The professor for this course is Ricky Williams. Primary contact with him should be via Moodle messages. Here’s how: Click the participants section of the course; choose the instructor’s name; scroll to the end of the biographical information; choose the tab of messages; type your message; click send message. The instructor will respond to your messages via Moodle. He may also be contacted for questions at either of the following emails: ricky.williams@bmats.edu or tenecmisionero@yahoo.com Although he serves as missionary for the BMA in Mexico, he currently is in Texas on a medical leave for his wife.

The instructor invites and encourages students to visit with him regarding their academic assignments or other life issues during the course. If some academic modification, instructional procedure adjustment, or course material alteration is needed for your success, please inform the instructor of the process required. The instructor’s hours are flexible to meet your scheduling requirements or individual needs. There may be a period of two weeks in February when the professor will be in South America that communication may be limited or sporadic.

Delivery and Terms:

This is not a self-paced course. There is an assigned beginning, dates due for assignments throughout the course, and an assigned final date for the course. Check the calendar provided in Moodle and the assignments in the topic blocks on Moodle.

TEXTBOOKS:

There are no assigned textbooks. The student will choose, with the approval of the professor, five mission biographies on which he will read and report.

Course Description: Miss 521 Selected Topics in Missions

This course is a specialized, advanced study in various topics related to missions. The topic for this particular course will be mission biographies. Emphasis will be given to reading the biographies in primary sources. A primary source is one that was written in or near the time which it covers. Since it is an independent study on biographies of missionaries, the largest portion of the course is simply reading and the resulting impact that the content has on the student.

Course Objectives:

1. Upon completion of this course the student will understand what primary source material is.
2. The student will be able to recall biographical elements of at least five different missionaries.
3. The student will feel motivated to apply the virtuous character traits identified in the missionaries in his/her life.
4. The student will be able to analyze and evaluate different missiological philosophies after having done the same with the missionaries he has studied.

**Course Requirements:**

1. **Read**
   
   Read five historic, missionary biographies. Total pages of the five works must be at least 1250 pages. Primary source documents are preferred. This means that the biography is written close to the time period covered by the life of that missionary. The importance of primary historical sources is explained in the following article on the web:


   Not every question mentioned in the article applies to missionary biographies, but the article should help you think through what is being said in primary source biographies.

2. **Reflections**
   
   Prepare a 2-3 page reflection on each missionary biography. This is not a summary. Basically, as you answer the questions below, you will relate how the book has helped you advance in your Christian walk and your understanding of mission philosophy. It will be double-spaced, font size 12 with Courier New. Because of the content of the biography, not all the questions may have answers. The following questions will be answered, if possible, depending on the information provided in the biographies. Please use parenthetical citation that include the page number where you found the information. However, the reflection should not be just a series of answers to these questions. Try and organize the information and present it in a logical fashion. The answer to these questions should be the basis for your reflection on the biography and its impact on your life.

   a) How have these biographies inspired me?
   b) How can I use what I have learned from these biographies to inspire others?
   c) What influenced the person to become a missionary?
   d) What preparation did the person have before becoming a missionary?
   e) Did that preparation help the person carry out his/her mission?
   f) How would you evaluate the missionary’s approach to mission work?
   g) What character traits did the missionary manifest?
   h) Did the missionary encounter cultural challenges and how did he/she cope with them?
   i) Did the missionary experience family difficulties?
   j) How did the missionary handle the family difficulty/difficulties?
   k) Were there any problems between the missionary and his sending agency?
   l) How did he/she handle them?
   m) What form of support did the missionary receive?
   n) Did that form of support cause the missionary any hardship or problem? If so, in what way?
   o) Was the missionary sent by a denomination or an agency?
   p) Did the sending denomination, church or agency cause any doctrinal or practical problem for the missionary to fulfill his mission?
   q) What would you have changed about the missionary and his/her approach to mission to make it better? If so, why?
   r) Were there any misunderstanding or misapplication of Biblical truth in the life of any of the missionaries? (The professor understands that this will depend, in large part, upon the theology of the student as well as the theology of the missionary.)

   Each reflection should have your name and the bibliographic information on the book read. Please mention if it was a hard copy or digital source.
3. Summary
A summary will be done on each book that will consist of one paragraph summarizing in two or three sentences each chapter. The summary will start with bibliographic content of the title, author, date, publisher, and source (whether digital or hard copy) and number of pages in the work. The summaries will be double-spaced, font size 12 with Courier New.

4. Timeline or PowerPoint Presentation
Prepare one of the following options: a) timeline listing the major points in the lives of each missionary you read about, b) prepare a power point presentation on the life of one of the missionaries you read about (the presentation should cover adequately all the historical points of his life, his philosophy of missions, and his place of service).

Assignments Due:
All assignments will be turned in to the instructor on the date due. You may turn in an assignment early but no added value is given on work turned in early. Assignments will be turned in via Moodle. Penalties for late assignments follow the BMATS catalog guidelines. In the case of an extreme emergency, please contact the instructor if you can’t be on time with your work. However, be advised that Moodle does not permit work to be submitted after the deadline date.

Grading:
A grade will be determined by averaging the scores of the reports, reading, and the option done from point 5 (power point presentation or the timeline). Attention will be given to grammar, promptness and thoroughness of the reports.

