

Ministry in Changing Cultures (2PT710)
Reformed Theological Seminary – Orlando
Winter 2011

Instructor: Bob Orner, Guest Lecturer of Practical Theology.
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Office Hours:

Mondays: 1:30 – 3:30
Tuesdays: 2:30 – 4:00
Wednesdays: 10:00 -12:00
Thursdays: 10:00-12:00

I. Purpose of the Course

This course is designed to help the student comprehend the cultural change that is occurring in North America and present them with the tools to effectively minister in that context. Emphasis will be made on the ethnic and cultural history of North America, present demographic trends, integrating Cultural Intelligence, and developing a Biblical and Theological paradigm for effective ministry.

II. Course Objectives

- A. A Mind for Truth: Transforming Your Understanding.
 - 1. To comprehend and articulate a basic understanding of ethnicity and culture.
 - 2. To understand the unique ethnic and cultural make up of North America.
 - 3. To understand the cultural challenges Peter and Paul faced in their ministry.
 - 4. To understand the cultural barriers to the gospel in North America.

- B. A Heart for God: Transforming Your Affections.
 - 1. To have a heart for the ethnic and cultural mix that God is bringing to North America.
 - 2. To have a deep, personal conviction concerning the biblical priority of reaching every ethnic and cultural group in North America with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

- C. A Life for Ministry: Transforming Your Behavior.
 - 1. To have a personal commitment to build close relationships with those outside your immediate culture.
 - 2. To understand and implement the “Knowledge”, “Awareness”, and “Skills” of “Cultural Intelligence”

III. Course Texts

A. Required

1. Arbinger Institute, *Leadership and Self-Deception: Getting out of the Box*. San Francisco: Berrett-Koehler, 2000, (ISBN 9781576759776).
2. Diggs-Brown, Barbara and Steinhorn, Mark, *By the Color of our Skin*. New York: Penguin, 2000, (9780452278738).
3. Gilbreath, Edward, *Reconciliation Blues: A Black Evangelical's inside View of White Christianity*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2006, (9780830833627).
4. González, Justo I, *Mañana: Christian Theology from a Hispanic Perspective*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1990, (9780687230679).
5. Peterson, Brooks, *Cultural Intelligence: A Guide to Working with People from Other Cultures*. Yarmouth: Intercultural, 2004, (9781931930000).

B. Highly Recommended

1. Carter, Anthony J., *Glory Road: The Journey of Ten African Americans into Reformed Christianity*. Wheaton: Crossway, 2009.
2. Carter, Anthony J., *On Being Black and Reformed: A New Perspective on the African American Experience*. Phillipsburg: P&R, 2003.
3. Conn, Harvie M., *Eternal Word and Changing World: Theology, Anthropology, and Mission in Trialogue*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1993.
4. Earley, Christopher P and Ang, Soon, *Cultural Intelligence: Individual Interactions Across Cultures*. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2003.
5. Emerson, Michael D. and Smith, Christian, *Divided by Faith: Evangelical Religion and the Problem of Race in America*. New York: Oxford Press, 2000.
6. Foster, Charles R., *Embracing Difference: Leading Multicultural Congregations*. Alban Institute, 1997.
7. Hesselgrave, David, *Planting Churches Cross-Culturally*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 2000.
8. Goleman, Daniel, *Emotional Intelligence: Why it can Matter More Than IQ*. New York, NY: Bantam House, 1995.

9. June, Lee N. Ed., *The Black Family: Past, Present, and Future*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1991
10. Johnson, Spencer, *Who Moved My Chess: An Amazing Way to Deal with Change in Your Word and in Your Life*. New York, NY: G.P. Putnam, 1998.
11. Kraft, Charles, *Christianity in Culture: a Study in Dynamic Biblical Theologizing in Cross-cultural Perspective*. Mary Knoll, NY: Orbis, 1997
12. Livingston, David A, *Cultural Intelligence: Improving Your CQ to Engage our Multicultural World*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2009.
13. Montgomery-Fate, Tom, *Beyond the White Noise: Mission in a Multicultural World*. Chalice Press, 1997.

