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# MI 880 Doctoral Seminar in Mission

Eunice L. Irwin

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## Syllabus

**Course:** MI880 W1 (SP 2009)  
**Title:** Doctoral Seminar in Mission  
**Hours:** 3.00  
**Published:** Yes, on 02/04/2009  
**Prerequisites:**

*None*

**Department:** Mission Theo/Hist/Pract  
**Faculty:** Dr. Eunice Irwin



Email: [eunice.irwin@asburyseminary.edu](mailto:eunice.irwin@asburyseminary.edu)  
 Office: MC  
 SPO: 794

### Meetings:

During 02/09/2009 to 05/22/2009 on Wednesday from 10:00a to 12:30p in AD305.

### Maximum Registration: 20

**Catalog Description:** Readings in the normative literature of mission theory that all advanced leaders in mission should know. Primarily student led, the professor will direct and encourage the students to assimilate both classic and current literature related to the Christian World Mission.

## Objectives:

SEMINAR IN MISSION

(for the Ph.D. degree program)

MI 880

Dr. Eunice Irwin

Spring 2009

McPheeters 311

Meeting Room: (Room TBA)  
 858-2148

(859)  
[eunice.irwin@asburyseminary.edu](mailto:eunice.irwin@asburyseminary.edu)

### Course Description:

Seminar presentations surveying major transitions and issues in Christian mission from theological, historical and global perspectives, with special attention given to the leaders, Church and mission conferences (including some writings and documents) that have shaped the concept and directed the task of mission. Students will participate in discussing parameters for a constructing a contemporary missiological paradigm in line with the values and objectives of our tradition.

Readings: (Abbreviations of texts follow authors' name initials: B, BS, E, N, SS, T, V, WR.

+ Indicates required readings for all students. \* or \*\* Indicates auxiliary readings.)

+ *Transforming Mission*\*

David J. Bosch

+ *Constants in Context*

Stephen Bevans & Roger Schroeder

+ *Mission as Transformation*\*\*

Vinay Samuel, Chris Sugden

+ *Mission on the Way*

Charles van Engen

+ *Mission in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*

Andrew Walls & Cathy Ross, eds

[\* *Classical Texts in*

*Mission & World Christianity* (augments Bosch) Norman Thomas]

[\* *A Reader's Guide to Transforming Mission* (clearly applies Bosch) Stan Nussbaum]

[\*\* *The New Global Mission* (Latin American articulation of Transformation) Samuel Escobar]

Course Objective: To provide a seminar environment in which doctoral students:

1. Develop interdisciplinary focus in the field of Missiology by studying Christian mission from vantage points of theological, confessional or strategic histories.
2. Use methods of critique and informal debate during seminar discussions in order to strengthen their analytical skills.
3. Use methods of dialogue and consensus-building during seminar discussions in order to advance a missiological tradition of interpretation, appropriate to the E. Stanley Jones School of World Mission and Evangelism. The process will involve the group in evaluating, selecting and incorporating contributions made by the participants.
4. Make scholarly presentations and experience the critique of colleagues.
5. Enhance skills in research and scholarly writing.

Course Requirements and Grading Ratio:

1. Attendance and prepared participation in seminars. This includes reading assigned pages prior to presentations; occasional oral reporting on material; and formulating summary statements (your own concise articulation of the main idea/s learned as a result of participating in your colleagues' seminar sessions). 15%
2. Leading a seminar session. The format will be: (1) to make a 35 minute formal presentation on a topic, then (2) to facilitate a group discussion of that material for 35 minutes. Then, at the conclusion of discussion, (3) to provide an open-ended focus question or sentence that will guide seminar members to write their own summary

statement. At the beginning of the next class session, (4) to give a short report on the seminar, from the point of view of helping the group to recognize diverse perspectives or aspects of the topic; and with the goal of clarifying ideas of scholars and seminar members, then (ideally, if possible) to write some "statement of consensus" on the topic presented, for the class record.

