

**MNST 6152 RETHINKING MISSION:
LESSONS FROM CHRISTIAN ART, HISTORY AND PRACTICE**

North Park Theological Seminary
Fall Semester 2017 - Blended Course Syllabus

COURSE INSTRUCTOR

Rev. Dr. Paul H. de Neui, Professor of Missiology and Intercultural Studies

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I am available for office or phone appointments if you will arrange a time with me.

Please note that I try not to email after 9 pm or on weekends.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In every epoch of church history God has raised up artistic expressions of the gospel using contemporary cultural forms. Often controversial, artists and their work have been equally promoted and persecuted by the church. This mission history courses traces the church's use of art and its impact upon kingdom activity in its day. Through the lens of missiology, discussions upon major strategies and roles of art in mission seek to discern lessons applicable to partnership with God's mission today. Using the visual arts as the avenue of study, this course ultimately intends to help students think missiologically in preparation for wherever God's call in ministry may lead. Artistic ability not required. This blended course includes a travel component exploring historic Christian art in Rome, Florence and Assisi from October 12 to 22, 2017. Three seminary credit hours.

LEARNING GOALS

Upon completion of the course participants will be able to:

1. Outline the basic components of missiology and illustrate how visual arts have been or can be incorporated into each.
2. Develop a theological grid that enables the differentiation of visual arts for inherent quality and missiological purposes.
3. Identify and evaluate biblical, historical and contemporary examples of mission methodologies and strategies using the visual arts.
4. Recognize and respond to arguments and/or issues related to the use of the visual arts in Christian mission and ministry.
5. Describe functions of the visual arts in mission and give examples of how they may be used both corporately and in personal spiritual formation.
6. Exhibit an ability to think missiologically for ministry wherever God may lead.

NOTE TO AUDITORS

Many are especially interested in the travel portion of this course. We welcome your participation but would remind you that there is important preparatory online material before travel and reflection exercises provided online afterwards. In order to participate in the online portion of the course, you must enroll as a visiting student with NPTS as either an auditor or credit-earning student. Enrolled auditors are not required to complete assignments but are invited to participate as much as they are able, particularly in the group project.

METHOD OF INSTRUCTION OF THE COURSE

This course is designed to integrate theoretical with experiential learning. Methods of instruction used in this course will include readings and viewings with written reflections, lecture and class discussions, field trips (in person and online) to art galleries and studios; online interactions, times of personal meditation and response, one personal project, one group missiology project and a final assessment.

REQUIRED LEARNING MATERIALS

Allen, Roland. *Missionary Methods: St. Paul's or Ours?* Eerdmans. Any edition is acceptable. ISBN 0-8028-1001-2.

Brazzeal, David. *Pray Like a Gourmet: Creative Ways to Feed Your Soul.* Paraclete Press, 2015. 978-1-61261-627-8. Martin, Linette. *Sacred Doorways.*

Martin, Linette. *Sacred Doorways.* Paraclete Press, 20036. ISBN-13: 978-1557253071

Scarry, Elaine. *On Beauty and Being Just.* Princeton University Press, 1999.

Missiology Reader – provided online.

SELECTIONS FROM THE FOLLOWING APPEAR IN THE MISSIOLOGY READER:

Anderson, Gerald H., et al. *Mission Legacies: Biographical Studies of Leaders of the Modern Missionary Movement.* Orbis, 1995.

Besançon, Alain. *The Forbidden Image: An Intellectual History of Iconoclasm.* Chicago University Press, 2000.

Bustard, Ned. *It Was Good: Making of Art to the Glory of God.* Square Halo, 2007.

Elizondo, Virgilio P. *Guadalupe: Mother of the New Creation.* Orbis, 1997. ISBN 13: 978-1570751103.

Finney, John. *Recovering the Past: Celtic and Roman Mission.* Darton Longman & Todd. 2011.

Fujimura, Makoto. *Refractions: A Journey of Faith, Art and Culture.* NavPress, 2009.

L'Engle, Madeleine. *Walking on Water: Reflections on Faith and Art.* Waterbrook Press, 2001.

Schaefer, Francis A. *Art and the Bible.* IVP Books, 2006.

Stewart, John. *Nestorian Missionary Enterprise: The Story of a Church on Fire.* Gorgias Press, 2006.

ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDED LEARNING MATERIALS

Bailey, Gauvin Alexander. *Art on the Jesuit Missions in Asia and Latin America 1542-1773.* University of Toronto Press, 1999.

Bevans, Stephen B. and Roger P. Schroeder. *Prophetic Dialogue.* Orbis, 2011.

Bosch, David J. *Transforming Mission.* Orbis, 2011.

Chinnawong, Sawai and Paul De Neui. *That Man Who Came Among Us.* WCL, 2010.

Dyrness, William A. *Visual Faith: Art, Theology, and Worship in Dialog.* Baker, 2001.

_____. *Sense of the Soul: Art and the Visual in Christian Worship.* Cascade, 2008.

Finney, John. *Recovering the Past: Celtic and Roman Mission.* Darton, Longman and Todd, 1996.

Kapikian, Catherine. *Art in Service of the Sacred.* Abingdon, 2006.

Nouwen, Henry J.M. *Behold the Beauty of the Lord: Praying with Icons.*

Oleksa, Michael. *Orthodox Alaska: A Theology of Mission.* St. Vladimir's Press, 1992.

O’Kane, Martin. *Painting the Text: Artist as Biblical Interpreter*. Sheffield Phoenix, 2007.

Parry, Graham. *The Arts of the Anglican Counter-Reformation*. Boydell, 2006.

