Introduction to Missions 2MS518 (Fall 2012)

I. Purpose
This course is designed to give you an introductory overview of the world missionary enterprise. The emphasis will be on equipping you to become a world missions leader by developing perspectives that inspire and motivate you to action on behalf of world missions. We will study biblical, historical, strategic, and cultural perspectives relative to world missions.

II. Objectives

A Mind for Truth: Transforming Your Understanding
- To understand and articulate a biblical theology of world missions.
- To understand the priority of world missions in Christian life and ministry.
- To understand the biblical nature and mission of the Church, especially as it relates to starting, growing and reproducing churches as a vital part of the mission of God.
- To understand the biblical, theological, historical, and cultural roots from which contemporary missions have developed.
- To be aware of the varied models and structures used today for the advancement of cross-cultural evangelism.
- To be acquainted with the literature relating to the world missionary enterprise and to think through how it can be used in your life and ministry.
- To understand critical issues and trends in contemporary missions.

A Heart for God: Transforming Your Affections
- To be a World Christian and have a broken heart for the lost, especially for the unreached people groups (nations), the poor, and the persecuted of the world.
- To develop a life-long commitment to pray for missionaries and for the lost.
- To be motivated to take personal action—giving time, talents and treasures, sacrificially and joyfully—toward the advancement of the cause of world missions.

A Life for Ministry: Transforming Your Behavior
- To lay a strong foundation for further study and personal involvement in cross-cultural missions, especially for those planning to become cross-cultural missionaries.
- To lay a strong foundation for understanding, guiding, and promoting missions from a local base, especially for those planning to assume leadership roles in a local church.
- To obtain a set of criteria for evaluating modern missions programs, issues, trends, proposals, and organizations.
III. Format
The course will be taught in 13 three–hour sessions beginning Wednesday, August 22, 2012, and ending Wednesday, November 28, 2012. Classroom sessions will include lecture (including guest lecturers), class interaction, student presentations and reports, video presentations, self-study exercises, and small group interaction. Individual and small group work sessions will be conducted during the class time. Group study outside of class is required.

Office Hours: You can schedule an appointment with Dr. Childers through his administrative assistant, Joyce Sisler, at 407-366-9493 x219 or jsisler@rts.edu. Appointments are normally scheduled on Wednesday from 4:15pm-5:45pm. Additional times may be arranged by contacting Joyce. Your teaching assistant is Aubrey Way, aubrey.way@gmail.com. Please contact Aubrey first for all issues regarding the course. He will refer you to Dr. Childers if necessary.

IV. Course Texts
Required:

Recommended (*Highly Recommended):


**Islamic Studies Recommendations:**


V. Requirements

A. Attendance and Class Participation
This course requires attendance and participation at all class sessions. Class lectures and discussions will be based on the assumption that you have completed all of the assigned readings by the required dates. Class will begin promptly at 8:00 AM. Tardiness, unexcused absence and lack of class participation will impact your final grade.

Your personal class notes must be dated and typed for every class session you attend. There are normally three class sessions for each day of class. These notes will be included as a significant part of your Missions Portfolio (20% of your course grade) which will be turned in at the end of the semester. NOTE: You may cut and paste text from the instructor’s lecture notes (to be provided as Word documents online) into your class notes. Designate the weekly class sessions you attend as such: August 29—Class One, August 29—Class Two, August 29-Class Three. If you miss one of the class sessions (i.e. August 29-Class Three), just omit an entry for that class session.

Example: Week 2
August 29—Class One
Your notes
August 29—Class Two
Your notes
August 29—Class Three
Your notes

B. Reading Assignments (20%)

1. *Let the Nations be Glad* by John Piper (Due October 3) (5%)
   You are required to read this entire book and write a 1-page reading report (single spaced, 12 pt. font) using the format found in the Reading Report found toward the end of this syllabus.

2. *From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya (a biographical history of Christian missions)* by Ruth Tucker (Due November 7) (5%)
   You are required to read any seven chapters (your choice) from Parts I-III of this book. You are then required to write a 1-page reading report (single spaced, 12 pt. font) using the format found in the Reading Report found toward the end of this syllabus.