[Schedule for seminar presentations will be negotiated after the first week of class.]

Topics for presentation will be based on the course readings and will examine:

- a. Current theological theme(s) or emerging trend(s) in mission, or
- b. Specific regional or global concerns, or vocational contexts of mission.

A handout (outline or abbreviated text) distributed to class members covering material presented in the seminar is required, as well as the statement of consensus. 35%

3. A scholarly paper (of publishable quality) that investigates an issue of immediate concern to Christian mission today. This paper may be an expansion of your seminar presentation, or develop another worthy topic by approval (such as a research theme related to your dissertation).

Students are responsible to prepare and share in class:

- a. A topic proposal for scholarly paper (rationale and bibliography). Due: **Feb. 25**
- b. A 10-minute oral report of paper's research strategy and conclusion.

Given on: **May 20**

- c. A final draft of the paper (between 20-30 pages) Due: **May 13**

[An extra copy of paper should be submitted to the ESJ to be kept on file.]

[Follow ESJ guidelines for writing, taken from *Missiology* journal.] 50%

#### REGIONAL MATERIALS\* FOR SEMINAR REPORTS, as needed, from:

Taylor, William D., ed.

2001 *Global Missiology for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: The Iguassu Dialogue.*  
Grand Rapids: Baker Academic.

*1	African perspective:	<b>Ta: 259-283</b>
*2	South Pacific perspective:	<b>Ta: 285-294</b>
*3	East Asian perspective:	<b>Ta: 295-306, 421-438</b>
*4	Indian perspective:	<b>Ta: 307-332, 391-420</b>
*5	Middle Eastern perspective:	<b>Ta: 333-356, 439-445</b>
*6	Latin American perspective:	<b>Ta: 357-366, 515-517</b>
*7	Western culturesÕ older perspectives:	<b>Ta: 367-388</b>
*8	Western culturesÕ younger perspectives:	<b>Ta: 447-475</b>
*9	Spirituality as a mission perspective:	<b>Ta: 489-517</b>
*10	Globalizing: keeping touch in mission:	<b>Ta: 477-488, 519-556</b>

**MATERIALS WRITTEN FROM GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE, to use as needed:**

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**SAMPLE below 2008** Course Schedule: ([2009 Course Schedule set by choosing topics](#))

February 6 Introductions, Syllabus, and Overview of Seminar Strategy  
*February 11* "Metaphors of Mission"  
**Orientation to Bosch: and Bevans & Schroeder: 281-398**

February 13 The Contemporary Environment of Missiology  
*February 18* "What is Mission Theology?" **V:9-31**  
*Biblical and Theological Foundations (a)* **SS:3-44**  
 "Mission Modernity: Seven Checkpoints" **SS:290-320**  
 "Framework of Post-Modern Mission" **B:1-11, 349-367**  
 "Mission in the Wake of the Enlightenment" **T:50-77**  
 "Modernity and Postmodernity in Mission Theology" **V:191-229**  
**Student interaction on information from BS:xi-72**

Presenter: Eunice Irwin

**Information Technology training in Asbury Scholar research.**

February 20 **Scholarly Paper: Topic Proposal Due (2-3 pages)**  
*February 25*  
 Theology of Mission from the Evangelical Tradition of Scripture  
 "Mission Theology and the Bible" **V:35-68**  
*Missio Dei* **B:389b-393a, T:101-121, BS:286-304**  
*[Mission as] Theology* **B:489b-498a, T:287-303**  
**Student interaction on information from BS:73-136**

Presenter: Eunice Irwin

February 27 PART I: *Mission as*  
*March 4* **See Reading Schedule for BS:276-347 on page 9**  
 "Elements of an Emerging Ecumenical Paradigm"

*Evangelism*    **B:409-420a**

"Mission as Evangelization"    **T:154-168**

Stuttgart Consultation    **SS:277-289**

The Lausanne Covenant    **SS:503-511**

"Evangelical and Conciliar Mission Theologies"    **V:127-156\***

**Student interaction on information from BS: 138-205**

Presenter: \_\_\_\_\_

March 5

*March 11*

**GUEST: (2007) Dr. Roger Schroeder**, Associate Professor

of Missiology at Catholic Theological Union, Chicago

He is co-author of the new mission textbook *Constants in Context*.

