught, indicate how it was contextualized into that culture, and then illustrate how it should be contextualized into your culture. Finally, describe how the truth or principle might be contextualized in a foreign culture you are familiar with.

Write an article on the theme “Cross-cultural Evangelism and the Completion of the Great Commission.” Use biblical, cultural, and statistical support for your article.

V. **Course Grading**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TriNet Discussion Questions</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams</td>
<td>30% (15% each)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project 1</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project 2</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All assignments should be submitted directly to your Course Tutor using the icon within your TriNet course labeled with your course tutor’s name. Exams should be mailed by your proctor to the address below. Course work may be submitted by mail if necessary.

Distance Education  
Trinity International University  
2065 Half Day Road  
Deerfield, IL 60015

If you have questions related to your assignments, please contact your Course Tutor in TriNet. All other questions should be directed to the Distance Education office (email or 847-317-6554).