Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary
Syllabus
Miss 521X - Cross-Cultural Communication

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This course examines the principles and procedures for cross-cultural communication. Emphasis is given to the theory of communication and how culture, worldview, language, behavior, and social structures influence communication. Students have the opportunity to practice strategies in propagating the Christian message.

Course Objectives:
1. Explain the theory of communication.
2. Understand the individual “baggage” brought to cross-cultural encounters.
3. Understand the inherent problems in having a messenger and a receptor from two different cultures.
4. Survey meaning, roles, and symbols in communication.
5. View and apply biblical models of cross-cultural communication.

Textbook:
*Communicating Christ Cross-Culturally—Second Edition* David J. Hesselgrave

Supplemental Reading:
*Cross-Cultural Conflict* Duane Elmer
*Cross-Cultural Connections* Duane Elmer
*Communicating God’s Word in a Complex World* Shaw and Van Engen

Course Requirements:
1. Attend all classes and complete all assignments.
2. Prepare and present a chapter summary from the textbook as assigned by the professor.
3. Build a relationship with an individual, family, or group of people from another culture. Maintain a journal noting the cultural differences and specific barriers to communication as you share Christ in this context.

4. Read two of the three books on the supplemental reading list and present a three page review.

5. Prepare an 8 (eight) page term paper on a subject to be assigned by the professor. The paper should be written in Turabian, MLA, or APA style, and it should include a title page and a bibliography. A minimum of 10 (ten) sources must be utilized. Only two of the ten sources may be internet based, and Wikipedia is not a valid source for this course.

Grading:

Tests  40%
Term Paper  30%
Reading, Journal, other assignments  30%

Important Dates:

Feb. 26 - 1st test
Mar. 4 - 1st book review due
Mar. 18 - 2nd test
April 15 - 2nd book review due
May 6 - Term paper due
May 13 - Final Exam and Journal due