3. *Encountering Theology of Mission (ETM)* by Craig Ott, et al. (Due December 11) (10%)
   You are required to read selected chapters from this book weekly (one chapter per week—see Section VII: Course Assignment Due Dates) and write a 1-page reading report (single spaced, 12 pt. font) using the format found in the Reading Report found toward the end of this syllabus.

4. *Pathways to Global Understanding* by Meg Crossman, ed. (Graded as part of Final Examination) (Due December 11)
   You are required to read selected articles from this book weekly (one article per week—see Section VII: Course Assignment Due Dates).
You will be asked on the Final Examination to indicate in writing the percentage of these articles you have read thoughtfully (not merely skimmed). There may also be a question on the Final Examination taken from these articles.

5. Islam: A Very Short Introduction by Malise Ruthven (Graded as part of Final Examination) (Due December 11)

You are required to read this entire brief book (6 chapters). You will be asked on the Final Examination to indicate in writing the percentage of this book you have read thoughtfully (not merely skimmed). There may also be a question on the Final Examination taken from this book.

NOTE:
- These reading reports above will not be turned in on the due dates but must be dated on or before the due date (and included in the student’s portfolio notebook due on the last day of finals week) in order to receive full credit.
- To maximize the weekly class learning experience, you are expected to read the assigned weekly readings in: 1) Encountering Theology of Mission (ETM) and 2) Pathways to Global Understanding before attending class each week (see Section VII: Course Assignment Due Dates).

C. Prayer for the Nations (20%)

You are required to pray for 30 consecutive days for the Unreached People Groups of the world before November 28, 2012, using the Operation World: The Definitive Prayer Guide to Every Nation website (http://www.operationworld.org/today1) or the book Johnstone, Patrick, Operation World, 21st Century Edition as a guide (or a comparable prayer guide). In addition, you must complete a Mission Prayer Report by November 28, 2012. While there are no minimum page requirements this report must consist of the 3 components below.

Mission Prayer Report Components:
- Mission Prayer Plan: developed in advance, determining which people group(s) you will pray for on each of the 30 days. This plan (NOT the report) must be completed no later than October 24, 2012. Your Prayer Plan is to be dated and submitted to your portfolio (with the other two sections below) on the due date.

- Mission Prayer Journal: for each of the 30 days. The 30 written journal entries must also be dated and consist of a minimum of 2 or 3 sentences indicating something similar to, “Today (today’s date and time listed) I prayed for the Thai people who are in the midst of cultural shift. I prayed that the government would become active in solving the morality problems in Bangkok and that Christians would be a part of that solution.”

- Mission Prayer Reflection: After you complete your 30 days of prayer write a brief reflection on the ways in which this season of prayer has helped you to grow spiritually and in your commitment to prayer for the Nations.

NOTE: Students are strongly encouraged to fulfill this assignment by praying with others (friends, family, classmates, etc.), rather than merely praying alone.
Prayer for the Nations (Sample Prayer Plan and Prayer Journal)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Oct.</th>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Nation</th>
<th>Prayer Journal Entries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>Syria</td>
<td>I prayed for the Sunni Arab Majority, the Alawites, the Druze people, the Kurds, the Bedouin people, the Turkmen, and the Gypsy minorities. I prayed for political and religions freedom, and that the Alawite minority regime would lose power. Finally, I prayed for Protestants to have more opportunity to witness and for more conversions from Islam to Christ.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>Tajikistan</td>
<td>I prayed for the un-reached peoples of Tajikistan, including: the Uzbeks, the mountain peoples of Pamira, and the other 133 ethnicities that haven’t been reached. I prayed for a Tajik Bible translation, the success of the Jesus film, and Christian radio there as well.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- The Prayer Plan (left side: “Month / Days / Time / Nation”) is due October 24 (plan must show 30 consecutive dates/days)
- The Prayer Journal entries (right side: “Prayer Journal Entries”) will be added daily for 30 consecutive dates/days
- The Prayer Reflection will be your written reflections/insights/lessons AFTER the 30 days.

