MNST 5159 International Mission and Ministry
Meets Church and World core or serves as an elective
Online and Intercultural Experience Hybrid Course
Carolyn S. Johnson, Instructor (cjohnson9@northpark.edu)

Please contact instructor before proceeding with assignments
This course requires instructor's permission for enrollment

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Use your church or para-church organization's pre-arranged mission trip in combination with online pre-travel preparation and post-trip reflection to gain seminary credit. Develop leadership and administrative skills, reflect upon personal intercultural competency, evaluate intercultural ministry and missiological issues and learn to lead a short effective intercultural ministry experience. Completed application and instructor's approval required. Three hours.

II. COURSE METHODOLOGY

This hybrid course combines online preparation and reflection before and after an intercultural experience occurring within the semester in which the student registers. The intention is that the student learner is placed outside of his or her own native culture and is intentionally exposed to different cultural contexts for ministry. This usually occurs outside of the boundaries of the student's country of origin. The preparatory reading, powerpoints, videos, quiz and inventory provide a framework from which to reflect upon the experiential components of this course. Whenever possible students will be grouped together for learning activities. It is assumed that during the cultural experience the student will be interacting with national people and will use this as the basis for final reflection and learning.

III. COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. Identify the work of *missio Dei* biblically, culturally and strategically as the starting point for missional involvement
2. Articulate definitions of culture, worldview, and cultural competency in relation to intercultural Christian ministry
3. Identify cultural biases and areas of personal growth through developing relationships with people from other cultures
4. Explain missiological principles for intercultural ministry
5. Plan, lead and evaluate strategic short-term mission trips that enable partnership, sustainability and empowerment
6. Identify personal administrative growing edges in leading others in intercultural ministry

IV. COURSE CRITERIA

1. The student must complete the online application form for this course and be approved by the course instructor before acceptance for registration.
2. The goal of this experience is that it be both international and cross-cultural, therefore it is expected that the language of the host culture be neither the mother tongue nor a native tongue of the student.
3. The intercultural learning experience should be outside the United States or and Canada but may include some ethnically-diverse regions. Exceptions must be approved by the instructor.
4. No academic credit will be given for an experience that takes place in a country or region that is deemed unsafe by the US Department of State or the Centers for Disease Control.
5. An appropriate trip is between seven days and two weeks in the host country. If the trip is six weeks or more the student may wish to consider using the experience as part of the field education requirement but then could not use it for academic credit.
6. The student will register for MNST 5159 as a three unit course and pay the corresponding amount of tuition.
7. The student must notify the North Park University International Studies Office, prior to departure, and complete required forms.
8. This is not a personal vacation for credit. It is to be a group mission trip, preferably with an intergenerational group from the student's church, ministry, or sending agency traveling together to another culture.
9. The student may or may not be the group leader of the travelers.
10. More than one student may register for the same trip if she or he meets the other criteria of the course. Each will apply separately and do separate reflections.
11. The student is responsible for all travel arrangements, inoculations, passport and visa fees, and all other costs of the trip. Insurance and liability will be the responsibility of the sending agency not NPTS.

V. TEXTS AND PREPARATION MATERIALS

REQUIRED TEXTS

Duane, Elmer. *Cross-Cultural Conflict*. InterVarsity Press, 2002.

Lanier, Sarah. *Foreign to Familiar*. McDougal Press, 2000.

Two texts relevant to the host country of the student's trip, approved by instructor.

REQUIRED ARTICLES (On Moodle)

NOTE: If students have read any of the following for other courses please notify the instructor and substitute readings will be provided.

Brewster, E. Thomas and Elizabeth S. "The Difference Bonding Makes." In *Perspectives on the World Christian Movement*." Ralph D. Winter and Steven C. Hawthorne, eds. Pp. 444-448. William Carey Library, 1999.

De Neui, Paul H. "Christian *Communitas* in the *Missio Dei*: Living Faithfully in the Tension Between Cultural Osmosis and Alienation." *Ex Auditu* 2008.

Loewen, Jacob A. "Self- Exposure: Bridge to Fellowship." In *Culture and Human Values: Christian Intervention in Anthropological Perspective*. Pp. 54-67. William Carey Library, 1975.

Slimbach, Richard. "First, Do No Harm: Short-Term Missions at the Dawn of a New Millennium." EMQ 36:4:428-441.

RECOMMENDED READING

Brewster, E. Thomas and Elizabeth S. *Language Acquisition Made Practical*. Lingua House, 1976.

Dearborn, Tim. *Short-Term Missions: From Mission Tourists to Global Citizens*. IVP, 2003.

Elmer, Duane. *Cross-Cultural Servanthood: Serving the World in Christlike Humility*. IVP, 2006.

Guder, Darrell L. "Converting the Church: The Local Congregation." In *The Continuing Conversion of the Church*. Pp. 145-180. Eerdmans, 2000.

Jordan, Peter. *Re-Entry: Making the Transition from Mission to Life at Home*. YWAM, 1992.

Lingenfelter, Sherwood G. and Marvin K. Mayers. *Ministering Cross-Culturally: An Incarnational Model for Personal Relationships*. Baker, 2003.

