

GS5110 Global Mission Work: Principles and Practices

3 credits. Prerequisites: none.

 Online Video with some 'A' Livestream



Sept 14, 2026 – April 16, 2027

Full-year course

Instructor: D. Murray Cornelius, PhD Cand.

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**Note: Students will participate in livestream discussions with people who are already placed or preparing for deployment for Global Ministry. This course will also require significant reading with reading summaries during the course as well as a final paper noted in the assignments.*

Course Goals

Course Description

The course prepares those exploring or preparing for global mission work. It exposes students to current realities and provides an on-boarding learning experience that is normally required by mission sending agencies. Students will study and engage topics such as motivation, ministry requirements, cultural adjustment, trends in global mission work, spirituality, disciple making, and effective community development. In addition, students will consider ways that they might serve in global mission work in the future.

Relationship to Horizon's Mission

This course will help develop leaders who may be called or want to better understand the challenges of advancing God's Kingdom in a global context, particularly in Restricted contexts where gospel access is very limited. The IM Equip program that the PAOC has established to prepare workers for deployment will increase awareness of trends, issues and strategies in global mission and provide an introduction to contextualized approaches to evangelism and social engagement.

Course Competencies and Learning Outcomes

To demonstrate competency in *Contextual Awareness*, students will

1. Discuss the importance of cultural understanding and adaptation in the fulfilling God's mission in different cultural contexts.
 - *Assessment:* IM Equip Modules; Debriefs

2. Discuss the importance, the challenges, and the benefits of engaging in global mission work.
 - *Assessment:* IM Equip Modules; Debriefs; Reflective Research Assignment
3. Discuss the many methods and strategies used in mission around the world and their effectiveness in fulfilling the mission of God.
 - *Assessment:* IM Equip Modules; Debriefs
4. Reflect personally on how they might engage in God's mission in the world.
 - *Assessment:* IM Equip Modules; Debriefs

Course Work

Required Readings

Provided in each module throughout the course.

Recommended Reading

Elmer, Duane. *Cross-Cultural Servanthood: Serving the World in Christlike Humility*. Downer's Grove: IVP, 2006.

Sanneh, Lamin. *Translating the Message: The Missionary Impact on Culture*. 2nd edition. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 2009.

Steffen, Tom, and Lois M Douglas. *Encountering Missionary Life and Work: Preparing for Intercultural Ministry*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2008.

Trotter, Elizabeth, and Jonathan Trotter. *Serving Well: Help for the Wannabe, Newbie or Weary Cross-cultural Christian Worker*. Eugene, OR: Resource Publications, 2019.

Wright, Christopher J. H. *The Mission of God's People: A Biblical Theology of the Church's Mission*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Academic, 2010.

Course Assignments and Activities

1 and 3. IM Equip Modules – 50% (fall semester = 25%, winter semester = 25%)

The primary requirement for this course is completion of the IM Equip training modules provided by the PAOC's Mission Global department. Each module is taught by global professionals with a master's degree or higher. Modules provide a practical focus on global work and missionary life through discussion and interaction which presents important principles and practices for global work. Students pass each module by completing short assignment submissions, engaging in online discussion forums, and (in some cases) participating in one-hour Zoom sessions with others who are completing the modules. You will receive a grade after the

first and second semester. The module facilitator will assign a grade based on your successful completion of all aspects associated with the modules.

- Related learning outcomes: #1-4.
- **Assignment length:** about 90 hours.
- **Due date:** See the schedule below.

2 and 4. Module Debriefs – 20% (fall semester = 10%, winter semester = 10%)

After each module, you and the other students from Horizon will meet on Zoom with your instructor for a debrief discussion. At these meetings, you will discuss what you learned, such as what you found helpful, what you found challenging, and anything that you questioned or disagreed with. Later in the course, you will also spend time reflecting on what your future might look like if you were to become a global worker. Near the end of each semester, you will also have a one-on-one debrief with the instructor. You will receive a grade after the first and second semester. Your instructor will assign a grade based on how well you have understood the course material and your meaningful engagement in the module debriefs.

