

COURSE SYLLABUS

Introduction to World Christian Missions

Course Lecturer: William D. Taylor, PhD
Global Ambassador for the World Evangelical Alliance

Revised By: Richard A. Cotton, ThM

Course Description

God has one unified, global purpose for all He does. This course introduces the exciting biblical, historical, cultural, and strategic dimensions of His plan. It addresses key issues: the basis of and necessity for world missions, and the status of and plan for world missions. Students are introduced to the basics they need to pursue missionary training or to help lead their local church in its global ministry.

Course Objectives

Upon completion of the course, you should be able to:

- Articulate a foundational biblical theology of world missions.
- Be aware of the scope of God’s worldwide church and the needs, dangers, tensions, and trends in world missions today.
- Evaluate contemporary strategies for completing the task of world missions.
- Develop a balanced missions program for the local church and lead that church in global outreach.
- Respond to worldwide needs by pursuing lifelong personal involvement as a “sender” or a “sent one.”

Course Lecturer



William D. Taylor, PhD

Education:

- University of Texas, PhD
- Dallas Theological Seminary, ThM
- North Texas State University, BA
- Diploma in Missions, Moody Bible Institute

Teaching Career:

- Professor, Central American Theological Seminary (1970-1986)
- Christian ministry and missions instructor at several schools, including Columbia International University, Dallas Theological Seminary, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Reformed Theological Seminary, and William Carey University
- Visiting professor or lecturer, All Nations Christian College in the United Kingdom and the Asia Cross-Cultural Training Institute in Singapore

Other Career Highlights:

- Global Ambassador, World Evangelical Alliance
- Executive Director, Missions Commission for the World Evangelical Fellowship—oversaw work in 115 nations with 150 million Christians
- Editor, *Internationalizing Missionary Training*, *Kingdom Partnerships for Synergy in Missions*, and *Too Valuable to Lose*
- Staff, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship
- Missionary, CAM International (1967-1985) – taught and served as a church planter and in pastoral ministry in Guatemala

Publications:

- *Crisis and Hope in Latin America*, a book he coauthored with renowned Latin theologian Emilio A. Núñez
- Variety of Spanish publications

Recommended Reading

Though not required, you may choose to read the textbooks shown below to supplement your learning.

Winter, Ralph D. and Steven C. Hawthorne, eds. *Perspectives on the World Christian Movement*. 3rd ed. Pasadena: William Carey Library, 1999.

Myers, Brant L. *Exploring World Mission: Context and Challenges*. Monrovia, CA: World Vision International, 2003.

Textbooks can be ordered through your local bookstore, various online bookstores, or through your preferred eReader when available.

Course Methods

The lecture content for each lesson is provided in two easy-to-use formats: audio and PDF text (if available). Students can choose the medium (or combination of media) that most closely aligns with their individual learning styles.

Course Assessment and Requirements

To earn a Certificate of Completion, you must complete the course requirements. Course requirements include:

1. Listening to all 24 audio lectures.
2. Completing a final self-assessment form in which you will reflect on the content in the course and evaluate your life in light of what you have learned. The specifics of this assessment are provided in the course materials.

Course requirements noted in this syllabus will be validated before a Certificate of Completion is awarded to any student.