



PBC
PERTH BIBLE COLLEGE

STUDY LEVEL **800 LEVEL**

UNIT CODE: **MI801**

UNIT TITLE: **Foundational Mission Perspectives**

TRIMESTER: **Trimester 3, 2023**

LECTURER: **Dr Steve Young**

CONTACT DETAILS: Phone: (08) 9243 2000
Email: syoung@pbc.wa.edu.au

UNIT OVERVIEW:

What is exciting about this unit? This is an exciting unit because it addresses the heart of God for his creation, and our own place in it. Mission, understood as the *missio Dei*, is “from the heart of God, to each context, and it is carried out in suffering in this world for God’s eternal glory.” God calls the church to join in this mission under the lordship of Christ and in the power of the Spirit. Students enrolled in this unit will deepen their understanding of what the Triune God is doing in the world from historical, biblical/theological, and contemporary perspectives.

Why should students take this unit? Students should take this unit if they are interested in a second question: What does it mean to be a Christian? This unit seeks to answer this second question by re-examining the nature of the church, and therefore of every believer within it, in relation to the *missio Dei* – what God has been and is doing in the world. If one allows the church to define mission, then mission may be mistakenly understood as the compartmentalized task of select people who go to strange countries to preach the gospel. But the church does not define mission, it is the other way around: the *missio Dei* defines the church, telling all of us who we are and what we are to be about. Mission is a general call of and for all Christians. Joining what God is doing in the world involves all our being, in whatever context we may find ourselves, and implies that every aspect of human need becomes an opportunity for the church to *be* the church in service and worship. Viewed in this way, the content of this unit is essential for understanding the Christian life.

ACADEMIC DETAILS

Location in course:	This is an advanced ministry elective unit offered at Level 800 .
Workload	This unit carries 3 credit points. The contact hours for this unit are 2.5 hours/week for 11 weeks. Students are expected to study a further 8.5 hours/week.
Pre-Requisites	None
Delivery	Delivery will be via lectures, research assignments, and extra content supplied on Moodle.
Summary of Content	Over the trimester, this course will (1) trace the <i>missio Dei</i> through history, from ancient and medieval times to the present; (2) establish a Trinitarian basis for mission via a theological approach to Scripture; and (3) examine foundational concepts related to the church in God's mission today.
Learning outcomes	By the completion of this unit, students will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Employ foundational theological knowledge to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Appraise God's redemptive plan for all nations throughout the Old and New Testament and critically discuss its implication for the church today. 2. Critically Interpret the theology behind key events in the history of missions. 3. Critically evaluate a range of cultural and strategic contemporary issues regarding local and cross-cultural missions. B. Analyse a practical context to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Describe the religious and cultural composition of a particular context. C. Develop and employ practical methods and actions to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Communicate God's redemptive plan for all nations across the Old and New Testaments in various settings. D. Engage in critical personal reflection to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Appraise personal barriers and limitations to cross-cultural missions.
Requirements to complete	To successfully complete this unit students must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Lodge all assessments that are required for this unit, and b) obtain a total grade of at least 50% in the unit.

ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

Assessment Type	When assessed	Weighting	Learning outcomes Assessed
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Book Review	Week 8	25%	A1, A2, C1, D1
Context Analysis	Week 10	25%	B1, C1, D1
Critical Theological Responses	Weeks 6 and 12	50%	A1, A2, A3
All assignments are to be submitted via Moodle by 11:55pm on the day the class is scheduled in the trimester week specified above, unless indicated otherwise.			

LECTURE SYLLABUS

Week	Content	Pre-reading
1.	Introductory Matters / Ancient and Medieval Mission	Sunquist, 1-41
2.	Colonial Missions (1 & 2)	Sunquist, 42-85
3.	Western Missions: Christianisation, Civilisation, and Commerce	Sunquist, 86-131
4.	The Waning and Reconception of Christian Mission: Postcolonial Missiologies (1948-Present)	Sunquist, 132-168
5.	The Creator God as Sending Father: Missional Scripture, Missional God	Sunquist, 169-197
6.	Jesus, Sent as the Suffering Sacrificing Son: The Centerpiece of Christian Mission	Sunquist, 198-229
7.	Holy Spirit in Mission: Presence, Participation, and Power	Sunquist, 230-269
8.	Church: The Community of Worship and Witness	Sunquist, 271-310
9.	Witnessing Community: Evangelism and Christian Mission	Sunquist, 311-340
10.	Urban Community: Mission and the City	Sunquist, 341-369
11.	Global Community: Partnership in Mission / Spirituality and Mission: Suffering and Glory	Sunquist, 370-411
12.	Study Week	

