

REGENT COLLEGE  
Distance Education

THEO 620: THEOLOGY OF MISSION:  
BIBLICAL, THEOLOGICAL, AND GLOBAL THEMES

Lecturer: Dr. Charles Ringma

Course Tutor: Anthony Brown

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3 graduate credit hours

Course website (extra resources, discussion, announcements):

[www.regent-college.edu/classesonline](http://www.regent-college.edu/classesonline)

Your due date: \_\_\_\_\_

(See the last page of your Student Handbook for setting your due date)

**A course may be dropped within two weeks of the course start date (date from the Course Receipt Form once you receive your materials) for a 100% refund (less a \$25 drop fee). A course may be dropped between two and four weeks of the course start date for a 75% refund (less a \$25 drop fee). A course may be dropped between four and eight weeks of the course start date for no refund; after this time the student is committed to receiving a grade for the course. All course materials must be returned in original condition before a drop or refund will be approved.**

Course Description

This course examines the biblical basis for understanding God's redemptive and transformative concern for our world and our mission in the light of God's passion and care. The course will evaluate various theological patterns for understanding mission, including Reformed, Anabaptist, Pentecostal, Evangelical, and Liberation Theology models. The course will also examine the major contemporary missiological documents from the Roman Catholic, World Council of Churches, Evangelical, Orthodox and other perspectives.

*Course Objectives:*

1. To develop a coherent biblical perspective on God's mission and our mission in the world.
2. To evaluate the mission perspectives of some of the major theological traditions.
3. To critically interpret the contemporary missiological documents from the major denominational traditions.
4. To discern the major contours of mission in the light of the de-Christianization of the First World; the role of the church in the Two-Thirds World; and the issues of pluralism, ecumenism, the challenge of other religions, globalization, and social justice.

Academic Requirements and Time Investment

Lectures	30 hrs
Reading	50 hrs (1000 pp)
Evaluative Summaries	29 hrs
Final Research Paper	<u>26 hrs</u> (3000 wds)
TOTAL	135 hrs

**Assignments:**

**1. Reading and Evaluative Summaries.**

Students must read six missiological documents (see Required Reading list) and respond to each one with a five-page evaluative summary. Approximately 2/3 of the report should be a summary of the document's main points, and 1/3 should be your evaluation of the document, highlighting its strengths, weaknesses, etc.

**Due: (postmarked) six months after course materials are received.**

Students must also select 1000 pages of reading from the course text (*Transforming Mission*, D. J. Bosch) and the wider bibliography.

**2. Research Paper.**

You may choose one of the following options for this 3000 word research paper:

1. Write a research paper on a topic of your choosing that is related to the course material. This paper must show interaction with course lectures, the missiological documents, and other course readings. (Approval of your topic must be sought from the Course Tutor via email.)

OR

2. Craft a theology of mission for a specific context that is of personal importance to you. This paper must describe the social context that you have in view, as well as acknowledge biblical, historical and theological factors that will influence your theology of mission. Furthermore, this paper must show interaction with course lectures, the missiological documents, and other course readings (particularly Bosch's "Elements of an Emerging Ecumenical Missionary Paradigm," chapter 12 in *Transforming Mission*).

**Due: (postmarked) six months after course materials are received.**

**NB: The Course Evaluation Form must be completed and returned by your due date**

**Late Policy and Extensions (please read carefully!)**

**For every week that your course requirements are submitted late, there will be a deduction of a third of a letter grade per assignment accordingly. Only under circumstances that are both *unavoidable and unforeseeable* are extensions considered (please refer to your student handbook for specific details**

**<http://www.regent-college.edu/academics/cstudies/documents/StudentHandbook.pdf>). Weddings and births do not count as *unavoidable and unforeseeable*. If you need to go beyond the six-month time limit, you must contact the Coordinator *first* for an extension. Contact information is provided in your Student Handbook. Please note that extensions are not automatically granted, and must be applied for before your original due date.**

**ACADEMIC HONOUR Regent College upholds the highest standards of academic responsibility as part of our commitment to Christ in all of life. Students are required to familiarize themselves especially with the discussion of "Academic Integrity" in the College Catalogue.**

Evaluation

Evaluative Summaries 60 %  
Research Paper 40 %

## Bibliography

### **Required Reading**

#### *Course Texts:*

Bosch, D. J. (1991). *Transforming Mission: Paradigm Shifts in Theology of Mission*, Maryknoll: Orbis.  
Scherer, J. A. & S. B. Bevans, *New Directions in Mission and Evangelization I: Basic Statements 1974 – 1991*, (Maryknoll: Orbis, 1992).