C. Recommended

1. Archdeacon, Thomas J., *Becoming American: An Ethnic History*. New York, NY: The Free Press, 1983.
2. Balds, Wesley D., *Heirs of the Same Promise: Using Acts as a Study Guide for Evangelizing Ethnic America*. Arcadia, CA: National Convocation for Evangelizing America, 1984
3. Conkin, Paul, K. *American Originals: Homemade Varieties of Christianity*. Chapel Hill, NC: The University of North Carolina Press, 1997.
4. Coppa, Frank J. and Thomas J. Curran, Eds., *The Immigrant Experience in America*. Boston, MA: Twayne, 1976.
5. Dinnerstein, Leonard, Roger L. Nicols, and David Reimers., *Natives and Strangers: Ethnic Groups and the Building of America*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 1979.
6. Finke, Roger, and Rodney Stark. *The Churching of America, 1776-1990: Winners and Losers in our Religious Economy*. New Brunswick, RI: Rutgers University Press, 1992.
7. Hatch, Nation O., *The Democratization of American Christianity*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 1989.
8. Newbigin, Leslie, *Foolishness to the Greeks: The Gospel and Western Culture*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1986.
9. Newbigan, Leslie, *The Gospel in a Pluralist Society*. Grand Rapids, MI: Erdmann's, 1989.

10. Sowell, Thomas, *Ethnic America: A History*. New York, NY: Basic Books, 1981.
11. Stott, John, *Christian Mission in the Modern World*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1975.
12. Stott, William R, and William G. Shade eds., *Upon These Shores: Themes in the African American Experience 1600 to the Present*. New York, NY: Rutledge, 2000.
13. Van Engen, Charles, *Mission on the Way: Issues in Mission Theology*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 1996.

IV. Course Requirements

- A. Class Attendance and Participation
 1. This course requires attendance and involvement in the learning process.
 2. Lectures and discussions will be based on the assumption that you have completed all assigned readings before the week of class.

- B. Cultural Intelligence Assignment – **Due February 1, 2011**
 1. Identify and Interact
 - a. Identify a person from outside your cultural context with whom you can meet face to face.
 - b. Look for way to show them hospitality with the goal of being aware of your culture while at the same time learning about theirs. (More details regarding this assignment will be given in class).
 2. Evaluate and Apply: **Write** a 6-8 page double spaced paper that includes:
 - a. The names and descriptions of the people you met with and how you met them.
 - b. Awareness of the other culture: A description of what you learned about the new culture.
 - c. Awareness of Self: A description of what you learned about your own cultural weaknesses and strengths through this interaction.
 - d. Knowledge and Awareness Applied. A description of what you have learned. Skills will only come about as you take what you have learned about a culture, and mix that with increasing self awareness.

- C. Required Reading and Reports
 1. You must thoroughly read the books on the required reading list before the first day of class.
 2. You are required to submit a single page double spaced summary of each book that includes the following:
 - a. An overview of the book.
 - b. A personal reaction to the book.
 - c. An application that you hope to personally apply to your life and ministry.

V. Grading

Grading Scale

Grades will be assigned according to the RTS grading system: 100-97=A, 96-94=A-, 93-91=B+, 90-88=B, 87-86=B-, 85-83=C+, 82-80=C, 79-78=C-, 77-75=D+, 74-72=D, 71-70=D-, below 70=F.

Late Assignments Policy

Please do not ask me for permission to turn in an assignment late. All late assignments will automatically be penalized. If you have truly been providentially hindered from completing an assignment on time (such as a death in the immediate family) please turn in a written request.