In 2009, we anticipate that Dr. Jun Vencer may with be our guest, speaking when he stays on campus during the semester.

March 12

*March 18*

"Elements of an Emerging Ecumenical Paradigm"

*Church with Others*    **B:368-389a, T:81-100**

*Biblical and Theological Foundations (c)*    **SS:118-133**

"Concern for Kingdom Ethics"    **SS:208-222**

"Mission Theology and the Church"    **V:105-124**

**Student interaction on information from BS:206-238**

Presenter: \_\_\_\_\_

March 19

*March 25*

"Elements of an Emerging Ecumenical Paradigm"

*Mediating Salvation*    **B:393b-400a, T122-135**

*Biblical and Theological Foundations (d)*    **SS:166-207**

*Missiological Expressions (a)*    **SS:225-260**

*Biblical and Theological Foundations (b)*

Pentecostalism    **SS:45-117**

**Student interaction on information from BS:239-280**

Presenter: \_\_\_\_\_

March 26

**SPRING READING WEEK** (Class will not meet.)

*April 1*

April 2

"Elements of an Emerging Ecumenical Paradigm"

*April 8*

*Quest for Justice* **B:400b-408, T:136-153**

*Liberation* **B:432b-447a, T:185-205**

"Political Mission of the Church" **SS:438-455**

"Constructing Mission Theology in the City" **V:90-101**

Presenter: \_\_\_\_\_

April 9

"Elements of an Emerging Ecumenical Paradigm"

*April 15*

*Contextualization* **B:420b-432a\*, T:169-184**

*Inculturation* **B:447b-457a, T:206-222**

"The New Covenant: Mission Theology in Context" **V:71-89**

Presenter: \_\_\_\_\_

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April 16

"Elements of an Emerging Ecumenical Paradigm"

*April 22*

"Mission in Paul: Invitation to Join the Eschatological  
Community" **B:123-178**

*Action in Hope* **B:498b-510, T:304-322**

"Eschatology and Ethics" **SS:134-165**

*Missiological Expressions (b)* **SS:261-276**

*Transformation and Praxis (a)* **Any SS:323-437, 456-502**

Presenter: Roger Hedlund

We anticipate Dr. Roger Hedlund will be with us!

In preparation, read: Samuel Escobar's *The New Global Mission*

[NOTE: Of interest here is Philip Jenkins's *The New Faces of Christianity*]



April 23 "Elements of an Emerging Ecumenical Paradigm"  
*April 29* *Contextualization* **B:420-432\***, **T:136-153**  
*People of Other Faiths* **B:474b-489a**, **T:262-286**  
 "Mission Theology and Religious Pluralism" **V:159-187**  
**(Other material may be assigned here by presenter.)**

Presenter: \_\_\_\_\_

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April 30 "Elements of an Emerging Ecumenical Paradigm"  
*May 6* *Common Witness* **B:457b-467a**, **T:223-242**  
*Whole People of God* **B:467b-474a**, **T:243-261\***  
 "Evangelical and Conciliar Mission Theologies" **V:127-156\***

Presenter: \_\_\_\_\_

May 7 "Elements of an Emerging Ecumenical Paradigm"  
*May 13* "Matthew: Mission as Disciple-making" **B:56-83**  
 "Ministry Theology and Ministry Formation" **V:233-252**  
*Mission in Many Modes* **B:511-519**

Presenter: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*\* Final Draft of Scholarly Paper Due \*\*\***

PART II: *Parameters for a Current [ESJ] Missiological Paradigm*

*Summarizing the ESJ Missiological Paradigm*

Constructing a Contemporary Tradition for Mission

"A Theology of Mission-on-the-Way" **V:253-262**

May 14 **FINALS WEEK** (*Class will meet 10:00 to 12:30 pm*)  
*May 20* **Summaries of Scholarly Papers** (All students will have  
 findings.) 10 minutes to summarize their topic, research process and

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**Supplementary Texts or References:**

Anderson, Gerald et al.