ASSESSMENT ITEMS

<p>Critical Theological Responses:</p> <p>Respond weekly to the contents of the lecture, assigned reading, and group discussion, enhancing your treatment of key topics with independent research.</p> <p>500 words per week; 5,000 total</p> <p>Carries 50% of total grade (25% + 25%)</p>	<p>General Description and Scope of Assessment Type: This assessment provides an extensive and wide-ranging evaluation of the student's understanding of, and critical engagement with, the views developed in the lectures and textbooks. It provides opportunities for subjective reflection, critical consideration of lecture and reading contents, group discussion, and independent research. Due to its scope, the assessment carries a significant proportion of the marks. The students will be engaged with the range of topics covered in class and will also be expected to develop an integrated response to the course as a whole.</p> <p>Assessment Type Calibrated for AQF Level 8: References: Students are expected to reference at least nine sources (including two journal articles). This assessment requires students to respond critically to the lecture contents through their personal voice, insights gleaned from two other students, the prescribed reading and eight other sources.</p> <p>Questions which may help in developing responses:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What aspects of the lecture did you not fully understand? 2. What insights have you gained from discussing with others on the issues raised in class and the prescribed reading? 3. What questions did the lecture raise? What are the views of other scholars on some of the critical issues that you have identified? 4. Are there any issues in the lecture and reading material with which you strongly disagree? Could you develop an alternative position? 5. Do you consider the material presented in the lecture (series of lectures) essential and relevant? Why do you think the lecturer considers the work to be important? 6. How could the insights you have gained from the class impact on your relationship with God? 7. How will the work that you have done in class impact on your ministry? 8. How do the insights from this class or series of classes integrate with ideas from other units? 9. How do you view God, people and the world differently because of this lecture? <p>A holistic mark will be allocated regarding the following criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Accurate summaries of the main thoughts developed in class and in response to the questions for consideration. 2. Critical interaction with lecture contents. 3. Original contribution of own ideas on the topics covered. 4. Appropriate references to other scholars (minimum 5). Students must reference the textbook. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Word Count: 500 weekly x 10 weeks = 5,000 total • References: minimum of 9 (including two journal articles) • Due: Week 6 (25%): lectures & readings weeks 1-5 Week 12 (Friday) (25%): lectures & readings weeks 6-9 & 11 (week 10 is replaced with roundtable discussion)
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<p>Book Review</p> <p>Write a review on the book by Lesslie Newbigin (1995), <i>The Open Secret: An Introduction to the Theology of Mission</i>.</p> <p>Carries 25% of total grade</p>	<p>General Description and Scope of Assessment Type: This assessment helps students gain exposure to alternative viewpoints and foster their critical thinking. Book reviews should include two main parts: first, they should indicate a thorough knowledge of the book as a whole read on its own terms. They should seek to give a summary of the entire volume with special attention given to the book's fundamental aim, central theme(s), presuppositions, and method(s). Second, they should engage the book both critically and personally; critically by assessing such things as its understandability, whether it accomplishes its aim, if its assumptions are defensible and its argument cogent; personally, by indicating how the reading of the book has shaped the student, and in what way (if at all) the student regards it as an important book. Whenever possible, the critique of the book should be situated within the larger discussion of the subject.</p> <p>Assessment Type Calibrated for AQF Level 8. References: Students are only expected to reference the one book, but they may refer to others to set the book under review within the wider discussion of its subject matter if they so choose. When representing the book's substance, reviews are expected to set the book in context of the wider scholarly discussion on its topic, articulate clearly the book's thesis, and trace the argument of the book in its entirety and with attention to detail appropriate to exemplify its argument. As for engaging with the book's substance, reviews at this level should critically interact with assumptions or claims essential to the book's argument, assessing the success of its argument and the overall significance of the book in terms of its own stated purposes. In terms of their presentation, reviews should include a relevant introduction and conclusion and be reasonably structured, be characterized by transparent clarity in their argument, and with material well organized for the length of the review. They should be presented in a professional manner in terms of spelling, sentence and paragraph construction, and acceptable form/style.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Word Count: 1,500 words • References: none required beyond book itself • Due: Week 8
<p>Report on Context Analysis (and Roundtable Discussion)</p> <p>Carries 25% of total grade</p>	<p>General Description and Scope of Assessment Type: The assessment item may focus on believers' theological praxis or everyday life worlds to ascertain how theological knowledge is interpreted, practised and communicated. The scope of this assessment extends to practical theology (pt), practical ministry (m) and to challenging presuppositions (e) when it requires students to set the practical context in a bipolar and tense relationship with their theological theories.</p> <p>A report is a valuable assessment tool that allows students to construct an informed, critical, logical, and coherent response to a particular problem or issue. It is beneficial in evaluating the student's research skills (both theoretical and practical theological). Reports can cover a</p>