Grading Percentages:

- Class Participation (20%)
- Required Reading & Reports (25%)
- Cultural Intelligence Project (25%)
- Final Examination (30%)

VI. Course Schedule

A. Monday: “How we Got Here”

1. Introduction.
2. Defining “ethnicity” and “culture.”
3. The Making of a multi-ethnic and multi-cultured nation.

B. Tuesday: “Analyzing our Perceptions.”

1. Melting Pot or Vegetable Stew?
2. Many Peoples, Many Churches.
3. Democracy and the Church.
4. Two Case Studies:

C. Wednesday: “Biblical Precedence.”

1. Peter
2. The Counsel of Jerusalem.
3. Paul.

D. Thursday: “Preparing for the Future.”

1. A Renewed Vision
2. Understanding the Gospel
3. Developing Cultural Intelligence (CQ)

E. Friday: “Wrapping it Up.”

1. Bringing together the pieces.
2. Final Exam

Objectives Related to MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes

Course: 2PT710

Professor: Dr. Robert H. Orner

Campus: Orlando

Date: Winter 2011

<u>MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes</u>		<u>Rubric</u>	<u>Mini-Justification</u>
<p><i>In order to measure the success of the MDiv curriculum, RTS has defined the following as the intended outcomes of the student learning process. Each course contributes to these overall outcomes. This rubric shows the contribution of this course to the MDiv outcomes.</i></p> <p><i>*As the MDiv is the core degree at RTS, the MDiv rubric will be used in this syllabus.</i></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Strong ➤ Moderate ➤ Minimal ➤ None 	
Articulation (oral & written)	Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks.	Strong	Knowledge of Ministry in Changing cultures will be presented and articulated in both written assignments and a dialogical teaching approach.
Scripture	Significant knowledge of the original meaning of Scripture. Also, the concepts for and skill to research further into the original meaning of Scripture and to apply Scripture to a variety of modern circumstances. (Includes appropriate use of original languages and hermeneutics; and integrates theological, historical, and cultural/global perspectives.)	Moderate	Direct engagement with Scripture in the original languages will not be required. Student will demonstrate suitable use of Scripture and hermeneutical methods in the integration of theological, historical and cultural perspectives.
Reformed Theology	Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.	Moderate	Material will be presented through the grid of Reformed Theology and Practice. Minimal emphasis will be placed on the Westminster Standards.
Sanctification	Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student's sanctification.	Strong	By God's grace and through interaction with the materials and each other, the student will die more to self, and deepen their affection for the Triune God as well as their neighbor.
Desire for Worldview	Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.	Strong	Student will gain a deep understanding of the Mission of God, particularly as it applies to the ethnic and cultural change in North America.
Winsomely Reformed	Embraces a winsomely Reformed ethos. (Includes an appropriate ecumenical spirit with other Christians, especially Evangelicals; a concern to present the Gospel in a God-honoring manner to non-Christians; and a truth-in-love attitude in disagreements.)	Strong	Student reads books by authors that are not Reformed, and discusses the value of ecumenicalism as it applies to cross-cultural ministry.
Preach	Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.	Minimal	Materials will be presented that give the students a better understanding on how to teach and preach cross- culturally.
Worship	Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service.	Minimal	Materials will be presented that give the student a better understanding of the effects of culture on worship.
Shepherd	Ability to shepherd the local congregation: aiding in spiritual maturity; promoting use of gifts and callings; and encouraging a concern for non-Christians, both in America and worldwide.	Moderate	The student will grow in their understanding of the role of a shepherd through a deeper cultural awareness.
Church/World	Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.	Strong	The student will gain an understanding on how to interact with the broader worldwide church, specifically cross-culturally.

Personal Student Information

Please fill this out and turn it in during the first class.

Name:

Spouse name:

Children, name(s) and age(s):

RTS degree program/emphasis:

Years at RTS Orlando:

Church presently attending:

Denomination background (Southern Baptist, PCA, etc.):

Desired future ministry role (pastor, church planter, missionary, counselor, etc.):

What are your expectations of the course? What would you like to learn?

What is a specific, personal prayer request you would like the professor to be remembering in prayer for you this semester?