

NORTH PARK THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

MNST 5120: Gospel Communication in Context

January 8-12, 2018

Instructor: Al Tizon

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Teacher's Assistant: Prajakta David

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Location: **TBD**

CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

Gracious and effective communication of the good news of the Christian faith involves the complex interplay of many factors. Drawing from studies in holistic missiology and contemporary culture, participants in this course will engage in an exegesis of culture, an exploration of the mandate and means of gospel communication, and the development of skills in both speaking and embodying the gospel message. Three hours.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of this course, participants should be able to:

1. Formulate a theology of evangelism/mission that is biblical, holistic, and contextual;
2. Identify global trends and paradigm shifts in understanding the world today;
3. Lead the church in bearing witness to the gospel effectively in an ever-changing world.

We will work towards the Seminary Learning Goals of:

- Understanding of cultures in order to live and present the gospel effectively.
- Communicating effectively through spoken and written media.
- Developing understanding of the vocation and practice of ministry, including its joys, challenges and breadth.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

BUSH, Andrew and Carolyn C. WASON. *Millennials and the Mission of God* (Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock, 2017).

CARDOZA-ORLANDI, Carlos and Justo GONZALEZ, *To All Nations from All Nations* (Nashville, TN: Abingdon, 2013).

KRAFT, Charles. *Issues in Contextualization* (Pasadena, CA: William Carey, 2016).

MAGGAY, Melba. *Global Kingdom, Global People* (Carlisle, Cumbria, UK: Langham Global, 2017).

MCNEIL, Brenda S. *Credible Witness: Reflections on Power, Evangelism and Race* (Downers

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Grove, IL: IVP, 2008).

SMITH, Mitzi and Jayathitra LALITHA, Eds. *Teaching All Nations: Interrogating the Matthean Great Commission* (Minneapolis, MN: John Knox, 2014).

COURSE REQUIREMENT/ASSIGNMENT GRID

Pre Residency Work	Due Date	Weight or % of Course Grade
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get acquainted with course syllabus • Cardoza-Orlandi/Gonzalez book review 	Monday, January 8 th	10%
During Residency Work	Due Date	Weight or % of Course Grade
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class participation • Group Presentations 	Friday, January 1 th	5% 25%
Post Residency Work	Due Date	Weight or % of Course Grade
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading Log • _____ book review • Final Exam or Research Paper 	Friday, Feb. 12 th Friday, Feb 12 th Friday, March 11 th	15% 10% 35%

Guidelines for each written assignment

Book Reviews: You will write two 3-4pp., double-spaced book reviews from the required readings. The review for the Cardoza-Orlandi/Gonzalez text is due on **January 8th**, the first day of class. The second review of one of your choice from the required readings is due **February 9th**, four weeks after the last day of class.

A book review is a way to reflect upon a reading that accomplishes the following:

- a summary of the book (no more than a third of the paper);
- strengths and weaknesses of the book; and
- whether you recommend it or not to other potential readers: why or why not?

Class participation: Your participation is integral to the success of this class—hence, why it is part of your grade. This class will be highly interactive; whether in whole class discussions or in small groups, come prepared to contribute, ask questions, give input, argue! In addition, some of you will have an opportunity to share a meditation and/or a prayer to help begin each class.

Integrated Group Presentations: Church profile group presentations will be given on **Thursday, January 11th**, the last day of residency. These presentations seek creatively to integrate the theological and strategic aspects of evangelism/mission discussed throughout the week. They are strategic proposals that will not only have implications for the community, but also for the missional renewal of the church itself. The particulars of this assignment are as follows:

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- On **Monday, January 8th**, the first day of class, church profiles will be introduced, and the class will be divided into groups of 4-6 according to these profiles. Once broken up into groups, introduce yourselves as the new members of the simulated church outreach committee of your particular church.
- You will be given “committee time” at the beginning of Mon., Tues., and Wed. class sessions.
- On **Thursday, January 11th**, your group will give a 30-minute presentation of your outreach plan to the rest of the class, which will serve as simulated church members. You are free as a group to be creative with the presentation, making use of visual aids, Power Point, drama, etc.

Reading Log: A Reading Log, indicating that you have read all of the required readings is due on **Feb. 9th**, four weeks after the last day of class. This log is on an integrity-basis, so check off the readings with your character in mind! The Reading Log form is on p. 6 of the syllabus.

Research Paper: A research paper is due **March 9th**, eight weeks after the last day of class, although I encourage, if you can, to submit it before the due date. The research paper gives you the opportunity to probe deeper into an aspect of contextual gospel communication that has particularly intrigued you. The paper should be 10-12 pp. in length, and it needs to reflect interaction with at least 5 sources—at least one of them being a journal article and another being a credible Internet source.

GRADING

At the completion of this course, you will receive a letter grade reflecting your performance in this course. Letter grades (from A – F) will be awarded according to the existing policies of North Park Theological Seminary. The final course grade will be computed according to the total number of points earned for all assignments as shown below (cf. catalog):

<u>Total Points Earned:</u>	<u>Final Grade:</u>
95-100	A
93-94	A-
91-92	B+
88-90	B
86-87	B-
84-85	C+
80-83	C
78-79	C-
76-77	D+
72-75	D
70-71	D-
69 and below	F

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FACULTY EXPECTATIONS: GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES

Guidelines for Written Work: All written work must be typed and double-spaced using either Arial or New Times Roman 12-point font. If you are writing a research paper, see the rubric with which your paper will be graded at the back of the syllabus (p. 7). Send all written work—pre-during or post-residency—**electronically** to the professor at fatizon@northpark.edu.