- Related learning outcomes: #1-4.
- **Assignment length:** about 9 hours (about 1 hour for each debrief).
- **Due dates:** Soon after each module, as determined in consultation with the instructor.

5. Reflective Research Assignment – 30%

You will write an essay addressing the following questions and responding to common objections to the current missionary enterprise.

1. Given that Canada is a desperately gospel-needy country, should the Canadian church continue to engage in global mission when Canada is such a secular nation? The majority world is now more Christian than Canada, so should we not focus our resources, financial and people, on reaching Canada?
2. Given that through immigration, Canada has received people from nearly every nation, can we not fulfill the great commission to go to the ends of the earth within our own borders? After all, the world has come to Canada.
3. If the mission enterprise was complicit with colonialism, as is a common view in society today, should we stop all our efforts to evangelize cross-culturally? How do we respond to those who would suggest that mission is un-Christian?

You can largely draw on the info from the modules in order to answer these questions, but you will find that you will need to do some research to supplement what you have already learned. Include citations when necessary. You may find helpful the recommended resources on page 2 of this syllabus. Include a bibliography with your paper.

- Related learning outcome: #2.
- **Assignment length:** 12 pages.
- **Due:** March 31, 2027.

Estimate of Time Investment (individual time investments may vary)

			Assignment Weighting
1. Fall Semester IM Equip Modules	40 hrs	Dec 11	25%
2. Fall Semester Module Debriefs	4 hrs	Dec 14	10%
3. Winter Semester IM Equip Modules	50 hrs	April 9	25%

4. Winter Semester Module Debriefs	5 hrs	April 12	10%
5. Reflective Research Assignment	24 hrs	March 31	30%
Total =		approximately 123 hrs	

All assignments are due at 8pm ***SK time*** unless otherwise indicated.

Course Outline

Notes:

- Each of the IM Equip modules require about 10 hours to complete.
- “Live Sessions” indicated below are on Zoom.
- Module Debriefs take place on Zoom, following the completion of the module. Times are flexible and to be determined in consultation with the instructor.
- SK students will need to be aware of the time changes throughout the year.

Date	IM Equip Module or Debrief	Length	Live Sessions / Debrief
Fall 2026 (tentative)			
Sept 21	Syllabus & Introductory Session	1 meeting	2pm ET, Mon, Sept 21
Oct 12 – 16	MG Vision, Mission & Values	1 week	8pm ET, Thurs, Oct 15
Oct 19	Debrief 1	1 hour	2pm ET, Mon, Oct 19
Oct 19 – Nov 13	Making Disciples	4 weeks	8pm ET, Thurs, Oct 22 8pm ET, Thurs, Nov 5
Nov 16	Debrief 2	1 hour	2pm ET, Mon, Nov 16
Nov 16 – 20	Effective Community Development	1 week	8pm ET, Thurs, Nov 19
Nov 23	Debrief 3	1 hour	2pm ET, Mon, Nov 23
Nov 23 – Dec 11	Cross Cultural Transitions	3 weeks	n/a
Dec 14	Debrief 4 & one-on-one debrief	1 hour	2pm ET, Mon, Dec 14
Winter 2027 (tentative)			
Jan 4 – Jan 15	Understanding Poverty	2 weeks	n/a
Jan 18	Debrief 5	1 hour	2pm ET, Mon, Jan 18
Jan 18 – Feb 5	Current Trends and Issues in Mission	3 weeks	n/a
Feb 8	Debrief 6	1 hour	2pm ET, Mon, Feb 8
Feb 8 – Feb 26	Character, Community, and Care (includes a Birkman assessment with debrief)	3 weeks	n/a
Mar 1	Debrief 7	1 hour	2pm ET, Mon, Mar 1
Mar 1 – Mar 19	Fruitfulness: Strategy and Metrics	3 weeks	n/a
Mar 22	Debrief 8	1 hour	2pm ET, Mon, Mar 22
Mar 22 – Apr 9	Spiritual Vitality, Gifts, and Warfare	3 weeks	n/a
Mar 31	<i>Reflective Research Assignment due</i>	12 pages	n/a
Apr 12	Debrief 9 & one-on-one debrief	1 hour	2pm ET, Mon, Apr 12

- All aspects of the course must be completed by April 16, 2027.