Livermore, David A. *Serving With Eyes Wide Open: Doing Short-Term Missions with Cultural Intelligence*. Baker, 2006.

May, Stan. "Short-term mission trips are great, if. . ." EMQ 36:4:444-449.

Mays, David. "The Challenges for the Church in Missions." EMQ 42:3:304-315.
Slater, Bryan A. "Short-term Missions: Biblical Considerations." EMQ 36:4:452-457.
Stiles, J. Mack and Leeann. *Mack & Leeann's Guide to Short-Term Missions.* IVP, 2000.

VI. COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

Preparatory Requirements (60%)

1. Take the online Intercultural Development Inventory and schedule a time with the instructor to interpret your results before traveling to your host country.

2. Read Lanier, view PowerPoint on Moodle and post comments as directed in appropriate discussion board following provided rubric.

3. Write one 500 word reflection on Elmer and the two texts of student's selection on the host country following provided rubric. Post in discussion board.

4. Read and post brief comments upon the four articles listed under required reading.

5. Viewing the PowerPoint on cultural exegesis and take the quiz that is provided online.

During Travel

1. The student will travel to the host country and complete the cross-cultural international mission and ministry experience as scheduled.

2. It is highly encouraged that the students keep a personal journal during this time to record their thoughts, impressions, questions, observations, and lessons learned. Personal comments in the journal are for personal use and growth only. The journal will not be turned into the instructor but will assist in completing the final assignment.

Final Project (40%) Choose from one of the following options:

- Write a fully documented 4000 word missiological reflection of the cross-cultural experience including cultural observations, insights into the resolution of conflict in the host culture, personal development of administrative skills

as part of the trip, and particular logistical and missiological issues needing ongoing learning. Follow provided rubric in Moodle.

- Write two approximately 1000 word articles and submit both to journals, magazine within the student's own denominational or ministerial tradition. Drawing from the intercultural experience, the two articles should be on separate issues and unique. A list of suggested locations within the Evangelical Covenant Church for submission for possible publication of articles is provided on Moodle. In addition to this the student will also create a succinct five to ten minute media presentation (PowerPoint, CD or DVD) of the trip that can be shown in churches and supporting organizations to promote the cause of world mission. Copies of articles and the CD are to be given to the instructor. Articles 75% of grade, visual 25%. Follow provided rubric in Moodle.

- Create a series of three 10-15 minutes talks coming out of the cross-cultural experience that can be used by you or by someone else when presenting in churches, student groups, or other gatherings. In addition, prepare a visual that can illustrate the talk. A copy of the scripts of these talks and a CD of the final visual will be given to the instructor. Lessons 75% of grade, visual 25%. Follow provided rubric in Moodle.

VII. GRADING

Because of the formative nature of this experience, this course is offered pass/fail. Weight of assignments is as follows:

Discussion on Lanier	5%
Book Reflection on Elmer	10%
Book Reflection on 2 books of student's choice	10%
Article comments	20%
Cultural competency quiz	5%
Complete the IDI	5%
Course participation	5%
Final Project	40%

Late assignments will be marked down 1/3 letter grade per day.

VII. INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Carolyn S. Johnson (503)437-3532, cjohnson9@northpark.edu
Note that I do not check email after 7:00 pm or on weekends.

IX. FINAL NOTES AND ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Substitute Texts: If you have previously read a text listed in the required leading list please mention this to the instructor and you may select a substitute from the expanded recommended reading list with instructor's approval.

Language: Following the statement on inclusive language in the North Park Theological Seminary Catalog, all students are required to be inclusive in language and imagery in all written work and online discussions in this course. This includes gender inclusive language for human beings as well as primarily gender neutral language for God.

Computer/Online Support: In addition to faculty support, additional support for this course is supplied by the following offices:

- Computer Services: for most technological problems logging into Moodle.
- Office of Distributed Learning: for most problems with Moodle tools.

Please see Student Support document in the Course Information section of your course in Moodle for further details on how to contact Computer Services and the Office of Distributed Learning.

Library: Please also note that Brandel Library has many resources available for online students. Go to the North Park website (www.northpark.edu) to access links to the library website for online databases, online articles, and the e-mail of a reference librarian who can help you find additional resources.

Disabilities: Students with disabilities who believe that they may need accommodations in this class are encouraged to contact the program's office (773-244-5619). Please do so as soon as possible to better ensure that such accommodations are implemented in a timely manner. For further information please review the following website: http://www.northpark.edu/ada.

X. COURSE SCHEDULE

Preliminary Requirements

1. Take the IDI and discuss results with instructor.
2. Read and comment on Lanier
3. Book reflection on Elmer text
4. Book reflections on Two Books on Host Country
5. Comments on Articles by Brewster, De Neui, Loewen, and Slimbach
6. View PowerPoint on cultural exegesis
7. Complete the Cultural Competency Quiz

Note: These assignments should be completed after registration and before travel

During Travel

1. Create a travel journal in which to write your reflections
2. Participate in the event as it has been planned
3. Take pictures, video and ask others to do the same
4. Upon return ask for best pictures, video clips from others

Reflection Requirements

1. Select which of the options you will do from those listed for final projects.
2. Complete final project within six weeks of return.

5 August 2011