	<p>wide range of Outcomes depending on the research task. The information supports students' knowledge development within the course and facilitates practical theological interaction with the context (pt) while also allowing for personal reflection(e). It can also function as a valuable ministry tool (m).</p> <p>Assessment Type Calibrated for AQF 800 level: References: Students are expected to reference at least nine sources (including two journal articles). The "Context Analysis" assignment assesses foundational and fairly advanced practical theological knowledge and methodological ministry skills. It requires students to evaluate the context in light of a fairly developed practical theological ideal theory and engage with a fairly complex praxis situation.</p> <p>Students must critically analyse a theological topic or issue and determine the theme and sub-themes to advance a critical response. It should have a proper introduction and conclusion and develop a solid critical argument with supporting evidence. Students should predominantly show evidence of research with critical considerations based on competing views between scholars. There should be clear evidence of the student's voice.</p> <p>Specific Instructions: Taking Chapter 11 of Sunquist on "Urban Community" as your starting point, write a 1,500-word report on "Mission to the City." The report should focus specifically on a real urban centre; for those who live in or near Perth, they should focus on Perth (those living elsewhere should focus on the urban centre in which they live or one close to them).</p> <p>Additionally, come to class Week 11 with three questions on Mission in the City and be prepared to share them in a roundtable discussion. These questions need to be printed on one A4 page with your name on it, to be handed in.</p> <p>(The marked portion of this assignment is the Report; the roundtable discussion and three questions are to facilitate the sharing and discussion of the findings of this report with the rest of the class.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Word Count: 1,500 words • References: minimum of 9 (including two journal articles) • Due: Week 10 prior to the class meeting, as it will be discussed in class.
<p>* All assignments are to be submitted via Moodle by 11:55pm on the day the class is scheduled in the trimester week specified above, unless indicated otherwise.</p>	

Students should also have a *working* knowledge of PBC's Assessment Policies (www.pbc.wa.edu.au and then *Student Portal/Useful Links/Policies & Procedures/ Assessment Policies*) to assist in completing this unit.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

Newbigin, L 1995, *The Open Secret: An Introduction to the Theology of Mission*, 2nd ed., SPCK. (Perlego)

Sunquist, SW 2013, *Understanding Christian Mission: Participation in Suffering and Glory*, Baker Academic, Grand Rapids. (EBSCO)

OTHER KEY REFERENCES (CLOSED RESERVE)

Allen, R 1962 [1912], *Missionary Methods: St. Paul's or Ours? A Study of the Church in the Four Provinces*, Wm. B. Eerdmans, Grand Rapids. (Perlego)

Bosch, DJ 2011 [1991], *Transforming Mission: Paradigm Shifts in Theology of Mission*, 20th anniversary ed., Orbis Books, Maryknoll, NY.

Goheen, MW, Kiple, C & Hagenberg, B 2014, *Introducing Christian Mission Today*, IVP Academic, Downers Grove. (EBSCO)

Hill, G 2017, *Salt, Light, and a City: Ecclesiology for the Global Missional Community*, Vol. 1, *Western Voices*, 2nd edn., Cascade, Eugene, Ore.

Hill, G 2020, *Salt, Light, and a City: Conformation—Ecclesiology for the Global Missional Community*, Vol. 2: *Majority World Voices*, 2nd edn., Cascade, Eugene, Ore.

Keller, TJ 2012, *Center Church: Doing Balanced, Gospel-Centered Ministry in your City*, Zondervan, Grand Rapids.

Moreau, AS, Orwin GR, & McGee, GB, 2015 *Introducing World Missions: A Biblical, Historical and Practical Survey*, 2nd edn., Baker Academic, Grand Rapids. (Perlego)

Ott, C, Strauss, S & Tennent, TC 2010, *Encountering Theology of Mission: Biblical Foundations, Historical Developments, and Contemporary Issues*, Baker Academic, Grand Rapids. (Perlego)

Pocock, M, Van Rheenen, G & McConnell, D 2005, *The Changing Face of World Missions: Engaging Contemporary Issues and Trends*, Baker Academic, Grand Rapids. (Perlego)

Terry, JM & Payne, JD 2013, *Developing a Strategy for Missions: A Biblical, Historical and Cultural Introduction*, Baker Academic, Grand Rapids. (Perlego)

Terry, JM 2015, *Missiology: An Introduction to the Foundations, History, and Strategies of World Missions*, B&H Academic, Nashville. (EBSCO)