**NB: This book takes four-six weeks to order online. We suggest you order it before beginning the course.**

#### *Missiological Documents (available on the course website and in the course text above):*

Third Latin American Congress on Evangelism, “The Whole Gospel from Latin America for All Peoples,” in (eds.) James A. Scherer & Stephen B. Bevans, *New Directions in Mission and Evangelization II: Theological Foundations*, (Maryknoll: Orbis, 1994), 191-198.  
(This document is available online as it is not in the primary course text.)

Lausanne Committee for World Evangelization, “The Manila Manifesto,” (Manila, 1989) in (eds.) James A. Scherer & Stephen B. Bevans, *New Directions in Mission and Evangelization I: Basic Statements 1974 – 1991*, (Maryknoll: Orbis, 1992), 292-305.

WCC Central Committee, “Ecumenical Affirmation: Mission and Evangelism,” (1982) in (eds.) James A. Scherer & Stephen B. Bevans, *New Directions in Mission and Evangelization I: Basic Statements 1974 – 1991*, (Maryknoll: Orbis, 1992).

Orthodox Advisory Group to WCC-CWME, “Go Forth in Peace: Orthodox Perspectives on Mission,” (1986) in (eds.) James A. Scherer & Stephen B. Bevans, *New Directions in Mission and Evangelization I: Basic Statements 1974 – 1991*, (Maryknoll: Orbis, 1992), 203-231.

Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue and Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples, “Dialogue and Proclamation” (Rome, 20 June 1991) in (eds.) James A. Scherer & Stephen B. Bevans, *New Directions in Mission and Evangelization I: Basic Statements 1974 – 1991*, (Maryknoll: Orbis, 1992), 177-200.

World Evangelical Fellowship, “Consultation on the Church in Response to Human Need,” (Wheaton, 1983) in (eds.) James A. Scherer & Stephen B. Bevans, *New Directions in Mission and Evangelization I: Basic Statements 1974 – 1991*, (Maryknoll: Orbis, 1992), 281-291.

### **Further Reading**

#### **A. Biblical Issues**

BLAUW, J., 1962, *The Missionary Nature of the Church*, London: Lutterworth.

BERKHOF, H., 1964, *The Doctrine of the Holy Spirit*, Richmond: John Knox.

BOER, H., 1961, *Pentecost and Mission*, London: Lutterworth.

BOSCH, D. J., 1991, *Transforming Mission: Paradigm Shifts in Theology of Mission*, Maryknoll: Orbis.

DYRNESS, W. A., 1983, *Let the Earth Rejoice: A Biblical Theology of Holistic Mission*, Westchester: Crossway Books.

ESCOBAR, S., 2003, *The New Global Mission: The Gospel from Everywhere to Everyone*. Downers Grove: IVP.

GILL, A., 1989, *Life on the Road*, Sydney: Lancer.

GILLAND, D. S., 1983, *Pauline Theology and Mission Practice*, Grand Rapids: Baker.

GOERNER, H. C., 1979, *All Nations in God's Purpose*, Nashville: Broadmans.

