



CM514 Missional Living

Short Syllabus

Instructor: Charles Fleming, D.Miss.

Course description

Mission is the outworking of God's very nature and is exemplified in Jesus Christ who is described as the apostle, or the One Sent, who, in turn sends his church into his Father's harvest field. This course explores the practical implications of participating with Jesus Christ in his on-going mission to the world. Building on the premise that Jesus is God's Sent One, students will explore ways in which they can personally join Jesus in the work he is already doing in the lives of the people they interact with. Perspectives, principles and practices discussed in this course can be applied by pastors and ministry leaders to help their church to effectively participate in Jesus' ongoing mission in their context.

Estimated workload: For a student to do well in this course, the student will need to invest a total of 140 hours, or about 12-13 hours per week of reading, participating in website forums with the intent of developing an approach to living on mission and to equipping others to live missionally.

Required textbooks and articles

Chan, Sam. *Evangelism in a Skeptical World – How to Make Unbelievable News About Jesus More Believable*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Academic, ISBN 978-0-310-53468-6. Kindle

Frost, Michael. *Surprise the World: The Five Habits of Highly Missional People*. Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 2016. ISBN: 978-1-63146-516-1, 115 pp. \$8.00. Also available in Kindle.

Johnston, Ted. *The Church: It's about Incarnational, ministering Community*. A summary of a chapter from Ray Anderson's *The Shape of Practical*

Theology. Published online at [The church: it's about incarnational, ministering community \(gci.org\)](#), August 8, 2015. (4 Pages).

Johnston, Ted. *The Atonement is not just about the Cross*. A summary of a chapter from Ray Anderson's *The Soul of Ministry*. Published online at [The atonement is not just about the cross \(gci.org\)](#), March, 12, 2012 (2 Pages).

Reeves, Michael. *Overflow: How the Joy of the Trinity Inspires our Mission*. Chicago, IL: Moody Publishers, 2021, 96 pages. \$10.00. Also available in Kindle.

Ritner, Jon. *Positively Irritating: Embracing a Post-Christian World to Form a More Faithful and Innovative Church*. Cody WY, 100 Movements Publishing, 2020 ISBN: 978-1-7355988-0-2. 216 pages. \$19.00. Also available in Kindle.

Robinson, Peter. *The Trinity and God's Mission*. Online article at: [The Trinity and God's Mission \(wycliffecollege.ca\)](#) 3 pages.

Stott, John. "The Living God is a Missionary God." Chapter 1 in *Perspectives on the World Christian Movement*, 4th Edition. Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 2009. 7 pp.
https://perspectivesonmission.com/resources/Session02_Stott_TheLivingGodIsAMissionaryGod.pdf

Vanderstelt, Jeff. *Gospel Fluency: Speaking the Truths of Jesus into the Everyday Stuff of Life*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2017. ISBN: 978-1-4335-4603-7, 209 pp. \$18.00. Also available in Kindle.

To find the lowest prices on these books, you may find it helpful to use www.bookfinder.com.

Requirements and assignments

1. **Read the syllabus, class notes and weekly instructions.** Class notes and weekly instructions will be posted each Monday.
2. **View the recorded video lectures and selected supplemental videos.** Lectures average 50 minutes. Occasional supplemental videos are each less than 12 minutes.
3. **Read the textbooks and assigned articles.** In addition to the required texts supplemental articles may be assigned. The weekly reading load will vary to accommodate time for other assignments. (Approximately 11 hours per week.)
4. **Participate in Forums.** In most courses, part of the learning that occurs comes through discussion and interaction with other students. In an online class, this is done through comments posted on a discussion forum. (Approximately 1.6 hours per week.) This accounts for 32% of your grade.
5. **Guided Personal Retreat** – Preparing for and participating in and processing this retreat will take approximately 6 hours. This accounts for 4% of your grade.
6. **Response Paper # 1**– *A Report on My Retreat to Discern Next Steps in My Quest to Join Jesus in his Ongoing Mission.* This paper will be due the end of the 5th week. (Approx. 10 hours.) This accounts for 15% of your grade.
7. **Book Review** – Ritner, *Positively Irritating.* Two-page book review. (Approximately 4 hours.) This accounts for 4% of your grade.
8. **Response Paper # 2** – *God's Story Made Relevant in my Context.* This four-page paper will be due the end of the 8th week. (Approximately 10 hours hours.) This accounts for 15% of your grade.
9. **Final Paper** – *Personalizing Missional Living – Perspectives and Practices for Living Missionally and for Equipping Others to Live Missionally.* This six-page paper will be due the 12th week. (Approximately 15 hours.) This will account for 30% of your grade.