4DM803 INTERCULTURAL LEADERSHIP
Summer 2010
Professor: S. H. Larsen, D.Min., Ph.D.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

3 hours. Addresses the theory and practice of effective leadership for ministry, including ministry in intercultural contexts. Considers biblical principles and cultural paradigms for organizational development, decision making, strategic planning and goal setting, budgeting, organizing, directing, evaluating, and other administrative and leadership concepts. Focuses especially upon pastoral leadership skills necessary for a local church and for multi-cultural ministry teams.

Professor of Record:

Sam Larsen is the Samuel Patterson Professor of Missions and Evangelism and has taught Missions and Intercultural Studies at Reformed Theological Seminary (RTS) since 1998. He has a Doctor of Ministry from RTS and a PhD in Intercultural Studies from Trinity International University. He brings together life experience both as a missionary in Kenya and Australia and as a Navy Chaplain and has traveled and taught extensively in North America, South America, Europe, Asia, and Oceania. He has also served as Dean at four campuses or schools.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: Course participants will demonstrate the following competencies:

1. Outline biblical leadership principles and criteria for assessing the health of a local church and its leadership.

2. Reflect upon ways that leadership styles are affected by personal disposition, cultural forces and trends, and by emerging intercultural realities.

3. Relate academic theories of leadership (both Christian and secular) to ministry contexts in ways that are both biblical and useful.

4. Develop an assessment profile to identify potential leaders, leadership strengths and weaknesses, and leadership gaps.

5. Develop a strategy for developing leaders in a specific ministry context.

REQUIRED READING:


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Eims, Leroy. 1982. *Be the leader you were meant to be: Biblical principles of leadership*. Wheaton, Ill.: Victor Books. (132 pp.)


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**ASSESSMENT CRITERIA:**

Class participation, informed by assigned readings.

Major paper. Participants will explore, contextualize, and apply some aspect of leadership theory in an intercultural ministry context. Topics must be pre-approved by the Professor. Papers will be 18–22 pages in length, excluding any appendices and reference list (or bibliography).

**OFFICE HOURS:** Dr. Larsen is available outside of class hours by appointment or through e-mail (slarsen@rts.edu).