Ministry in a Culturally Diverse Context
EM418
5-day intensive
Brisbane School of Theology
January 19-23, 2015

LECTURER: Rev. Mike Wilson BComm BTh(Hons), MTh
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Mike is the NSW/ACT/QLD Regional Ministry Director for SIM ["Serving in Mission"] Australia. He spent 7 years in Pakistan as an Interserve missionary involved in leadership training and theological education. He then provided training and consultancy in cross-cultural ministry for the Sydney Anglican Diocese for 12 years, followed by 7 years as Cross-Cultural Ministry Coordinator for the Presbyterian Church of NSW. Mike has also taught a Christian Understanding of Buddhism at Moore Theological College and Old Testament subjects.

WORKLOAD: One term, 4 credit points, 39 contact hours

STATUS: *Elective*

CLASS DETAILS:

The unit commences at 8:00 am on Monday, January 19, 2015 and concludes at 5.20pm on Friday, January 23, 2015. It will run from 8:00am to 5.20pm each day. The classes will be held in the William Carey Room at Brisbane School of Theology: 1 Cross St, Toowong.

Morning tea will be provided by the College. Students provide their own lunch.

Our sessions will involve a mixture of presentation and interaction, and include a high degree of class discussion of the key issues involved in ministering to people across cultures.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

At the end of this unit, the student should be able to:

(a) Provide students with appropriate biblical, theological, historical, cultural and strategic perspectives on ministry in a context of cultural diversity;
(b) Build the understanding and cultural sensitivity needed for ministry engagement with a community in a context of cultural diversity;
(c) Gain and understanding of the challenges in communicating the Christian gospel and establishing the church in an environment of cultural diversity;
(d) Equip students to develop appropriate ministry approaches for a context of cultural diversity, assisted by exposure to, and evaluation of existing ministry models.

COURSE CONTENT:

Section A: **Principles**

1. Culture and ethnicity, unity and division, and individuality and community in the Bible; in particular within the context of the New Testament teaching on evangelism and the body of Christ.

2. Theological perspectives. Trinitarian implications for ministry in a culturally diverse context, theology of such ministry in the context of diversity, church and culture in the New Testament.
3. Assimilation, integration and multiculturalism in Australia: immigration and refugees; ethnic communities; history and directions of government policies with awareness of the limitations of these and their impacts on church life.
4. Models of ministry in a context of cultural diversity; relevant biblical and modern examples, including multi-congregational, mono-ethnic and culturally diverse churches; homogeneous unit and other church growth principles; relational, leadership, learning style, worship preference, language, areas of tension and conflict, and other cultural variables.
5. Review of the issues relating to cultural distance and its implications for the structure and ministry of a local church; case studies of different models being used by churches seeking to overcome cultural distance.
6. Strategies and resources for making the transition to a local church that reflects the demographic realities of the locality; research, design, implementation and evaluation.

Section B: **Practice**

Candidates are for a minimum of 20 hours to:

1. Participate in either a culturally diverse congregation or a mono-cultural congregation of a culture other than the student's own; and
2. With the help of members of that church, observe non church attending people of that culture in their social and family contexts.
3. Discern the challenges with regard to cultural variables, such as leadership patterns and processes, learning style and worship preferences. Consider possible strategies for the future ministry of the congregation.

Assessment Tasks

Pre-Attendance reading:

Students are to read each of the following 3 books [470 pages]. Students will also need to sign a statement at the commencement of the intensive that they have done all of the required reading.

i.   Bruce Milne. *Dynamic Diversity: The New Humanity Church for Today and Tomorrow*. Nottingham: Inter-Varsity Press, 2006. [173 pages]
ii. J.D. Payne. *Strangers Next Door: Immigration, Migration and Mission*. Grand Rapids: IVP, 2012. [206 pages]
iii. Lesslie Newbigin. *The Gospel in a Pluralist Society*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Eerdmans, 1989. [pp.1-65; 128-154]

Pre-Attendance assessment:

1. Reflection Paper (*Due: 18 January, 2015, 5pm; 750 words; 10%*)

Summarise the major theses and arguments of Milne's *Dynamic Diversity* (500 words) and discuss their implications for church-based ministry across cultures (250 words).

Nt. Come prepared to participate in a class discussion of Milne's book.