- 1994 *Mission Legacies: Biographical Studies of Leaders of the Modern Missionary Movement.* Maryknoll, N.Y.: Orbis Books.

Dyrness, William A. and Veli-Matti Karkkainen

- 2008 *Global Dictionary of Theology.* Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic.

Escobar, Samuel

- 2003 *The New Global Mission: The Gospel from Everywhere to Everyone.* Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity.

Hedlund, Roger E.

- 1993 *Roots of the Great Debate in Mission: Mission in Historical and Theological Perspective.* 2nd edition. Bangalore: Theological Book Trust.

Jenkins, Philip

- 2002 *The Next Christendom: The Coming of Global Christianity.* New York: Oxford.
- 2007 *God's Continent: Christianity, Islam and Europe's Religious Crisis.* New York: Oxford.

- 2008 *The Lost History of Christianity: The Thousand-Year Golden Age of the Middle East, Africa, and Asia-and How It Died.* New York: HarperCollins (HarperOne).

*Church in the*

Moreau, Scott, ed.

- 2000 *Evangelical Dictionary of World Missions.* Grand Rapids: Baker.

Muller, Karl et al., eds

- 1997 *Dictionary of Mission: Theology, History, Perspectives.* [English edition] Maryknoll, NY.: Orbis Books.

Nussbaum, Stan

- 2005 *Reader's Guide to Transforming Mission.* American Society of Mission Series. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books.

Ott, Craig and Harold Netland, eds.

- 2006 *Globalizing Theology: Belief and Practice in an Era of World Christianity.*  
Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books.

Sanneh, Lamin

- 2003 *Whose Religion is Christianity? The Gospel beyond the West.*  
Grand Rapids: Eerdmans.
- 2008 *Disciples of All Nations: Pillars of World Christianity.* New York: Oxford.

Shenk, Wibert, ed.

- 1993 *The Transfiguration of Mission: Biblical, Theological & Historical Foundations.* Scottsdale, Pennsylvania: Herald Press.
- 1998 *Changing Frontiers of Mission.* Maryknoll, N.Y.: Orbis Books.

Taylor, William D., ed

- 2001 *Global Missiology for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: The Iguassu Dialogue.*  
Grand Rapids: Baker Academic.

Thomas, Norman, ed

- 2003 *International Mission Bibliography: 1960-2000.* Atlanta, GA:  
Scarecrow Press.

See January 2006 issue of *Missiology* journal where major new resources introduced.

See January 2009 issue of *Missiology* journal where ASM session papers on *Missio Dei* are reported.

**Reading Schedule for Bevans & Schroeder, *Constants in Context* (BS) in left column.**

[Note parallel pages on topics and themes from David Bosch's *Transforming Mission* (B) are listed in the right column. **Reading Bosch's Part's 1 and 2 is optional!**]