Writing Quality Policy: If in the process of grading your written work I have to make 10 or more grammatical corrections (this includes typos) on a single page, then I will automatically stop grading it; which will result in no credit for that assignment. This policy includes the Final Paper or Exam. So it is very important that you submit a reviewed, edited version of all written assignments. I strongly encourage you to have someone else—perhaps a professional editor—proofread your written work before you submit it.

Attendance & Lateness Policy: This should go without saying, but your attendance is key and therefore required for all of the scheduled sessions. No excuse but illness or family death is satisfactory for missing a class. Frequent lateness (3 or more) and early departures (3 or more) will add an absence and will go against your participation grade. **Eight hours of absences will automatically result in 0 points for the participation part of your grade; eleven hours of absences will automatically result in a drop in the course grade; fourteen hours of absences will automatically result in an “NC” for the course.**

Plagiarism and Cheating: Students are reminded of the regulations concerning Plagiarism and Cheating, which can be found in the Academic Catalog. Do not be tempted to plagiarize as a way out of difficulties in completing your assignments. If in difficulty, speak to the instructor.

Title IX: Students who believe they have been harassed, discriminated against, or involved in sexual violence should contact the Dean of Students (773-244-5565) or Director of Human Resources (773-244-5599) for information about campus resources and support services, including confidential counseling services.

As members of the North Park faculty, we are concerned about the well-being and development of our students, and are available to discuss any concerns. Faculty are legally obligated to share information with the University’s Title IX coordinator in certain situations help ensure that the student’s safety and welfare is being addressed, consistent with the requirements of the law. These disclosures include but are not limited to reports of sexual assault, relational/domestic violence, and stalking.

Please refer to North Park’s Safe Community site for contact information and further details. <http://www.northpark.edu/Campus-Life-and-Services/Safe-Community>

Accommodations: In compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), it is the policy of North Park Theological Seminary to provide appropriate and reasonable accommodations, or academic adjustments, and services to students with a documented disability to help ensure an equal educational opportunity. Students seeking these services should contact Laura Ebner, Student Services Learning Specialist, at 773 244-5737 or email her atlmebner@northpark.edu at the earliest possible time with supporting documentation.

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RESIDENCY SCHEDULE:

Monday, Jan 8th:

8:30-9:00am	Opening Prayer/Personal Introductions
9:00-9:30	Syllabus
9:30-10:30	Initial Group Work on Church Profile
10:30-10:45	<i>Break</i>
10:45-12:00	Session 1: Your Story
12:00-1:00pm	<i>Lunch</i>
1:00-2:45	Session 2: Gospel of the Kingdom
2:45-3:00	<i>Break</i>
3:00-4:30	Session 3: On Half and False Gospels

Tuesday, Jan 9th:

8:30-8:35am	Opening Prayer/Announcements
8:35-9:00	Group Work on Church Profile
9:00-10:30	Session 4: Contextual Theology: Gospel, Church and Culture
10:30-10:45	<i>Break</i>
10:45-12:00	Session 5: Globalization and the Gospel
12:00-1:00pm	<i>Lunch</i>
1:00-2:30	Session 6: Postmodernism and the Gospel
2:30-3:00	<i>Break</i>
3:00-4:30	Session 7: Post-Christendom and the Gospel

Wednesday, Jan 10th:

8:30-8:35am	Meditation/Prayer/Announcements
8:35-9:00	Group Work on Church Profiles
9:00-10:30	Session 8: Post-Colonialism and the Gospel
10:30-10:45	<i>Break</i>
10:45-12:00	Session 9: Church as Reconciler
12:00-1:00pm	<i>Lunch</i>
1:00-2:30	Session 10: Church Planting (Guest Lecturer: Dr. Rob Fairbanks)
2:30-3:00	<i>Break</i>
2:45-4:30	Session 11: Contemporary Strategies and Models (from Alpha to Internet to Signs & Wonders)

Thursday, Jan 11th:

8:30-8:35am	Meditation/Prayer/Announcements
8:35-10:00	Final Group Work on Church Profiles

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10:00-10:15	<i>Break</i>
10:15-12:00	Group Presentations
12:00-1:00pm	<i>Lunch</i>
1:00-2:30	Group Presentations
2:30-2:45	<i>Break</i>
2:45-4:30	Group Presentations

Friday, Jan 12th:

8:30-8:35am	Meditation/Prayer/Announcements
8:35-10:00	Session 12: The Role of Faith in Faith-Based Development Work (Guest Lecturer: Dr. Renée Hale)
10:00-10:15	<i>Break</i>
10:15-12:00	Session 13: The Work of Serve Globally and the Paul Carlson Partnership (Dr. Renée Hale and Prajakta David)
12:00-1:00pm	<i>Lunch</i>
1:00-2:00	Unfinished Business
2:00-2:15	<i>Break</i>
2:15-3:00	Course Debrief

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**Reading Log
(DUE February 9th)**

Name _____

Date Completed	Required Readings	✓ when done	If not, # of pages completed
	Cardoza-Orlandi/Gonzalez		
	Bush-Wason		
	Kraft		
	Maggay		
	McNeil		
	Smith-Lalitha		

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CRITERIA	POTENTIAL POINTS	ACTUAL POINTS	COMMENTS
Content <i>(quality of the information and ideas, as well as the sources and details used to support them)</i>	45		
Structure <i>(logical order or sequence of the writing)</i>	15		
Style <i>(appropriate attention to audience; effective word choice, sentence variety, voice; appropriate level of formality for academic writing vs. informal text messages and email)</i>	15		
Conventions <i>(adherence to grammar rules: usage, mechanics)</i>	15		
Source Integrity <i>(appropriate Chicago Manual Style-based acknowledgment of sources used in research)</i>	15		
Total	105		