2. Descriptive Paper (*Due: 18 January, 2015, 5pm; 750 words; 10%*)

Based on your pre-course reading describe some of the missiological issues that confront the Australian Church as a result of people migrating to Australia (including immigrants, refugees or asylum seekers).

Post-Attendance

3. Fieldwork report and analysis *(Due: Tuesday April 7th 2015, 5pm; 1500 words; 30%)*

Choose* a church in which a major multicultural ministry is occurring. Describe how this ministry came into being and how this ministry presently operates. Evaluate this ministry in accordance with your knowledge of multicultural ministry principles and models.

* In consultation with the lecturer and with the permission of the church concerned. This essay will involve seeing the ministry in operation and interviewing key people (by phone or in person). Since this course focuses on ministry across cultures, it is also expected that you will choose a ministry that will involve a cultural setting with which you are not familiar.

Add as an appendix:
- a brief explanation of your methodology
- an itemisation of what you did and the persons you interviewed in completing this assignment
- a list of the questions you asked in evaluating the ministry and in interview situations

4. Essay (Due Tues June 9th 2015, 5pm; 3000 words; 50%)

Identify and explain major principles a church should keep in mind when it seeks to minister to people across cultures and communicate the gospel to them.

OR

You have just become the pastor of a small struggling largely Anglo-Celtic church in a part of Sydney where over 60% of the population speak a language other than English in their homes. You are convinced the church must place a major priority on reaching non-English speaking background people for Christ. As you seek to lead the church to change its focus what major barriers are likely to stand in the way and how might you seek to overcome them? In answering this question, you should interact with a selection of the literature recommended for this unit, and assess various possible responses as you come to your own conclusion.

RESOURCES ON MOODLE
The following resources are available on Moodle:
1. This unit outline
2. A general forum where you can post comments and questions
3. All lecture notes
4. Extra readings

LECTURE ATTENDANCE
Please note the ACT's policy (see BST student handbook) on lecture attendance. You are required to attend at least 80% of lectures. This means you can miss a maximum of 7hrs. If you know that you will not be at a lecture, please phone or email the lecturer beforehand. If you miss more than 7hrs of lectures, your enrolment for this unit may be ended.

HOW TO STUDY THIS UNIT
You should allocate approximately 7 hours outside of class each week to this unit.

LATE SUBMISSION OF WORK
Please note the ACT policy (see BST student handbook) on late submission of work and extensions. Failure to submit any individual assignment on time may result in either a late penalty or a zero mark for the assignment.

PASSING THIS UNIT
To pass this unit you must complete and submit each assessment item. You must also attain an overall percentage mark of 50% or more.

PLAGIARISM
Please note the ACT policy (see BST student handbook) on plagiarism. This is a serious issue and it is your responsibility both to understand what plagiarism includes and to avoid it completely. If you are found to have plagiarised, there will be serious consequences as specified in the BST student handbook.

Penalties for plagiarism are as follows (from ACT Academic Misconduct Policy):

- **First offence:**
  Students will be subject to academic counselling, with the maximum penalty being to fail the item with no marks awarded. Where deemed appropriate, the minimum penalty available will be that students may be granted an opportunity to resubmit the assessment with a maximum of 50% for the assessment.
- **Second offence:**
  Fail unit, with no remedial opportunity.
- **Third or major offence:**
  Exclusion from any award of the ACT, or exclusion from the award for up to two years, or other outcome appropriate to the case but with an impact less serious than exclusion.

In the case of severe plagiarism and/or cheating, a student may be subject to a separate disciplinary process approved by the ACT Academic Board. Colleges are required to immediately report to the ACT Director of Academic Services all offences of wilful academic misconduct, for recording on TAMS.

Lecture Outline:

<u>Mon, Jan 19</u>

- *Consideration of Genesis 12:1-3.* The Abrahamic covenant in context and its foundational significance for a biblical understanding of ministry across cultures.
- *Science of Culture: Models for Understanding Culture.* "Onion" models – Barney, Kwast; Hesselgrave (three dimensions); Turner (three levels); Moreau (three levels); Lingenfelter (6 ways of life); Hofstede; Wilson (layers).
- *Science of Culture: Historical Approaches to Culture.* Pre-history of the culture concept; first encounters; romantic innocence; emergence of anthropology as a science; anthropological attempts to understand cultural differences – first attempts, models of cultural evolutionism, social Darwinism, Marxism, historical particularism and cultural relativism, diffusionism, British functionalism and structural functionalism, psychological approaches, new evolutionism/modernization, dialectical materialism, cultural materialism, structuralism, symbolic (interpretive) anthropology.
- *Biblical Model of Culture.* Importance of culture concept; does culture distinguish humans from animals?; Bible and cultural particularity; Bible and cultural diversity; people as cultural beings; individual constitution; social relations and cultural particularity; gospel and cultural particularity; cultural particularity and human identity.
- *Homogeneous Unit Principle.* Multiculturalism and denominational idolatry (Jensen and Payne); HUP and evangelistic strategy – McGavran, people group thinking, barriers to conversion, language barrier; is HUP taught in Scripture?; reasons for and against establishing so-called "homogeneous churches"; avoiding over-reactions; biblical model of culture and HUP.

<u>Tues, Jan 20</u>

- *Consideration of Matthew 28:18-20.* The Great Commission in the context of Matthew's Gospel and its significance for understanding ministry across cultures.
- *Multiethnic/International Churches.* Is the multiethnic church the biblical and/or ideal model of church?; evaluation of relevant biblical texts (e.g., Jn 17; Eph 2; Rev 7:9); Biblical model of culture and multiethnic churches; types of multiethnic churches; how to transform a "homogeneous church" into a multiethnic church.
- *Barriers to Multicultural Ministry.* Ethnocentrism, Racism, Prejudice, and Discrimination. Stereotypes. Syncretism. Other: conflicting priorities, fear of unknown, fear of conflict, majoring on strengths, being over-loaded, unavailability of people, dearth of resources, need to 'succeed', language barrier. Ways of addressing and overcoming barriers. What essentials need to be understood about ministry across cultures – the reality of cultural distance.
- *Science of Culture.* Culture Worlds (Wissler, Kroeber, Russell & Kniffen, Huntington's 'civilizations').Worldviews: worldview questions; worldview bias (Geisler, Hesselgrave); understanding worldview (Hiebert, Hesselgrave, Kraft); types of worldview (Hesselgrave; Sire); functions of a worldview; development of worldview (Popper, Berger, Kearney); worldviews and cultural distance; worldviews and the sociology of knowledge: plausibility structures.
- *Christians & Culture: Niebuhr's Model Re-Evaluated.* A critical consideration of the relationship between Christians and culture employing but modifying Niebuhr's classic fivefold models: Christ against culture, Christ of culture, Christ above culture, Christ and culture in paradox, and Christ as the transformer of culture. An identification of key principles for Christians to apply in assessing their relationship

with culture.

- *Acts 11:19-21; Luke 4 & Cultural Distance*. Illustrations of the relevance of cultural distance to the issue of ministering across cultures.

Wed, Jan 21

- *Consideration of Galatians 2:11-21*. Analysis of the cultural dimensions and implications of Peter's wrong actions and the impact of gospel fidelity on ministry across cultures.
- *Science of Culture*. Anthropological perspectives and ministry across cultures: ethnocentrism, enculturation and socialization, acculturation, deculturation and inculturation, cultural relativism and ethical relativism.
- *Culture Stress*. Definition and description; identity crisis; cultural difference; cultural integration; triggers; symptoms; theory and reality; lessening cultural confusion; ability to predict; culture stress factors; stages of culture stress; reverse culture stress.
- *Church Models for Ministry Across Cultures*. Dominant host models (landlord-tenant, benefactor-beneficiary); bridging models (translation, overlap); multiethnic models (uni-congregational, multi-congregational). Key propositions; description of models and understanding of their dynamics.
- *Social Dimensions*. Historical development and description of the policies of assimilationism, integrationism & multiculturalism. Dangers of multiculturalism.
- *Principles for Ministry Across Cultures*. The Serampore Covenant; leadership, orientation, gospel, identification and community principles; Navigators' seven principles of intercultural ministry; planting, unity, sensitivity and homogeneity principles; principles of cultural transformation (Kraft).