**BS****B**

## Part 1

\_\_\_ 2/18 PART I pp. 7-72

ÒMissionary by Its Very NatureÓ

ÒYou Are Witnesses of These ThingsÓ

Introduction pp. 1-11

ÒLuke-ActsÓ pp. 84-122

ÒMission in PaulÓ pp.123-178

## Part 2

\_\_\_ 2/25 PART II pp. 73-136

ÒEarly ChurchÓ

ÒMonastic MovementÓ

Paradigm Changes pp. 181-189

ÒEastern ChurchÓ pp. 190-213

ÒMedieval Roman CatholicÓ 214-238

\_\_\_ 3/4 PART II pp. 138-205

ÒMendicant MovementÓ

ÒAge of DiscoveryÓ

ÒProtestant ReformationÓ 239-261

\_\_\_ 3/11 PART II pp. 206-238

ÒAge of ProgressÓ

ÒWake of the EnlightenmentÓ 262-345

\_\_\_ 3/18 PART II pp. 239-280

ÒTwentieth CenturyÓ

## Part 3

\_\_\_ 3/25 PART III pp. 281-285

ÒTheology of Mission/TodayÓ

ÒEmergence/ Postmodern ParadigmÓ 349-362

ÒTime of TestingÓ 363-367

\_\_\_ 4/1 Part III pp. 286-347

[Themes]

[Elements of Emerging Ecumenical Missionary Paradigm]

*Church-With Others* 368-389*Missio Dei [Reign of God]* 286-304*Missio Dei* 389-393*Theology* 489-498

Liberating Service of the Reign of God 305-322

*Quest for Justice* 400-409*Contextualization* 420-432*Liberation* 432-447

Jesus Christ as Universal Savior 323-347

*Mediating Salvation* 393-400*Evangelism* 409-420*Whole People of God* 467-474

\_\_\_ 4/8 Part III pp. 348-398

Prophetic Dialogue 348-395

*Inculturation* 447-457*Common Witness* 457-467

*Witness to People of Other Living Faiths* 474-489

*Action in Hope* 498-510

On Being Constant Today 396-398

ÖMission in Many ModesÖ 511-520

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1. The **Course Information Center** contains many features to be used throughout the semester:
  - a) **Course News and Announcements**, where I will post items important for the entire class;
  - b) **Syllabus**, where a copy of the syllabus is provided;
  - c) **To Professor**, which is a way for you to post a message directly to me and we can discuss an issue privately;
  - d) **Course Questions**, which is a public forum where you can publicly post any questions you have regarding the course so others may see your message and respond. Anytime you have a question or comment about the course, the schedule, the assignments, or anything else that may be of interest to other participants and me you should post it to the Course Questions Forum;
  - e) **Prayer Forum**, which is a public forum where you can post prayer concerns and praises for all to see. This is a way for us to build community;
  - f) **Open Forum**, which is a public forum where you can post anything that is not course-related for all to see. Examples include someone getting married, an upcoming birthday, discussions on topics not course-related, etc. This is a way for us to build community.
2. **Modules**, which are located below the Course Information Center, will contain forums where group discussions will take place, documents or other files to download or view online, and assignment links where you will post your assignments to me. Modules will be clearly labeled so you can follow along during the semester.

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For **technical support, library research support, library loans, and Virtual media** contact Information Commons: [Info\\_Commons@asburyseminary.edu](mailto:Info_Commons@asburyseminary.edu)  
Phone: (859) 858-2233; Toll-free: (866) 454-2733

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b. Virtual Students may request books, photocopies or emailed attachments of journal articles/portions of reference books from Asbury Seminary's Library. Please allow 3-10 business days for all requests to be filled. Contact the Information Commons for costs and instructions on how to make requests.

c. Virtual students are encouraged to make use of local library resources. Students who live within a 50 mile radius of either the Florida or the Kentucky campus should come to campus to obtain their materials.

#### 3. Research Questions:

a. Virtual students are encouraged to contact the Information Commons for research assistance including help determining the best sources to use for a paper, finding book reviews, or research questions about using the online databases or any other library materials.

#### 4. Online Databases:

a. To access the online library resources including the library catalog and full-text journal databases, go to <http://www.asburyseminary.edu/information/index.htm> and enter your 10-digit student ID# number in the login box. Your student ID# is provided on the biographical information section of the student registration webpage. Add a 2 and enough 0's to the front to make a 10-digit number (20000XXXXX where XXXXX = your student id).

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