Academic Policies

General Assignment Guidelines

Please see the [Horizon](#) & [MCS](#) Format Guide for assignment submission, grammar, and formatting guidelines. The length of papers should fall within +/- 10% of the stated length. Papers that fall outside the length guidelines may not be graded. Assignments should be submitted via Populi under *Submissions* (not *Comments*). The resource at this [link](#) explains how to submit assignments on Populi.

Late Assignments and Extensions

Please contact the professor well in advance if you would like to request an adjustment to any of your due dates. No extensions will be granted beyond the course end date unless approval is granted by Horizon's Assistant Academic Dean.

A late penalty will be assessed for all overdue assignments: 1-3 calendar days late, penalty of 10%; 4-6 calendar days late, penalty of 20%. After six days late, an assignment receives a grade of 0.

Grading

Grade	Percentage	GPA	Descriptor
A+	97-100%	4	Exceptional
A	93-96%	4	Excellent
A-	90-92%	3.7	Excellent
B+	87-89%	3.3	Good
B	83-86%	3.0	Good
B-	80-82%	2.7	Good
C+	77-79%	2.3	Satisfactory
C	73-76%	2.0	Satisfactory
C-	70-72%	1.7	Satisfactory
D+	67-69%	1.3	Minimal Pass
D	63-66%	1.0	Minimal Pass
D-	60-62%	0.7	Minimal Pass
F	<60%	0	Failure

Academic Integrity

Students learn best when practicing academic integrity. A lack of integrity is displayed in acts such as deception, abuse of confidentiality, cheating, inappropriate collaboration, or plagiarism. Plagiarism occurs when a student presents the words or ideas of another person or an artificial intelligence (AI) tool in such a way as to give others the impression that it is their own words or ideas. In academic writing, there should be no doubt which words or ideas are the student's and which are drawn from other sources or AI. Students are expected to submit their own original work and give due recognition to sources from which all substantial phrases, sentences, or even ideas are drawn. Note also that you may not submit work done in one course to satisfy the requirements of another course (unless both instructors agree beforehand to accept such work). See [here](#) for examples of plagiarism and further guidelines in the [Student Handbook](#).

Horizon has a subscription to software that ensures the originality of academic writing, verifies the proper citation of all sources, and detects AI-generated content. When you submit an assignment, you will automatically receive a summary on Populi that includes your submitted files along with an originality score (a high originality score is positive).

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Usage

In keeping with the Academic Integrity policy above, students must disclose on the title page of all assignments whether or not they have used AI and how they have used it. If the assignment has no title page, the student must disclose this to the instructor by some other means, such as in a comment on Populi. Students are expected to follow the policy for acceptable use of AI that is published in the [Student Handbook](#).

Accessible Learning Services Information

Horizon is committed to provide safe and inclusive learning environments which equalize the opportunity for students with disabilities to meet the requirements of the institution, programs, and courses. The application for Academic Accommodations begins with a student disclosing a medical diagnosis or professionally documented learning disability during the application process. Enrolled students may contact Horizon's Academic Accommodations Coordinator, Richelle Bekkattla at rbekkattla@horizon.edu. All Academic Accommodations will adhere to the Guiding Principles listed in the [Student Handbook](#). Students with documented accommodations on file pertaining to accessing course readings in alternate formats are encouraged to contact the librarian for assistance with as much advanced notice as possible.

Class Attendance

Students should attend all classes in order to facilitate competency development. Students are expected to be present through the delivery method that they registered for. Students registered to attend on-campus or via livestream must be present for the full duration of a class period to be marked as present for the class. Students registered to attend by VOD must submit their VOD reports on time to be marked as present for class. In the case of illness or other unforeseen circumstances, students may miss up to twenty percent of the total class time (e.g., one day of a module course, two 3-hour classes, etc.) without academic penalty. Students who are absent for more than this will automatically fail the course. Students wishing to be exempted from this policy due to extenuating circumstances may make an academic appeal, where they will need to document and verify those circumstances. Students who miss a class are responsible to get missed notes or handouts from another student, rather than from the professor.