Thurs, Jan 22

- *Consideration of Ephesians 2:11-22*. Critical evaluation of how the reconciliation of Jews and Gentiles has been applied to ministry across cultures.
- *Cross-Cultural Communication and Communicating the Gospel Across Cultures*. Biblical and theological foundations for understanding communication; cultural literacy; communicating in a postmodern world; communication and language; communicating across cultures; high-context and low-context cultures; greeting across cultures; does the gospel transcend culture?; implications of culture for the way in which the gospel is communicated.
- *Contextualization*. Summary of Moreau's research; cultural values (Hofstede); honour and shame cultures; time and culture; hospitality and culture.
- *Cross-Cultural Conflict*. Biblical approach to dealing with conflict; types of conflict; human responses to conflict (Peacemaker Ministries analysis – the "slippery slope"); cultural approaches to dealing with conflict; conflict in multiethnic teams; conflict between churches sharing the same facilities; church models and written agreements.
- *Ministry to NESB (non-English speaking background) peoples*. Problems of adjustment for NESB people; social problems faced by NESB migrants; understanding ethnicity; strategies; denominational issues; English-language ministries (ESL; Easy-English Bible studies); ministry to refugees and asylum seekers; leadership issues; communication issues; relevant cross-cultural principles.
- *2G Ministry (Ministry to the Second Generation and Beyond)*. Definition; the "silent exodus"; addressing tensions between first and second-generation in churches; understanding the first generation and the second generation; the cultural divide; the need for a paradigm shift; church models for dealing with the issues; leadership issues; how to retain the second generation; tailored ministries to the 2nd generation.

- *Consideration of Revelation 7:9*. Critical evaluation of how this text has been applied to ministry across cultures.
- *Religious Pluralism*. Historical development of religious pluralism in Australia and current scenario; evaluation of Christian stances towards other religions; religious pluralism and absolute truth; consideration of authority, dogmatism, tolerance and dialogue; biblical understanding of idolatry and relevance for ministry across cultures; principles for interfaith cooperation and relationships.
- *Ministry to Muslims*. Overview of Islamic history, doctrine and practice (5 pillars). Apologetic and evangelistic approaches towards Muslims.
- *Ministry to Buddhists*. Overview of Buddhism in Australia; four noble truths and eightfold path; what Christians need to understand about Buddhism; communicating the gospel to Buddhists.
- *Strategic Options for Multicultural Ministry*. A close-to-comprehensive overview of methods and approaches that can be adopted in reaching out across cultures, including language-oriented approaches, ministry through church structures, and ways of making contact.
- *Practical Tips for Ministry Across Cultures*. Closing advice on how to relate and minister to people across cultures; how to develop ministry across cultures in your church (basic steps).

Textbooks:

DeYmaz, Mark., *Building a Healthy Multi-Ethnic Church.* San Francisco: John Wiley & Sons, 2007. [259.089 DEY]

Elmer, Duane., *Cross-Cultural Connections: Stepping Out and Fitting in Around the World.* Downer Grove: IVP, 2012.[1] [261 ELM]

Key bibliography

Claydon, David. *Connecting Across Cultures: Sharing the gospel across cultural and religious boundaries.* Australia: Acorn Press, 2000. [266 CLA EdR]

Dickson, John. *A Spectator's Guide to World Religion. An Introduction to the Big Five.* Sydney South: Blue Bottle Books, 2004. [200 DIC c1]

Elmer, Duane., *Cross-Cultural Conflict. Building Relationships for Effective Ministry.* Downers Grove: IVP, 1993. [261.834 ELM c1]

Emerson, Michael O. (with Rodney M. Woo). *People of the Dream. Multiracial Congregations in the United States.* Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2006

Hibbert, Evelyn & Richard. *Leading Multicultural Teams.* William Carey Library, 2014.

Houston, Jim. *Seeds Blowing in the Wind: Review of Multicultural Ministry & Mission.* Melbourne: Anglican Diocese of Melbourne, 1994.

Irwin, Harry. *Communicating with Asia: Understanding People & Customs.* St. Leonards: Allen & Unwin, 1996.

Jabbour, Nabeel T. *The Crescent Through the Eyes of the Cross. Insights from an Arab Christian.* NavPress, 2008.

Kraemer, Hendrik. *The Christian Message in a Non-Christian World.* Grand Rapids: Kregel, 1963.[2] [261.2 KRA c1]

Lingenfelter, S.G. *Leading Cross-Culturally: Covenant Relationships for Effective Christian Leadership.* Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2008. [253 LIN 2008]

Lingenfelter, S.G. and M.K. Mayers. *Ministering Cross Culturally: An Incarnational Model for Personal Relationships*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2003. [266.001 LIN Ed2]

Livermore, David A. *Cultural Intelligence. Improving Your CQ to Engage our Multicultural World.* Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Academic, 2009.

Newbigin, Lesslie., *The Gospel in a Pluralist Society*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Eerdmans, 1989. [261 NEW]

Ortiz, M., *One New People: Models for Developing a Multiethnic Church* (Downers Grove, Illinois: InterVarsity Press, 1996) [261.8348 ORT c1]

Piper, John. *Let the Nations Be Glad! The Supremacy of God in Missions.* Grand Rapids,: Baker, 2004. [266.001 PIP 2010]

Rhodes, S., *Where the Nations Meet: The Church in a Multicultural World* (Downers Grove, IL: IVP, 1998) [261.8348 RHO c1]

Schirato, Tony & Susan Yell. *Communication & Cultural Literacy: An Introduction.* Australian Cultural Studies; eds. J. Tulloch & T. Threadgold. St. Leonards: Allen & Unwin, 1996.

Sowell, Thomas. *Race and Culture: A World View*. New York: Basic Books, 1994.

Yancy, George., *One Body One Spirit. Principles of Successful Multiracial Churches* (Downers Grove, IL: IVP, 1998)

Zacharias, Ravi. *The Lotus and the Cross. Jesus Talks with Buddha.* Orlando, Florida: Multnomah, 2001.

Articles by Michael K. Wilson:

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[1] For a summary see: http://www.facetofaceintercultural.com.au/duane-elmer-cross-cultural-connections/
[2] For a summary see: http://www.facetofaceintercultural.com.au/hendrik-kraemer-the-christian-message-in-a-non-christian-world/

Christian Overview of Buddhism.
http://www.facetofaceintercultural.com.au/christianoverview-of-buddhism/christian-overview-of-buddhism-2/

Church Models for Ministry Across Cultures (PPT)
http://www.facetofaceintercultural.com.au/church-models-for-ministry-across-cultures/church-models-for-ministry-across-cultures-oct-14-2013/

Desperately Seeking Paradise / Ziauddin Sardar (book review).
http://www.facetofaceintercultural.com.au/desperately-seeking-paradise-ziauddin-sardar/

The Four Noble Truths.
http://www.facetofaceintercultural.com.au/the-four-noble-truths/

Communicating the Gospel Across Cultures.
http://www.facetofaceintercultural.com.au/communicating-the-gospel-across-cultures/

Moving Obstacles to Multicultural Ministry.
http://www.facetofaceintercultural.com.au/moving-obstacles-to-multicultural-ministry/

Practical Tips for Ministry Across Cultures.
http://www.facetofaceintercultural.com.au/practical-tips-for-ministry-across-cultures/

The Pre-History of the Culture Concept.
http://www.facetofaceintercultural.com.au/the-prehistory-of-the-culture-concept/culture-concept-historical-development/

Transforming a Homogeneous Church into a Multi-Ethnic Church Community.
http://www.facetofaceintercultural.com.au/transforming-a-homogeneous-church-into-a-multi-ethnic-church-community/

Recommended Viewing:

Douglas Hayward.
   Cultural Relativity. http://vimeo.com/26507542
   God and Culture. http://vimeo.com/26510168
   Religion. http://vimeo.com/26511667

Sherwood Lingenfelter. Session 1: Cross-Cultural Leadership: Culture is Not Neutral.
   http://vimeo.com/26500659(from 5.00 to 13.10)

John Oommen
   Emic vs. Etic. http://vimeo.com/20226464
   Intercultural Communication Principles. http://vimeo.com/20226021

Michael Wesch
   Mediated Culture. http://vimeo.com/15201366
Further bibliography:

Advisory Council on Multicultural Affairs. *Towards a National Agenda for a Multicultural Australia: A Discussion Paper.* Canberra: Australian Government Publishing Service, 1988.

Berger, Peter L. *Invitation to Sociology: A Humanistic Perspective.* Pelican Original; Middlesex: Penguin Books, 1972.

Berger, Peter L. *A Rumour of Angels: Modern Society and the Rediscovery of the Supernatural.* New York: Doubleday,1970.

Bosch, David J. *Transforming Mission: Paradigm Shifts in Theology of Mission.* Maryknoll: Orbis, 1992. [255.001 BOS 1996 c1]

Burnett, David. *Clash of Worlds.* Eastbourne: MARC, 1990. [290 BUR c1]

Carey, Hilary M., *Believing in Australia: A Cultural History of Religions.* The Australian Experience series. Edited by H. Radi. Sydney: Allen & Unwin, 1996. [291.0994 CAR c1]

Conde-Frazier, E. et al. *A Many Coloured Kingdom: Multicultural Dynamics for Spiritual Formation.* Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2004.