D. Group Discussions (30%)

On the first day of class the students will sign up to be in a discussion group. Two to three (2-3) times during the semester each group will lead a class discussion (using PowerPoint slides) on the reading assigned (ETM & Pathways) for that week. Prior to leading these discussions, each group must meet for a minimum of one hour to plan and pray. Note: Students are required not to meet during the chapel time. Lunch, immediately after class, is often a good meeting time.

At these meetings each group must formulate written answers (one-page maximum) to the following 3 questions:

1. Summarize: What are the major ideas (themes, perspectives, etc.) found in these readings?
2. Evaluate: What are the strengths and weaknesses of these major ideas (critiques)?
3. Apply: What is the practical value or relevance of these ideas to life and ministry?
These written answers, as well as the names of the group members in attendance at the meeting (attendance is mandatory) must be included in your portfolio. Unique to your personal copies of these documents will be your evaluation (a written evaluation form will be provided for you with your Final Examination) of the other members in your group. You will rate their involvement in the group on a scale of 1-10 (10 being the best) in the following three categories:

1. **Individual Preparation (5%)**
   - Is it apparent that each member has read thoughtfully the assigned Discussion Readings (See Course Assignment Due Dates below)?

2. **Individual Participation (5%)**
   - Did each member participate in formulating mutually agreed upon answers to the 3 questions and help determine a method of leading the class discussion?

3. **Group PowerPoint Presentation (20%)**
   Each group will be assigned classroom dates to facilitate a meaningful discussion and application of the weekly reading assignments. These discussions should highlight the group’s perspectives, concerns, questions & respectful critiques of the readings. PowerPoint presentations that will facilitate meaningful class discussion are required. The other groups (not presenting) must also be prepared to respond (rebut, affirm, amplify, etc.) to the weekly presentations. The purpose of this in-class exercise is to facilitate a time of peer learning under the oversight of (and engagement with) the professor.

   - The class hour of the report (8:00, 9:00 or 11:00 AM) will be determined by the professor each week so please be ready to present in the first hour (normal time).
   - The class discussion should be 20-25 minutes maximum. There will be an assigned group “Timer.”
   - The group is required to turn in (email) each completed PowerPoint presentation to the Teaching Assistant so that all the class members can have access to all the PowerPoint presentations as a future missions resource.

Note: A substantial percentage (20%) of the group discussion grade will come from the professor’s and Teaching Assistant’s evaluation of the group presentation based on the following criteria:
(1) Were the major ideas (themes, perspectives, etc.) in this reading(s) discussed?
(2) Were the strengths and weaknesses of these major ideas discussed?
(3) Was the practical value or ministry relevance of these ideas discussed?
E. Missions Portfolio and Open Book Final Examination (30%)

1. Missions Portfolio
   You are required to assemble all your course work into one organized, single notebook for grading purposes. Your portfolio must be organized into the categories outlined below and include properly dated assignments (on or before the due date) in order to get full credit. These portfolios must be turned in to RTS (Administrative Assistant Joyce Sisler will have a box near her desk) by 5:00PM, Wednesday, December 11 (the last day of finals). These portfolios will be returned to you after being evaluated and graded.

   I. Missions Course Notes
      A. Personal Class Notes (Dated)
         - Must be dated and typed for every class session attended
         - Designate class periods as August 29—Class One, August 29—Class Two, etc.

