

POINT LOMA NAZARENE UNIVERSITY

CMI646 Church in Mission

Fall 2014

Instructors

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PLNU Mission

To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service becomes an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we aspire to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

A survey of the nature and mission of the Church and the relationship of ecclesiology to other major Christian doctrines.

COURSE DATES

September 22, 2014-November 21, 2014 (Intensive Week: October 20-24, 2014)

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The objectives for this course are to:

- Introduce the student to current and relevant literature related to the nature and mission of the Church.
- Assist the student in thinking theologically and practically about the nature and mission of the Church in a variety of ministry contexts.
- Encourage the student to apply their understanding of the nature and mission of the Church to particular practices in a particular ministry setting.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of this course student will be able to:

- Define the nature and mission of the Church.
- Demonstrate the relationship between ecclesiology and other Christian doctrines.
- Develop a theology of worship and the sacraments.

CREDIT HOUR INFORMATION

In the interest of providing sufficient time to accomplish the stated Course Learning Outcomes, this class meets the PLNU credit hour policy for a three unit class delivered over nine weeks. It is anticipated that students will spend a minimum of 37.5 participation hours per credit hour on their course work. The time expectations for this course are shown below:

Assignments	Total Hours
Required Reading	50
Online Interaction	10
Writing Reflection Papers	10
Interviews for the Research Paper	5
Week Long Intensive	30
Final Project	25
Total	130

REQUIRED READING

Goheen, Michael W. *Light to the Nations: The Missional Church and the Biblical Story*. Baker Academic, 2011.

Guder, Darrell (ed.). *Missional Church: A Vision for the Sending of the Church in North America*. Eerdmans Publishing, 1998.

Nouwen, Henri, Donald P. McNeill and Douglas A. Morrison. *Compassion: A Reflection on the Christian Life*. Image Press, 2005.

Stone, Bryan. *Evangelism After Christendom: The Theology and Practice of Christian Witness*. Brazos Press, 2007.

Wright, N.T. *Surprised by Hope: Rethinking Heaven, the Resurrection, and the Mission of the Church*. HarperOne, 2008.

ASSESSMENT

Class Participation	100 points
Online Interaction	100 points
Book Reflection Papers	500 points
Final Project	300 points
TOTAL	1000 points

Class Participation (100 points)

Students are expected to stay current with reading assignments, come prepared to class sessions, and participate in class discussions and small group interactions.

Participation in Weekly Online Assignments (100 points)

Each week students will participate at least twice in online assignments. (Due Tuesday and Friday midnight of each week). The online course assignments are as follows:

Week One

- 1) Post a first draft of your reflection paper on the *Missional Church* text.
- 2) Comment briefly on at least two reflection papers posted by other students in the course.

Week Two

- 1) Post a first draft of your reflection paper on the *A Light to the Nations* text.
- 2) Comment briefly on at least two reflection papers posted by other students in the course.

Week Three

- 1) Post a first draft of your reflection paper on the *Evangelism After Christendom* text.
- 2) Comment briefly on at least two reflection papers posted by other students in the course.

Week Four

- 1) Post a first draft of your reflection paper on the *Surprised by Hope* text.
- 2) Comment briefly on at least two reflection papers posted by other students in the course.

Week Five

- 1) Post a first draft of your reflection paper on the *Compassion* text.
- 2) Comment briefly on at least two reflection papers posted by other students in the course.

Week Six

- 1) Share the concept, outline and list of resources for your final project with your accountability partner. (Be sure to include the professor in each of your posts).
- 2) Respond to your accountability partner's post.

Week Seven

- 1) Share the rough draft of the interviews for your final project with your accountability partner,
- 2) Respond to your accountability partner's post.

Week Eight

- 1) Share the rough draft of your final project with your accountability partner,
- 2) Respond to your accountability partner's post.

Week Nine

- 1) Discuss your project online with your accountability partner.
- 2) Submit your final project in Canvas.

Book Reflections (500 points)

Submit a reflection paper for each of the required texts. Reflection papers should be 3-4 pages in length (double-spaced, font size 12). Each paper should have three sections:

- a general overview of the major themes. (What did the author say?)
- your thoughtful engagement and critique of major themes. (What would you say to the author?)
- your personal/practical response and “take-away”. (So what?)

Papers will be due as indicated in the syllabus course schedule. The reflection papers must reflect graduate-level writing and critical thinking. Late papers will receive a reduction of one letter grade.

Final Project (300 points)

The final paper should reflect a general understanding of course readings and class discussions and include three sections:

- An overview of the nature and mission of the Church, especially as it relates to the Wesleyan theological heritage and the Missional Church literature.
- Practical illustrations of missional churches based on interviews with pastors and personal observations of churches that are considered to be effective missional models.
- A plan for implementing practices in your local congregation that will assist the church in becoming more missional.

The final paper should be 12-15 pages in length and is due November 21.

GRADING SCALE

A	900-1000	points
B	800-899	points
C	700-799	points
D	600-699	points