- GREEN, M., 1970, *Evangelism in the Early Church*, London: Hodder & Stoughton.
- GLASSER, A.F. et al., 2003, *Announcing the Kingdom: The Story of God's Mission in the Bible*, Grand Rapids: Baker Academic.
- HAHN, F., 1965, *Mission in the New Testament*, London: SCM.
- KANE, J. H., 1976, *Christian Missions in Biblical Perspective*, Grand Rapids: Baker.
- KÖSTENBERGER, A.J., 1998, *The Missions of Jesus and the Disciples According to the Fourth Gospel*, Grand Rapids: Eerdmans.
- LARKIN, W.J. & Williams, J.F. (eds.), 1998, *Mission in the New Testament: An Evangelical Approach*, Maryknoll: Orbis.
- LEGRAND, L., 1990, *Unity and Plurality: Mission in the Bible*, Maryknoll: Orbis.
- MALHERBE, A. J., 1977, *Social Aspects of Early Christianity* (2nd ed.), Philadelphia: Fortress Press.
- MEYER, B. F., 1986, *The Early Christians: Their World Mission and Self-Discovery*, Wilmington: Michael Glazier.
- MOTT, S. C., 1982, *Biblical Ethics and Social Change*, New York: Oxford University Press.
- NEWBIGIN, L., 1978, *The Open Secret*, London: SPCK.
- OKURE, T., 1988, *The Johannine Approach to Mission*, Tübingen: Mohr.
- PETERS, G. W., 1972, *A Biblical Theology of Missions*, Chicago: Moody.
- SCHOTTROFF, L. & Stegemann, W., 1986, *Jesus and the Hope of the Poor*, Maryknoll: Orbis.
- SCOTT, W., 1980, *Bring Forth Justice*, Grand Rapids: Eerdmans.
- SENIOR, D. & Stuhlmüller, C., 1983, *The Biblical Foundations for Mission*, London: SCM.
- SHENK, W. R. (ed.), 1993, *The Transfiguration of Mission: Biblical, Theological and Historical Foundations*, Scottdale: Herald Press.
- STASSEN, G.H. & GUSHEE, D.P., 2003, *Kingdom Ethics: Following Jesus in Contemporary Context*, Downer's Grove: IVP.
- VAN RHEENAN, G., 1996, *Missions: Biblical Foundations and Contemporary Strategies*, Grand Rapids: Zondervan.

## B. Theological Perspectives

- AMALADOSS, M., 1990, *Making All Things New: Dialogue, Pluralism and Evangelism in Asia*, Maryknoll: Orbis.
- ANDERSON, W., 1955, *Towards a Theology of Mission*, London: SCM.
- ATEEK, N.S., 1990, *Justice and Only Justice: A Palestinian Theology of Liberation*, Maryknoll: Orbis.
- BARTH, K., 1962, *Church Dogmatics: The Doctrine of Reconciliation* (Vol.IV, 3, II), Edinburgh: T. and T. Clark.
- BASSHAM, R. C., 1979, *Mission Theology 1948-1975*, Pasadena: William Carey Library.
- BAVINCK, J. H., 1960, *An Introduction to the Science of Missions*, Grand Rapids: Baker.
- BEVANS, S.B. & SCHROEDER, R.P., 2004, *Constants in Context: A Theology of Mission for Today*, Maryknoll: Orbis.
- BOESAK, A., 1984, *Black and Reformed: Apartheid, Liberation and the Calvinist Tradition*, Maryknoll: Orbis.
- BOSCH, D. J., 1991, *Transforming Mission: Paradigm Shifts in Theology of Mission*, Maryknoll: Orbis.
- BURNETT, D., 1986, *God's Mission: Healing the Nations*, Monrovia: MARC.
- COSTAS, O.E., 1982, *Christ Outside the Gate: Mission Beyond Christendom*, Maryknoll: Orbis.