Livestreaming Etiquette

Students taking the course through livestreaming are required to indicate this during their course registration. While livestreaming access is available for on-campus students who are unable to attend class due to illness, on-campus students are expected to attend class in person following the class attendance policy.

If attending class online via livestream, in order to be marked present for class, you must keep your camera on and stay present and attentive throughout the class session, extending the gift of full engagement. Access your class with a computer (preferably) or tablet, not a cell phone. Arrive to class on time, and dress as you would if you were attending class on campus. Join the

class from a quiet space with minimal background noise, and mute your microphone until you wish to speak to the class.

Use of Technology

Horizon encourages the use of electronic devices in the classroom to enhance learning. Careful consideration must be given to privacy issues, copyrighted materials, and the general care and concern for others. Please respect the following classroom policies:

- Please use online access for course learning only. This is a matter of respect for the instructor's teaching, your own learning, and fellow students who may be distracted by other uses.
- Students should secure permission from the instructor to record any teaching material. This includes PowerPoint slides, white board illustrations, notes, and any form of audio or video.
- Student feedback is a valuable input for course improvements. Please resolve any classroom grievance about the instructor or course with the instructor personally, through the Horizon College and Seminary grievance procedures, or the Populi-based course evaluations. It is inappropriate to air classroom grievances on a social media platform.
- When instructors use recording mechanisms in the classroom, recorded materials will be used for the sole purpose of instruction (potentially including future online video courses) and cannot be released to any social media outlet without the written consent of the students whose images have been recorded.
- In general, it is not acceptable to share photographs or videos of students in the classroom setting without permission from those whose images appear in such media.

Library Support and Research Assistance

Library staff are available to meet with students (online or in person) who need assistance with

- citing sources and identifying credible resources;
- developing research and information literacy skills;
- searching DTL and other library resources.

Bibliography

Adeney, Miriam. *Kingdom Without Borders: The Untold Story of Global Christianity*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Books, 2009.

Allen, Roland. *Missionary Methods: St. Paul's of Ours?* Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1962.

Bosch, David. *Transforming Mission: Paradigm Shifts in Theology of Mission*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1991.

Butrin, JoAnn. *From the Roots Up: A Closer Look at Compassion and Justice in Missions*. Springfield, MO: Roots Up Publishers, 2010. ISBN: 9780736104333.

Cook, Matthew, Rob Haskell, Ruth Julian, and Nathee Tanchanapongs, eds. *Local Theology for the Global Church: Principles for an Evangelical Approach to Contextualization*. Globalization of Mission Series. Littleton, CO: William Carey Publishing, 2010.

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- Hiebert, Paul G. *Transforming Worldviews: An Anthropological Understanding of How People Change*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2008
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- Newbigin, Lesslie. *The Open Secret: An Introduction to the Theology of Mission*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1978.
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- Newell, Marvin. *A Third of Us: What it Takes to Reach the Unreached*. Littleton, CO: William Carey Publishing. 2021.
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Samuel, Vinay and Chris Sugden, eds. *Mission as Transformation: A Theology of the Whole Gospel*. Oxford: Regnum Books, 1999. ISBN: 9781606084021.

Stott, John and Christopher Wright. *Christian Mission in the Modern World*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Books, 2015.

Satyavrata, Ivan. *Pentecostals and the Poor: Reflections from the Indian Context*. Baguio City: Asia Pacific Theological Seminary Press, 2017.

Tennant, Timothy. *Invitation to World Missions: A Trinitarian Missiology for the Twenty-First Century*. Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel, 2010.

Walls, Andrew F. and C. Ross. *Mission in the Twenty-First Century: Exploring the Five Marks of Global Mission*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis, 2008.

Wright, Christopher. *The Mission of God: Unlocking the Bible's Grand Narrative*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP, 2006.

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