The course assignments consist of:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reflection (each one is worth 100 points)</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number 5 option (timeline or ppt)</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summaries (each one 40 pts.)</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

100-POINT REPORT EVALUATION

The following is the rubric for evaluating reflections:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Possible points</th>
<th>Achieved points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial approval of biographical source with instructor</td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use of Turabian (8th edition) standards</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requirement</td>
<td>Possible points</td>
<td>Achieved points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Questions answered if applicable</td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required length as stated in syllabus</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Written in student language</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clear and appropriate conclusion</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Content development</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Control of syntax and mechanics (that includes spelling)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biography is primary source document</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**300-POINT SPECIAL PRESENTATION EVALUATION**

The following is the rubric for evaluating the Special Presentation:

**Instructor contact—50 points**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Possible points</th>
<th>Achieved points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial instructor contact for approval of either the ppt presentation of a missionary or a timeline on all five missionaries</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Present draft to instructor for ppt or timeline</td>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requirement</td>
<td>Possible Points</td>
<td>Achieved Points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Follows logical sequence</td>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accurate presentation of dates</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is clear</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appropriate in Power Point/Timeline</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Makes no grammatical errors; all terms correct</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Includes sources consulted (bibliography)</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Has multiple sources of information, ideas, or order</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demonstrates research/thought</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shows ingenuity in staging, production, and media use/organization on timeline</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is appropriate length.</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Points</td>
<td>250</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Summary Report Rubric**

*Each Summary is worth 40 points, with 200 points being the total possible.*
Each chapter is adequately summarized | 20
Proper syntax and spelling is used | 20
Evidences having read the entire work | 10
Total per summary | 40

**Plagiarism**
Please note the BMATS policy on plagiarism. It is found in the Student Handbook2015-16, pp. 8-9.

**Course Completion:**
When the student submits via Moodle the five reflections, the five summaries, and the power point or timeline option, a grade will be assigned and posted on BMATS Campus SIS.

**Suggested Primary Source Biographies:**
Asbury, Francis. Methodist pioneer missionary in the United States in the 1700’s. His journal can be found at [http://wesley.nnu.edu/other-theologians/francis-asbury/](http://wesley.nnu.edu/other-theologians/francis-asbury/)

Judson, Adoniram. Missionary pioneer to Burma. This memoir is written by Francis Wayland but is proximate to the time of Judson. This book can be downloaded free to Google books or other reading sites. [https://play.google.com/books/reader?id=Zb5v_0v_Ej8C&printsec=frontcover&output=reader&hl=es_419&pg=GBS.PP10](https://play.google.com/books/reader?id=Zb5v_0v_Ej8C&printsec=frontcover&output=reader&hl=es_419&pg=GBS.PP10)

Carey, William. This is the Memoir written by Eustace Carey, William’s nephew. He was also a missionary to India. It can be found and downloaded also to Google books at [https://play.google.com/books/reader?id=pNsDAAAQAQAAJ&printsec=frontcover&output=reader&hl=es_419&pg=GBS.PP8](https://play.google.com/books/reader?id=pNsDAAAQAQAAJ&printsec=frontcover&output=reader&hl=es_419&pg=GBS.PP8)

You are not limited to these sources. These are suggestions and examples of primary sources.

**Timeline resource**
The following site gives some help on developing a timeline. Some good examples are located there.

[http://www.vertex42.com/ExcelArticles/create-a-timeline.html](http://www.vertex42.com/ExcelArticles/create-a-timeline.html)

**Miss 521c Schedule- Spring 2016**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Possible Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 26</td>
<td>Primary Source Article</td>
<td>Read and take quiz.</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 29</td>
<td>Personal biography</td>
<td>Contact Professor via email with a little information about yourself and your ministry.</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 29</td>
<td>First biography</td>
<td>Obtain approval via Forum</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Assignment</td>
<td>Due Date</td>
<td>Points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------</td>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------</td>
<td>--------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 16</td>
<td>Second &amp; Third Biography</td>
<td>Obtain approval via Forum</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 19</td>
<td>First biography</td>
<td>Reflection due via Moodle</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 26</td>
<td>PowerPoint or Timeline</td>
<td>Notify professor of choice</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 4</td>
<td>First biography</td>
<td>Summary due via Moodle</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 8</td>
<td>Fourth and Fifth Biography</td>
<td>Obtain approval via Forum</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 15</td>
<td>Second biography</td>
<td>Reflection due via Moodle</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 22</td>
<td>Second biography</td>
<td>Summary due via Moodle</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 29</td>
<td>Third biography</td>
<td>Reflection due via Moodle</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 5</td>
<td>Third biography</td>
<td>Summary due via Moodle</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 12</td>
<td>Fourth biography</td>
<td>Reflection due via Moodle</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 15</td>
<td>Timeline or Powerpoint</td>
<td>Draft submission for review</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 19</td>
<td>Fourth biography</td>
<td>Summary due via Moodle</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 26</td>
<td>Fifth biography</td>
<td>Reflection due via Moodle</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 3</td>
<td>Fifth biography</td>
<td>Summary due via Moodle</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 10</td>
<td>Timeline or PowerPoint</td>
<td>Due via Moodle</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA):**

Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary supports the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students with physical or learning disabilities desiring additional assistance must consult with the Dean’s office prior to enrollment or as early as possible after the disability is diagnosed. Procedures for assisting students will require a physician’s written verification of the disability and probable benefit(s) of specific assistance for student learning, a student’s specific written request(s) for assistance from the seminary, and the informing of the seminary faculty. Reasonable accommodations will be given in accordance with the federal and state laws through the Dean’s Office. Contact the Dean’s Office in the main administration building in person or:

- by mail: P.O. Box 670 (East Pine Street) Jacksonville, TX 75766-5407
- by phone: 800-259-5673
- by email: bmats@bmats.edu

Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary is dedicated to helping all students we serve to achieve her or his Christian, educational, and life goals.