

IN 782D: EVANGELISM AND MISSION IN CONTEXT

Instructors: Lewis, Longden, Shaffer, Thompson

3 Credits; letter grade only

Prerequisite: Theology of Mission and Evangelism (IN581D)

Course Description:

Everywhere one does ministry, the shape of the location (context) shapes the form of evangelism and mission that is appropriate, effective and faithful. It is difficult to love people or worship with them in a vacuum. This course will meet January 4-14 and employ a brief immersion trip Jan. 8-12 either to a Native American site, a rural location, an urban center, or a Hispanic site, as well as classroom sessions to help students develop an initial skill at reading contexts for congregational ministry. Building on a theological foundation, it will also ask how context enters into the marrow of evangelism and mission for the location visited. Cost per person for the immersion, to be billed to students by the student accounts office, is \$250.00. The prerequisite is Theology of Mission and Evangelism (IN581D) and priority is given to seniors for choice of immersion location.

Course Objectives:

By participating fully in this class, students will:

1. Be able to articulate theologically how the presence of God makes it vitally important to pay attention to context.
2. Begin to read the important dynamics – historical, cultural, geographical, and spiritual – that enter into the context of the particular location visited.
3. Develop an incarnational approach to cross-cultural ministry and mission.

M.Div. Curricular Goals:

1. Evangelize the world with faithfulness and contextual sensitivity.
2. Educate and equip individuals and congregations to live and minister joyfully and faithfully as part of their own denomination and the ecumenical church.
3. Lead and nurture congregations to promote peace and justice in the public arena and encourage the witness and service of the church in mission to the world.

Requirements:

1. Conscientious attendance, vigorous participation, and reading of three texts and selected articles.
2. Two short papers critiquing the readings. The first paper (4-5 pages double-spaced) is **due the first day of class** on Lingenfelter's text. It is to include the book's thesis, strengths and weaknesses, and relevance to ministry in a cross cultural setting.
3. A report and theological evaluation of the immersion trip in a 12-15 pp. paper.

Required Text for All Students (please read BEFORE the first class):

Sherwood Lingenfelter, *Ministering Cross-Culturally*

Urban Immersion Only:

Mark Gornik, *To Live in Peace: Biblical Faith and the Changing Inner City*

Ronald E. Peters, *Urban Ministry: An Introduction*

Rural Immersion Only:

Lawrence Farris, *Dynamics of Small Town Ministry*

Shannon Jung, et. Al., *Rural Ministry: The Shape of the Renewal to Come*

Native American Immersion Only:

Bonnie Sue Lewis, *Creating Christian Indians: Native Clergy in the Presbyterian Church*

Joel Martin, *The Land Looks After Us: A History of Native American Religion*

Hispanic Immersion Only:

Harold J. Recinos, *Good News from the Barrio*

David Maldonado, Jr., *Protestantes/Protestants*

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