- COSTAS, O. E., 1989, *Liberating News: A Theology of Contextual Evangelism*, Grand Rapids: Eerdmans.
- CULVER, R. D., 1984, *A Greater Commission: A Theology of World Missions*, Chicago: Moody.
- DORR, D., 2000, *Mission in Today's World*, Dublin: The Columbia Press.
- DRIVER, J., 1997, *Images of the Church in Mission*, Scottdale: Herald Press.
- DYRNESS, W.A., 1990, *Invitation to Cross-Cultural Theology*, Grand Rapids: Zondervan.
- ELLIS, M.H., 1987, *Toward a Jewish Theology of Liberation*, Maryknoll: Orbis.
- GITTERN, A.J., 1993, *Bread for the Journey: The Mission of Transformation and the Transformation of Mission*, Maryknoll: Orbis.
- GNANAKAN, K., 1989, *Kingdom Concerns*, Bangalore: Theological Book Trust.
- GUDER, D.L. (ed.), 1998, *Missional Church*, Grand Rapids: Eerdmans.
- GUTIÉRREZ, G., 1973, 1988, *A Theology of Liberation*, Maryknoll: Orbis.
- HUNSBERGER, G.R. & Van Gelder, C. (eds.), 1996, *Church: Between Gospel and Culture*, Grand Rapids: Eerdmans.
- HUNTER, H.D. and Hocken, P.D. (eds.), 1993, *All Together in One Place: Theological Papers from the Brighton Conference on World Evangelization*, Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press.
- KAROTEMPREL, S. (ed.), 1996, *Following Christ in Mission*, Pasay City: Paulines.
- KIRK, J.A., 1999, *What is Mission: Theological Explorations*, London: Darton, Longman & Todd.
- MUZOREWA, G. H., 1990, *An African Theology of Mission*, New York: Edwin Mellen.
- NEWBIGIN, L., 1987, *Mission in Christ's Way*, Geneva: WCC.
- NEWBIGIN, L., 1989, *The Gospel in a Pluralistic Society*, Grand Rapids: Eerdmans.
- PADILLA, R., 1985, *Mission Between the Times*, Grand Rapids: Eerdmans.
- POUSSON, E.K., 1992, *Spreading the Flame: Charismatic Churches and Mission Today*, Grand Rapids: Zondervan.
- RAHNER, K., 1967-1974, *Theological Investigations*, London: Darton, Longman and Todd.
- RAMACHANDRA, V., 1996, *The Recovery of Mission: Beyond the Pluralist Paradigm*, Grand Rapids: Eerdmans.
- RUSSELL, L.M., 1993, *Church in the Round: Feminist Interpretation of the Church*. Louisville: Westminster/John Knox Press.
- SCHILLEBEECKX, E., 1973, *The Mission of the Church*, London: Sheed and Ward.
- SCHREITER, R.J., 1992, *Constructing Local Theologies and Reconciliation: Mission and Ministries in a Changing World*, Maryknoll: Orbis.
- SHAULL, R., and CESAR, W., 2000, *Pentecostalism and the Future of the Christian Churches*, Grand Rapids: Eerdmans.
- SOLIVAN, S., 1998, *The Spirit, Pathos and Liberation: Toward an Hispanic Pentecostal Theology*, Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press.
- STOTT, J., 1975, *Christian Mission in the Modern World*, London: Falcon.
- VERKUYL, J., 1978, *Contemporary Missiology*, Grand Rapids: Eerdmans.
- VICEDOM, G. F., 1965, *The Mission of God: An Introduction to a Theology of Mission*, St. Louis: Concordia.
- VILLAFANE, E., 1993, *The Liberating Spirit: Towards an Hispanic American Pentecostal Social Ethic*, Grand Rapids: Eerdmans.
- WALTER, E. (ed.), 1990, *Jesus Christ and the Mission of the Church: Contemporary Anabaptist Perspectives*, Newton: Faith and Life Press.

### C. Missiological Perspectives and Documents

- GONZALEZ, J.L. (compiler), 1965, *The Sixteen Documents of Vatican II*, Boston: Daughters of St. Paul.
- KINNAMON, M. and Cope, B.E. (eds.), 1997, *The Ecumenical Movement: An Anthology of Key Texts and Voices*, Geneva: WCC.
- PITMAN, D.A., et. al, (eds.), 1996, *Ministry and Theology in Global Perspective*, Grand Rapids: Eerdmans.
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- STOTT, J. (ed.), 1996, *Making Christ Known: Historic Mission Documents from the Lausanne Movement 1974-1989*, Grand Rapids: Eerdmans.
- THOMAS, N.E. (ed.), 1995, *Classic Texts in Mission and World Christianity*, Maryknoll: Orbis.