

KNF 3060HF Mission Practicum Knox College

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Wednesday Mornings 9-11 am Winter 2018

Course Description:

This course is a field education practicum open only to Knox College students in the Master of Divinity program focused on the ecumenical church in its inter-cultural mission dimensions. Students will be prepared and debriefed during the course instruction before and after an inter-cultural exposure trip to Cuba which will take place during reading week. Three Knox Faculty members will accompany the students and will serve as field education supervisors during the exposure trip. This course will be a pass fail course and will be assessed by means of reflection papers, supervisor and student evaluations, and a final integrative paper.

Outcomes of the Course and Assessment Grid:

- The students will have an intercultural experience of the church as the world-wide body of Christ. Assessment: Exposure trip to Cuba integrative paper and group participation.
- This intercultural experience will bring students and faculty together to reflect theologically with other faculty and students on the theological, cultural and linguistic complexity of the reformed and ecumenical church in the world. Assessment: Group work and social interaction during the exposure trip.
- This event is to be a corporate and intentional process of engagement and reflection challenging students to deepen their understanding of what it means to integrate the practice and study of ministry from a inter-cultural perspective. Assessment: Course instruction and group work during exposure trip plus integrative paper.
- The students will learn about the discipline of missiology and evangelism and the theological, social, linguistic and cultural implications of the transmission of the Christian message across cultures and the practices related to such transmission. Assessment: In course instruction and weekly reflection papers.
- The students will learn about ecumenical theology and the theology of mission within the Presbyterian Church in Canada and more broadly the importance of understanding the Presbyterian Church in Canada commitment to partnership in mission thereby equipping students to be more effective leaders within their

- congregations. Assessment: In course instruction and review of Presbyterian Church in Canada documents.
- The students and faculty will learn about the challenges and opportunities of ministry in a context other than their own. The faculty representatives will experience and reflect in their teaching a first-hand knowledge of other than North American cultural and theological values. Assessment: Inter-cultural experience with Cuban students plus group reflection and supervisory reports.

Text Books:

Bosch, D.J. Transforming Mission: Paradigm Shifts in Theology of Mission. NY: Orbis Books, 1991.

Bosch, D.J. Witness to the World. Louisville: John Knox Press

Document Package Containing Documents from the Presbyterian Church in Canada, and mission publications.

Schedule:

Week 1 Jan 10 Introduction, Review of Syllabus

For Reflection report due Jan 17 reflect on Bosch reading re: Matthew 28

Week 2 Jan 17 Missiology

For Reflection report due Jan 24 reflect on Bosch reading re: Luke-Acts and Mission

Week 3 Jan 24 Mission Evangelism and Culture

For reflection report due Jan 31 read the Cuba trip resources on the history of Cuba and the history of the Cuban Church

Week 4 Jan 31 Cuban history and tradition

Week 5 Feb 7 Preparation Exercise for Cuba Intensive & Theological Encounter (culture, culture shock, diversity)

Week 6 Feb 14 No Class

Week 7 Feb 21 Cuba Intensive Trip

Week 8 Feb 28 No Class Cuban

Week 9 March 7 No Class

Week 10 March 14 Cuba Debrief exercise

Week 11 March 21 Building a Contextual Missional Theology 1.

Week 12 March 28 Building a Contextual Missional Theology 2.

Week 13 April 4 Integrative discussion

Week 14 April 11 Examination Week. Integrative Paper and Self Evaluation Due.

Assignments:

Reflection Reports Due: January 17, 24, 31, March 21 (Based on questions for class discussion)

Integrative Paper Due: April 11

Self Evaluation Due: April 11

Rubrics:

Mission Practicum Final Paper Rubric

Choose a biblical passage or metaphor that represents your understanding of the missionary challenge of the church in Canada in the midst of global Christianity.

Discuss this passage or metaphor with reference to:

1. your experience in Cuba,
2. your understanding of the role of culture in proclaiming the Gospel,
3. the conversation within mission studies,
4. biblical scholarship and insight
5. the use of critical social theory, social research and cultural anthropology.

Formulate what you believe to be the central missiological response of the church and your own congregation to the missiological challenge of Canada.

Approximately 3000 words

Evaluation Criteria

1. Clear and well organised argument?
2. Are all the dimensions of the assignment described above sufficiently included in the paper?
3. Has the student made use of course readings to make the argument?
4. Has the student made responsible use of biblical material taking into consideration contemporary scholarship, socio-cultural context of the text, and the responsible reading of the text in their contemporary context?
5. Has the student communicated an understanding of mission, evangelism, and the contemporary Canadian response in the light of the literature in the course?

Has the student integrated the intercultural practicum experience in Cuba as part of their argument?

Outline for Self Evaluation:

(The response to each category in the self-evaluation should be between 200 to 400 words)

Name:

Date:

1. During the course I have learned the following about the theological, cultural and linguistic complexity of the reformed and ecumenical church in the world:

2. As a result of my experience of the inter-cultural relationships with those I encountered in Cuba and in class I have gained the following insights about myself as a minister and my ministry in an inter-cultural context:

3. I have learned the following things about the theological, social, and cultural implications of mission and evangelism:

4. I have learned the following things about the understanding of mission and partnership within the Presbyterian Church in Canada or my own denominational context:

5. The course has helped me to identify the following dimensions of my own understanding of Christian faith and its embeddedness in my own cultural world:

6. Given my experience and learning during this course I will pay close and ongoing attention in my own ministry to the following things: