



Theology 270 - Course Syllabus

Course Title: History & Theology of Missions (3 Credit)

Course Description: This course surveys the biblical foundations, historical development, and theological priorities of Christian missions from creation to the present. Students will trace the theme of God's mission through creation, Abraham, Israel, Christ, the Great Commission, and the expansion of the church to the ends of the earth. Special attention will be given to major movements in the history of missions, the lives of significant missionaries, and the relationship between sound doctrine and faithful missionary practice. Students will learn through lectures, assigned readings, class discussion, guest speakers with missions experience, and guided research projects. Assignments will include quizzes, reading and participation, and several short papers/projects, including a biblical theology of missions paper, a missions timeline project, a missionary biography paper, and a missionary interview paper.

Prerequisites: None

Instructors:

- Professor: Pastor Paul Manwiller
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 - Phone: 734-721-8190
- Teaching Staff: Timothy Manwiller
 - Email: timothymanwiller@gmail.com
 - Phone: 734-394-8722

Course Materials:

- Bible (unless otherwise specified, you may use the translation of your choice)
 - Lecture notes and quiz blanks will use the ESV translation.
- [From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya: A Biographical History of Christian Missions, Ruth A. Tucker, ISBN: 978-0310239376](#)
- [Missions: How the Local Church Goes Global \(Building Healthy Churches\), Andy Johnson, ISBN: 978-1433555701](#)

Class Time: Class meets once a week on Sundays from 6pm-9pm. Class takes place at The Rock Church located at 11499 Linden Rd, Fenton, MI 48430. Class time is broken down into the following general schedule:

- Opening Song: Let the Nations be Glad (6:00-6:10)
- Theology of Missions (6:10-6:35)
- History of Missions (6:35-7:50)
- Break (7:50-8:00)
- The church in missions (8:00-8:30)
- Prayer (8:30-9:00)

Assignments:

- **Tests** - There will be 4 tests over the course of the semester. These tests will generally take place at the end of class time and will include all content covered since the last test. The test format will include multiple-choice, fill-in-the-blank, and short-answer-style questions. The purpose of these tests is to provide the students with regular graded feedback on their understanding of the course material.
- **Church Missions Paper** – This paper should be two pages in length and should give a vision for how you and your church support and send out missionaries into the world.
 - For this paper you must interview someone in your church who has a position of leadership in choosing how your church supports missionaries. Ask this leader about how the church chooses which missionaries to support and in what ways they support them.
 - In your paper reference ideas that you have learned from your text book, *How the Local Church Goes Global*. Take those concepts and apply them to how your church puts them into practice.
- **Personal Project** – Steps for the personal project:
 - Step 1 (Done during the first class): Choose an historic figure from this list:
 - Adoniram Judson
 - Count Zinzendorf
 - David Livingstone
 - Erik Nelson
 - Francis Asbury
 - George Muller
 - Gladys Aylward
 - Hudson Taylor
 - Ida Scutter
 - John & Betty Stam
 - John & Isobel Kuhn
 - John Williams
 - Marcus Whitman
 - Nate Saint
 - Robert & Mary Moffat
 - Wilfred Grenfell
 - William Borden
 - William Carey
 - Step 2 (Complete by 9/20/26): Listen to the audio drama of the selected person's life, found online.
 - Look up "Stories of Great Christians" and click on the moodyaudio.com website
 - Search for your chosen individual
 - Click the green "Details/Listen" button
 - Click the green "Download" button
 - Listen to all the chapters (Most are around 5 hours of total audio)
 - Step 3 (Complete by 9/27/26): Make a bullet point list of ten notable facts, events, and accomplishments from your person's life.

- Step 4 (Complete by 10/11/26): Write a one-page biographical summary of the person's life, being sure to include significant life facts, events, and accomplishments.
- Step 5 (Complete by 11/8/26): Write a one-page application paper that describes the lessons learned from this person's life. About half a page should be dedicated to the significance of the person's life for Christians generally, and about half a page should be devoted to lessons you may apply to your life personally.
- Step 6 (Complete by 12/13/26): Prepare a PowerPoint slide that will be projected as we discuss the person's life in class. It should include a picture, a name and appropriate dates, and a memorable quote of description that would help others better understand the person's service to Christ.

Populi: Populi is Anchor Bible College's student information system and online classroom. It is used in this course for online submission of assignments and for posting grades, announcements, and access to relevant course documents. Further details on how to log in to Populi and access this course can be found in the appendix to this document.

Assessment: Assignments will have the following grade weights:

Assignment	Grade Weight
Missions Paper	10%
Personal Project	20%
Tests	60%
Reading	10%

We will use the following thresholds to convert raw scores in the course into letter grades:

- A+: $\geq 98\%$
- A: $\geq 92\%$
- A-: $\geq 90\%$
- B+: $\geq 88\%$
- B: $\geq 82\%$
- B-: $\geq 80\%$
- C+: $\geq 78\%$
- C: $\geq 72\%$
- C-: $\geq 70\%$
- D+: $\geq 68\%$
- D: $\geq 62\%$
- D-: $\geq 60\%$
- F: $< 60\%$

Depending on the distribution of raw scores at the end of the semester, these thresholds may change; however the final thresholds will be no stricter than the current thresholds. For example, if you receive a raw score of 85% in the course, you will be guaranteed a letter grade of at least B; however, it may happen that you receive a higher letter grade depending on the overall distribution of raw scores.

Class Schedule:

Week #	Topic	Study For Next week	Assignments Due
Week 1 (8/30/26)	- Topic: Theology of Missions Part 1 From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya Chapter 1	From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya chapters 1 & 2 Building Healthy Churches Chapter 1	
Week 2 (9/6/26)	- Topic: Theology of Missions Part 2 From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya Chapter 2 Building Healthy Churches Chapter 1	From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya Chapter 3 Building Healthy Churches Chapter 2	
Week 3 (9/13/26)	- Topic: From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya Chapter 3 Building Healthy Churches Chapter 2	From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya Chapter 4	<i>Test 1</i>
Week 4 (9/20/26)	- Topic: From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya Chapter 4 Guest Speaker: Karl Thuemmel	From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya Chapter 5 Building Healthy Churches Chapter 3a	Finish listening to Stories of Great Christians Audio
Week 5 (9/27/26)	- Topic: Theology of Missions Part 3 From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya Chapter 5 Building Healthy Churches Chapter 3a	From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya Chapter 6 Building Healthy Churches Chapter 3b	Ten Bullet Points
Week 6 (10/4/26)	- Topic: Theology of Missions Part 4 From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya Chapter 6 Building Healthy Churches Chapter 3b	From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya Chapter 7	
Week 7 (10/11/26)	- Topic: From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya Chapter 7 Guest Speaker: Ryan Willson	From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya Chapter 8 Building Healthy Churches Chapter 4	<i>Biographical Paper</i>

Week 8 (10/18/26)	- Topic: From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya Chapter 8 Building Healthy Churches Chapter 4	From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya Chapter 9 Building Healthy Churches Chapter 5	Test 2
Week 9 (10/25/26)	- Topic: Theology of Missions Part 5 From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya Chapter 9 Building Healthy Churches Chapter 5	From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya Chapter 11 Building Healthy Churches Chapter 6	
Week 10 (11/1/26)	- Topic: Theology of Missions Part 6 From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya Chapter 11 Building Healthy Churches Chapter 6	From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya Chapter 12	
Week 11 (11/8/26)	- Topic: From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya Chapter 12 Guest Speaker: Ted Szymczak	From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya Chapter 13	Application Paper
Week 12 (11/15/26)	- Topic: Theology of Missions Chapter 6 From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya Chapter 13	From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya Chapter 14 Building Healthy Churches Chapter 7	Test 3
Week 13 (11/22/26)	- Topic: Theology of Missions Part 8 From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya Chapter 14 Building Healthy Churches Chapter 7	From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya Chapter 15	
Break (11/29/26)	Thanksgiving Break		
Week 14 (12/6/26)	- Topic: From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya Chapter 15 Guest Speaker: Karel Gatlin	From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya Chapter 18	Missions Paper
Week 15 (12/13/26)	- Topic: Theology of Missions Part 9 From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya Chapter 18		Test 4 Reading Attestation Power Point Slides

Late Policy:

Assignments are expected to be submitted prior to the due date. If there are extraordinary circumstances outside of the student's control, they may request an extension from the teaching staff.

Additionally, it is often the case that due to any number of other circumstances, a student finds that they are unable to adequately complete a given assignment. In such cases, the student is welcome to submit the assignment after the due date, up to the end of the semester; however, a late penalty will be given for such a late assignment. The standard late penalty is a 20% flat reduction in grade for the given assignment. This late penalty is meant to penalize late submissions and encourage timeliness, while still allowing the student to still finish the given assignment to the best of their ability even if they are unable to complete the assignment for some time due to any extended circumstances.