   II. Missions Reading Reports
      A. Let the Nations be Glad by John Piper (Dated)
      B. Encountering Theology of Mission by Craig Ott, et. al. (Dated)
      C. From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya by Ruth Tucker (Dated)

   III. Missions Prayer Report
      A. Mission Prayer Plan (Dated)
      B. Mission Prayer Journal (30 Dated Entries)
      C. Mission Prayer Reflections (Dated)

   IV. Group Discussion Reports
      A. Group Reports (Dated)—for each presentation made.
         1. Group members in attendance at group meeting
         2. Written (one-page) summary of group answers to the 3 questions:
            (a) Summarize: What are the major ideas (themes, perspectives, etc.) found in these readings?
            (b) Evaluate: What are the strengths and weaknesses of these major ideas (critiques)?
            (c) Apply: What is the practical value or relevance of these ideas to ministry?
      B. Group Presentations (Printed PowerPoint slides—6 slides per page, black & white)
      C. Group Evaluation (completed group evaluation form—given with Final Examination)

   V. Final Examination
      The Final Examination will be comprehensive and essay in format, including all class reading assignments, lectures (including visiting lecturers), and videos. The final examination questions will be made available in class toward the end of the semester.

      The examination will be open book, open notes and open bible with a three (3) hour time limit (honor system). There is a maximum of one page per answer. The answers to the final exam questions must be typed, dated and included in your portfolio.
      You will be asked on the exam to indicate in writing the percentage of the assigned: 1) Islam: A Very Short Introduction book and 2) Pathways Reader you have read thoughtfully (not merely skimmed). You will also be asked to do an anonymous Peer
Evaluation to evaluate the participation and preparedness of the other members of your group.

NOTE: Students are required to prepare for the exam independently. Therefore, all exam review questions must be answered solely by the student. Preparing for the final exam by reading answers written by others to the review questions below is considered cheating.

VI. Grading
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.

A. Late Assignments Policy
All assignments are due before class begins on the appropriate date. Please do not ask the teaching assistant or the professor for permission to turn in an assignment late. All late assignments will automatically be penalized a certain percentage according to the number of days the paper is late. If you have truly been providentially hindered from completing an assignment on time (such as a death in the immediate family) include a separate written request (1 page max) with the completed assignment (in your portfolio) explaining your situation asking for a waiver of the late penalty. No assignments will be received after December 11. We trust you to be honest in the dating of your assignments since they will not be graded until after the last day of the semester.

B. Missions Course Grading Percentages:
1) Mission Reading (20%)
   • Let the Nations be Glad Reading Report (5%)
   • From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya Reading Report (5%)
   • Encountering Theology of Mission (ETM) Reading Report (10%)
2) Mission Prayer Report (20%)
3) Group Discussion Reports (30%)
   • Individual Preparation (5%)
   • Individual Participation (5%)
   • Group Discussion Presentations (20%)
4) Missions Portfolio (20%)
   - Organization/Presentation (10%)
   - Contents (10%)
5) Final Examination (Take Home) (10%)
   - Key questions requiring one-page (max) answers
   - Accountability questions re: Pathways and Islam Readings

NOTE: Class attendance and participation will impact the final grade.
## VII. MS518 Fall 2012 Course Assignment Due Dates