Dennett, Bill. *Sharing God's Love with Muslims.* Adelaide: SPCK, 2004. [266.02 DEN c1]

Henderson, Gerard. *Australian Answers.* Milsons Point: Random House,1990.

Hesselgrave, David J., *Communicating Christ Cross-Culturally: An Introduction to Missionary Communication.* Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1991. [261 HES 1991]

Hesselgrave, David J. *Contextualisation: Meanings, Methods and Models.* Leicester: Apollos, 1989. [261 HES 1989 c2]

Hesselgrave, David J. *Planting Churches Cross-Culturally: A Guide for Home and Foreign Missions.* Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Book House, 1993. [266.001 HES c1]

Hiebert, Paul G. *Anthropological Insights for Missionaries.* Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Book House, 1985. [301.2 HIE C2]

Kraft, Charles H., *Christianity in Culture: A Study in Dynamic Biblical Theologizing in Cross-Cultural Perspective* (Maryknoll, New York: Orbis Books,1981). [261 KRA C1]

Kramer, L., *The Multicultural Experiment: Refugees and National Identity.* Sydney: Macleay Press. 2003.

Lane, P. *A Beginner's Guide to Crossing Cultures: Making Friends in a Multicultural World.* Downers Grove, IVP 2002. [303.482 LAN 2002]

Lewis, Bernard and Buntzie Ellis Churchill. *Islam. The Religion and the People.* New Jersey: Wharton School Publishing, 2009.

Lingenfelter, Judith E. and Sherwood G., *Teaching Cross-Culturally. An Incarnational Model for Learning and Teaching.* Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Academic, 2007. [370.19 LIN]

Lingenfelter, S.G. *Agents of Transformation: A Guide for Effective Cross-Cultural Ministry.* Grand Rapids: Baker, 1996. [266.02301 LIN c1]

Lingenfelter, S.G. *Transforming Culture: A Challenge for Christian Mission.* Grand Rapids: Baker, 1995. [266 LIN 1998 c2]

Luzbetak, Louis J. *The Church and Cultures: An Applied Anthropology for the Religious Worker.* William Carey Library Series on Applied Cultural Anthropology. Edited by W.A. Smalley. Pasadena: William Carey, 1981. [301.2 LUZ]

Payne, Tony. *Islam in Our Backyard. A Novel Argument.* Kingsford: Matthias Media, 2002. [239 PAY]

Price, Charles A. *Immigration and Ethnicity.* Commonwealth Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs.

Romo, O.I. *American Mosaic: Church Planting in Ethnic America.* Nashville: Broadman Press, 1993.

Seitz, A. "A Hitchhiker's Guide" in MA, 104-115. Senior Lecturer in Sociology at Swinburne Institute of Technology.

Sherlock, Charles. "Many Flowers - One Fragrance: The Scriptural Witness to Multiculturalism" in CP, 42-50.

Abbreviations:

CP The Cultured Pearl: Australian Readings in Cross-Cultural Theology and Mission (ed. J.Houston; Melbourne: Victorian Council of Churches, 1986) [261.2 HOU c1]

MA Multicultural Australia: The Challenges of Change (eds. David Goodman, D.J. O'Hearn & Chris Wallace-Crabbe; Newham, Vic: Scribe Publications Pty Ltd, 1991)

NI Nations of Immigrants: Australia, the United States, and International Migration (eds. Gary P. Freeman & James Jupp; Melbourne: Oxford University Press, 1992)

PWCM Perspectives on the World Christian Movement: A Reader (Winter, Ralph D., &Hawthorne, Steven C. (eds.)., Pasadena, California: William Carey Library, 1992)

BST Graduate Outcomes

Unit: EM418 Mission in Culturally Diverse contexts **Lecturer:** Rev. Mike Wilson

Semester/ Year: Sem. 1, 2015

How this unit contributes to the College's Graduate Attributes:

Attribute	Emphases of Unit			Comment (elaborate in terms of teaching and assessment)
	Strong	Moderate	Light	
1) Passionate discipleship	✓			The unit relates directly to discipleship as it applies the Great Commission to the Christian life.
2) Sound knowledge of Bible		✓		The unit will be biblically based. Issues in mission will be explored from the perspective of the Bible; hence students will a more sophisticated understanding of the Bible as it applies to mission.
3) Humility and faithfulness			✓	The unit will seek to challenge students with respect to their commitment to mission and the need for obedience in fulfilling the task of the great Commission. There will be opportunity in class where students will explore these issues for their own personal growth.
4) Communicating the Gospel	✓			An important element of the unit is to give students the tools to be able to contextualise the message of the gospel to the situation of unbelievers in order to communicate the Gospel more effectively.
5) Commitment to Mission	✓			The major emphasis of the unit is on mission. Students will be regularly challenged with the call to mission as they consider a range of issues in mission.
6) Commitment to Team ministry			✓	The importance of team ministry will be highlighted in carrying out the work of mission. There will also be opportunities for students to interact with one another in class discussion.
7) Basic ministry skills		✓		Students will develop sound strategies for implementing a stronger missions focus into their church.
8) Commitment to Life-long learning		✓		Mission underscores the need to be open always to the leading of the Lord Jesus and the need to be open continually to take up new challenges.

BST Graduate Attributes

1) They will be passionate disciples of Jesus Christ. Graduates will maintain a vibrant relationship with God, be passionate about following Jesus and walk by the Spirit in every area of life. They will seek to love God above all else and others as themselves in attitudes, words and deeds. They will be imitators of Jesus, obey His Word, deny themselves, take up their cross and follow Jesus wherever He may lead (Mark 8:34).

2) They will have a sound knowledge of the Bible. Graduates will have an in-depth and comprehensive knowledge of the Bible. They will be committed to the infallibility and authority of the Bible as God's Word in everything pertaining to salvation and the Christian life (2 Tim 3:14-17). They will do their best to be good teachers of the Bible who correctly explain the word of truth (2 Tim 2:15).

3) They will have genuine humility and demonstrate faithfulness in life and ministry. Graduates will live lives of holiness, humility and faithfulness. They will be willing to acknowledge their shortcomings and mistakes, and be open to receive constructive criticism and advice. They will do nothing out of selfish ambition, but in humility will consider others better than themselves (Phil 2:3). They will be prepared to suffer for the sake of Christ, knowing that "we must go through many hardships to enter the kingdom of God" (Acts 14:22).

4) They will be effective communicators of the Gospel. Graduates will know the Gospel and will be eager and able to communicate the Gospel, especially in word, but also through writing and other media, in ways that are culturally sensitive and intelligible to others. They will have compassionate hearts, listening empathetically to people in their particular contexts. They will be ready to preach the Word at any time with patience and care (2 Tim 4:2), trying to persuade people to believe the Gospel and to become followers of Jesus (2 Cor 5:11).

5) They will have a great commitment to God's mission. Graduates will be aware of the needs and opportunities of local and global mission. They will endeavour to see the coming of God's kingdom in every sphere of life, strive for justice for the poor and work towards community transformation. They will be passionately committed to and will be active in working towards the fulfilment of the Great Commission, to make disciples of all nations (Matt 28:18-20).

6) They will be committed to team ministry and servant leadership. Graduates will be committed to the local church as the family of God and as their context for ministry and base for mission (Heb 10:24-25). They will work enthusiastically and cooperatively with others in ministry teams. They will be open to Christians across various evangelical denominations and churches (Luke 9:49-50). As leaders they will be disciple-makers, following the Lord Jesus in serving, leading by example, and training and mentoring other leaders (Mark 10:43-45).

7) They will be competent in basic ministry skills. Graduates will be competent in basic ministry skills, including preaching, teaching, leading and caring for people. They will use their gifts to implement constructive change in the church and community (1 Tim 4:6-16). They will be culturally attuned and flexible in dealing with a range of issues (1 Cor 9:19-23). They will embrace accountability and maintain professional standards in various contexts. They will be "salt and light" in the world (Matt 5:13-14) and be able to "prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up" (Eph 4:12).

8) They will be committed to lifelong learning and personal growth. Graduates will be proactive in expanding their knowledge and abilities. They will be open to new challenges, be willing to face unfamiliar problems and accept wider responsibilities. They will continue to grow in faith, knowledge and maturity, "forgetting what is behind and pressing … toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus" (Phil 3:13-14).