Robert, Dana L. *American Women in Mission: A Social History of their Thought and Practice*. Mercer University Press, 1997. ISBN 0-86554-549-9.

Rockness, Miriam H. *A Passion for the Impossible*. Discovery House Publishers, 2003.

_____. *Blossom in the Desert: Art and Writings of L. Trotter*. Discovery House, 2007.

Rookmaaker, H.R. *Modern Art and the Death of a Culture*. IVP, 1971.

Shenk, Wilbert R. *The Transfiguration of Mission*. Herald, 1993.

Stevens, Robert J. and Brian Johnson, eds. *Profiles of African-American Missionaries*. William Carey Library 2012. ISBN 978-0-87808-008-3.

Thomas, Norman E. *Classic Texts in Mission and World Christianity*. Orbis, 1995.

Tucker, Ruth A. *From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya*. Baker, 1983.

Walston, Vaught J, and Robert J. Stevens. *African-American Experience*. WCL, 2002.

COURSE COMPONENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

1. **Online interaction.** Credit earning participants will interact with learning material online ten times during the semester. Participants will be asked to post reflections from interactions with weekly material and presentations and will be asked to respond to the postings of *at least two* other class participants each week. Due dates for each weekly session and responses are in the course schedule. Follow the rubric provided in Canvas. **10% of course grade**
2. **Missiology Assessments.** Participants will take two missiology assessments online. The first non-graded assessment will be used to create a threshold of understanding by which to measure progress made in the course by the second. Deadline for both are posted in the course schedule. **10% of course grade**
3. **Reflection on Italy Immersion.** During the travel component of the course, participants will take notes, pictures, draw, record memories, experience, learn, share and interact. Afterwards, use one chosen image from the experience to describe personal learning and impact. Creative options for reflections are highly encouraged. See suggestions and details in the assignment rubric in Canvas. In addition, your ten best photographic images are to be shared in the online course gallery in Canvas. Post by the deadline given in the course schedule. **40% of course grade**
4. **Group Presentation.** Credit earning participants in the class will be divided into groups based on their selection of a missiologist from a provided list. Groups will develop a visual and written presentation about the life and ministry of the selected missiologist that will be posted online following the rubric provided in Canvas. Auditors are strongly encouraged to participate. Due dates for group presentations are listed in the course schedule. **20% of course grade**
5. **Final Project** - Choose one of the following options:
 - Option A:** Create an original work of visual art during this semester based on a theme from the course. A digital photograph of the art with accompanying written description must be posted in the appropriate Canvas forum by the deadline listed in the course schedule following the rubric posted online.
 - Option B:** Create a visual presentation coming out of either the Italy immersion or another theme from the class. This should include a written explanation

demonstrating mastery of missiological methods, source materials, insights gained from the study of one or more era of mission history and integration with class material. A full list of all resources used should be included. Post in the appropriate Canvas forum by date listed in the course schedule using the rubric provided. **20% of course grade**

GRADING

Weight of course components will figure into the grade as follows:

Online interactions	10% of total grade
Missiology Assessment	10% of total grade
Reflection on Italy Immersion	40% of total grade
Group Presentation	20% of total grade
Final Project	20% of total grade

Course grade will be computed according to the grading policy found in the NPTS catalog. Late work will result in lowering of grade. Participation in class online for credit earning students is mandatory. Auditors are encouraged to participate as much as possible. Unexcused absences will result in a lowered course grade.

COMPUTER AND TECHNICAL SKILLS REQUIRED

No advanced technology skills are required for the course. However, in order to effectively participate in and successfully complete this course, each participant will need to have access to a computer and a high-speed internet connection. Each participant will need an email account and will need to be able to access North Park's Canvas program for this course. All North Park students complete a required online student orientation providing a good working knowledge of Canvas and of the support services available. Please see the Course Information button in your course in Canvas for the Student Support document if you need assistance during your course.

PARTICIPANT RESPONSIBILITIES

1. An artistic aptitude is helpful but is not a requirement for this course. An interest in learning how to integrate and encourage the missiological application of the visual arts in God's mission in the world is a requirement.
2. Regular participation is required for this course. Lack of attendance or failure to participate will result in lowering of your course grade. You cannot successfully complete this course without submitting assignments in a timely manner.
3. Course participants are expected to complete assignments in a timely manner following rubrics provided in class and posted in the Canvas course shell.
4. Course participants are expected to interact with all other participants in the course. Interaction with the instructor is also highly encouraged.
5. Use proper "netiquette" (see *A Guide to Netiquette in Course Information folder on Canvas*). Assignments should be posted in common formats available to all.
6. Consider how you can best integrate inclusive language as described in the North Park Theological Seminary Catalog into all your work during the course.

COURSE FACILITATOR RESPONSIBILITIES

1. The course facilitator will design the course, the learning components, activities (including travel immersion), and assignments in such a way that students have every opportunity to achieve the learning objectives.
2. The course facilitator will provide reactions to student responses as appropriate in order to clarify important ideas and concepts.
3. The course facilitator will provide updated information on relevant resources for the various topics of interest.
4. The course facilitator will read and critically assess students' assignments and provide feedback in a timely manner.
5. The course facilitator retains the right to modify the course to best meet the learning goals and needs of the current group of course participants.

FINAL NOTES

North Park Theological Seminary provides services for students with documented disabilities to ensure equal access to programs, services, facilities, and activities. Students with a disability who believe that they may need accommodations in this class are encouraged to contact Seminary Academic Services as soon as possible. If desired or necessary, discussion pertaining to documentation and accommodation can take place at another suitable location or by telephone.

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.

North Park faculty 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>

Revised 12 August 2017