Pathways Readings: *Pathways to Global Understanding* by Meg Crossman, ed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>ETM Readings</th>
<th>Pathways Readings</th>
<th>Assignments Due</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 22 (Week 1)</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
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<tr>
<td>Course Introduction &amp; Orientation</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 29 (Week 2)</td>
<td><em>Theology of Mission: Intro</em></td>
<td><em>God is a Missionary</em></td>
<td>None</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 5 (Week 3)</td>
<td><em>God &amp; Nations in Old Testament: Chapter 1</em></td>
<td><em>Let Nations be Glad! (OT): Piper 17-20</em></td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 12 (Week 4)</td>
<td><em>God &amp; Nations in New Testament: Chapter 2</em></td>
<td><em>Let The Nations Be Glad! (NT): Piper 76-78</em></td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 19 (Week 5)</td>
<td><em>Justification of Mission: Missio Dei: Chapter 3</em></td>
<td><em>As the Waters Cover the Sea: Blinco 99-110</em></td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 26 (Week 6)</td>
<td><em>Purpose &amp; Nature of Mission: Chapter 4</em></td>
<td><em>4 Men, 3 Eras, 2 Transitions: Winter 125-134</em></td>
<td>None</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 3 (Week 7)</td>
<td><em>The Task Pt. 1 Convictions &amp; Controversies Chapter 5</em></td>
<td><em>The Task at Hand: Dayton 161-166 (Update Stats)</em></td>
<td>Piper Reading Report Due (5%)</td>
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<td>October 10</td>
<td>Fall Break (Reading Week)</td>
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<td>October 17 (Week 8)</td>
<td><em>The Task Pt. 2 Convergence &amp; Conclusions Chapter 6</em></td>
<td><em>The Apostle Paul’s Task: Glasser 82-88</em></td>
<td>None</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 24 (Week 9)</td>
<td><em>The Church &amp; Mission Chapter 8</em></td>
<td><em>The Poor &amp; Development: Myers, Pikett &amp; Hawthorne 242-249</em></td>
<td>Prayer Plan Due. (Prayer Report Due November 28.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 31 (Week 10)</td>
<td><em>Contextualization and Mission Chapter 11</em></td>
<td><em>Culture &amp; Cross-Cultural Differences: Hiebert 276-285</em></td>
<td>None</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Chapter/Book Topic</td>
<td>Reading/Assignment</td>
<td>Notes</td>
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<td>November 7</td>
<td>Spiritual Dynamics &amp; Mission Chapter 10</td>
<td>Culture, Worldview &amp; Contextualization: Kraft 292-296</td>
<td>Mission Biography Report Due (5%)</td>
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<td>(Week 11)</td>
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<td>November 14</td>
<td>The Motivation for Missions Chapter 7</td>
<td>Messianic Mosques: Ali, Woodberry 408-410</td>
<td>None</td>
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<td>(Week 12)</td>
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<td>November 21</td>
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<td>Thanksgiving Week (No Class)</td>
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<td>(No Class Today)</td>
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<td>November 28</td>
<td>Missionary Vocation Chapter 9</td>
<td>Company of the Committed: Moore &amp; Crossman 375-380</td>
<td>Prayer for the Nations – Missions Prayer Report Due (10%)</td>
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<td>(Week 13)</td>
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<td>(Last day of class)</td>
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<td>November 28</td>
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<td>(Week 13)</td>
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<td>(Last day of class)</td>
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<td>December 11</td>
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<td>(Last day of finals)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Encountering Theology of Mission (ETM) Reading Report Due (5%)</td>
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<td>Mission Portfolio with Final Examination Due (30%)</td>
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Course Objectives Related to MDiv Student Learning Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MDiv Student Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Rubric</th>
<th>Mini-Justification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Articulation (oral &amp; written)</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>1. Student prepares two 20-minute presentations on reading materials. 2. Student submits an entire portfolio, from which they can teach in the future.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scripture</td>
<td>Minimal</td>
<td>1. Student does not engage with Scripture in the original languages. 2. Student must demonstrate that their understanding of Mission is biblical.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reformed Theology</td>
<td>Minimal</td>
<td>1. Student reads various articles by Reformed authors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sanctification</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>1. Student participates in daily prayer for the Nations for 30 days (and keeps a journal).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desire for Worldview</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>1. Student gains a deep understanding of the Missio Dei (the Mission of God); particularly the role of the local church.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winsomely Reformed</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>1. Student reads articles and books by authors that are not Reformed, and is shown the value of ecumenicalism.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preach</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Worship</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Shepherd</strong></td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Minimal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Church/World</strong></td>
<td>Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
READING REPORT GUIDELINES

Your Name
Course Title & Number
Professor
Date

Title of Book
Complete Bibliographic Reference

Please limit your report to one to two typed pages (single spaced). Write approximately one to two paragraphs per topic (Overview, Critique, and Application).

Overview—Give a brief overview of the book, including its theme, perspective and approach.

Critique—Offer a brief critique of the book, including elements of strength and weakness.

Application—Offer some specific application to your own ministry—demonstrating the value and relevance of the material in this book.

Best Quote—Be sure to include the page number where the quote can be found.

I read the entire book thoughtfully (not merely skimmed)? Yes ___ No ___ % Read (0-100%) ___
Personal Student Information (Optional)

Please complete and turn in printed form
or email information to schilders@rts.edu

Name:

Spouse name (if married):

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?