This late policy is subject to instructor discretion. The 20% late penalty policy is intended to allow for unique or difficult but not extraordinary circumstances. Any student who abuses this policy, per the instructor's discretion, is liable to have this policy revoked and the grade revert to either a zero or that based on any submission prior to the due date.

Appendix: How to Log In to Populi for the First Time

This course uses Populi, Anchor Bible College's student information system and online classroom. Your Populi account is created for you once you have been approved for the class, so there is nothing for you to sign up for. Please perform the following steps to activate your account:

- Check your email for a welcome message from notifications@populi.co with the subject line "Welcome to Populi." It is sent to the personal email address you registered with.
- The email contains your username, which the college has already set for you. Usernames follow the format firstname.lastname (for example, jayden.spring).
- Click the link in the email to set your password. This link expires thirty days after the email is sent, so log in as soon as you receive it even if class has not yet started.
- Populi will first ask for a mobile phone number so the college can send you text notifications. You may skip this step. If you enter a number, Populi will text you a verification code to confirm it.
- Set your password. It must be at least ten characters long and contain at least one capital letter and one number. Populi will not accept a password that has appeared in a known data breach.
- Check the box to accept the Acceptable Use Policy, then click "Save Password and Log In."

Your account should be all set. To log in to Populi in the future, go to the following URL:

<https://anchor.populiweb.com>

Use your username and password to log in. Then click on your course.

Anchor Bible College does not require students to use an authenticator app, so your username and password are all you need. Populi will log you out after one hour of inactivity; when you log back in, it returns you to where you were working.

Populi publishes its own help articles for students:

Logging in for the first time

<https://support.populiweb.com/hc/en-us/articles/223791887-Your-Populi-account-login-everything-you-need-to-know>

Assignments, lessons, discussions, and tests

<https://support.populiweb.com/hc/en-us/sections/360006197054-Your-courses>

If you have trouble logging in or reaching your course, contact Jayden Spring, Administrative Specialist. Call or text 517-320-2659, or email jayden.spring@anchorbiblecollege.org.

Appendix: How to submit assignments in Populi

From your Populi Home page, click your course and navigate to the Assignments tab. Select the specific assignment from the list of assignments. Follow the instructions for the different cases of typed and handwritten submissions.

For typed documents:

- Click the name of the assignment to open its page
- Click the upload area in the main part of the screen
- Navigate to the proper file and select it
- You may add any number of files by uploading them the same way
- You may also attach a file, along with any comments or questions for your instructor, in the feedback section on the right side of the page

For handwritten documents:

You may use a scanner, scanner app, or simply take photos of your work and submit the files by following the same steps outlined for typed documents.

Please note, you may replace your submission as many times as you would like prior to the assignment deadline by deleting the uploaded file and uploading a new one. Once your instructor has viewed or graded your submission, the file can no longer be deleted, so be sure the version you upload is the one you want graded.

Appendix: Academic Integrity

Students are expected to hold themselves to a Christian standard of ethics in all matters. This includes but is not limited to, refraining from any forms of plagiarism, cheating, sharing, or acquiring any materials that would give a student an unfair advantage, or any dishonest representation of one's work. Below are outlined the consequences for an infringement of academic integrity for a given assignment:

- **First offense** – A grade of zero is given for the assignment; the professor must notify the Registrar and Dean of Students. A statement goes into the student's file.
- **Second offense** – A grade of F is assigned for the course; the professor must notify the Registrar and Dean of Students. A statement goes into the student's file. The Dean of Students and/or Registrar will notify faculty of students who incur a second offense in this area.
- **Third offense** – The professor must notify the Registrar and Dean of Students. A statement goes into the student's file and the student may be suspended or dismissed from this institution.

Appendix: Policy on Use of Generative Language Models for Written Assignments

The use of generative language models, such as ChatGPT, is not strictly prohibited and in some cases is very much encouraged as a research and brainstorming tool. However, all written assignments submitted as your own work should reflect your own personal writing. This prohibits copy and paste use of such tools, however, you may feel free to quote such tools provided that you make clear it is a quotation.

In general, you should treat generative language models as equivalent to speaking to another person. You may gain insight from them and be able to improve your value and productivity, but you should not misrepresent someone else's work as your own. These tools may also be treated somewhat like calculators in a math class. You may use them when appropriate and assignments may even assume their use in some ways, but all submitted work must be your own unless specified otherwise.