


BST

BRISBANE
SCHOOL OF
THEOLOGY



EM4xx

Contextual Asian Ministry Semester 2, 2017



Brisbane School of Theology offers high quality, Bible-centred theological training in a diverse and supportive community, shaping the whole person for God's purpose. Aiming for more than simply growing students' knowledge of theology, BST is developing passionate, capable disciples who use what they know about God's word to serve him in the church and the world.

Brisbane School of Theology is an operating name of Bible College of Queensland.
We are an affiliated college of the Australian College of Theology, our ABN no. is 55009670160 and the ACT CRICOS no. is 02650E.

• Know God's word; take it to the world •

INFORMATION ABOUT THIS UNIT

Description	Asia has progressed from being a destination for mission to a global force in mission. The missional needs and opportunities in Asia continue to expand. Through immigration, tourism, education, and asylum, an increasing number of Asian people are living in Australia. The purpose of this unit is prepare students for ministry to people from an Asian background, both in Australia and overseas.														
Teaching staff	Lecturer	Rev. Dr Andrew Prince <i>BVSc DipMin TESOL (Cert IV) BTh MA.Min PhD</i>													
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Additional information	Credit points	4													
	Co/pre-requisites	N/A													
	No. of teaching weeks	13													
Assessment Summary	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Item</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Details/Due Date</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Weighting</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Descriptive paper</td> <td>1000 words Due: 7th Aug</td> <td>20%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Major essay</td> <td>3,000 words Due: 11th Sept</td> <td>50%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fieldwork report</td> <td>2,000 words Due: 30th Oct</td> <td>30%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Item	Details/Due Date	Weighting	Descriptive paper	1000 words Due: 7 th Aug	20%	Major essay	3,000 words Due: 11 th Sept	50%	Fieldwork report	2,000 words Due: 30 th Oct	30%
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STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES AND UNIT CONTENT

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

On completion of this unit, students will:

Knowledge and understanding	<u>A. know and understand</u> 1. Biblical, theological, historical, cultural, and strategic perspectives on contextual Asian ministry 2. Christian ministry in Asian contexts
Skills	<u>B. be able to</u> 1. Apply biblical and theological perspectives to Asian ministry settings 2. Analyse Christian ministry in diverse Asian contexts 3. Present an analytical evidence-based perspective on ministry in an Asian context
Application	<u>C. be in a position to</u> 1. Integrate perspectives from their other theological studies into contextual ministry in Asian contexts 2. Apply perspectives from contextual Asian mission to current issues in ministry in Asian contexts

Content

Section A: Principles

1. History of Christianity in Asia
2. Incarnational ministry; poverty; holistic ministry
3. Asian worldview and culture: Eastern vs Western; honour and shame; fatalism, determinism, collectivism, respect, duty, harmony
4. Asian religions: Buddhism, Shintoism, Confucianism, Hinduism
5. Contextualisation and contextual issues facing Asian Christianity
6. Mission strategies for Asian mission: Business as Mission, Business for Ministry, professional tent-making, teaching English, theological education.
7. Spiritual warfare: Biblical basis, preparation for, reality of, relationship with other religions, confrontation, prayer
8. Trends in Asian Christianity: Asia as a missionary force; theological educational development; animism and syncretism; indigenous theology
9. Asian ministry models: depth vs breadth; discipleship; development of indigenous leadership; Charismatic movement; megachurch movement
10. Asian-Australian Christianity: 1G. 1.5G and 2G issues; cultural identity; Christianity and culture;
11. Area study: History and impact of missionary activity, cultural values, ecclesiastical practices in one or more Asian countries

Section B: Practice

Candidates are for a minimum of 20 hours to:

1. Participate in either an Asian or Australian-Asian congregation of a culture other than the student's own; and
2. With the help of members of that church, observe both church and 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, and generational issues. Consider possible strategies for the future ministry of the congregation.

LECTURE OUTLINE

Week	Date	Topic	Pre-reading
1	11 Jul	History of Christianity in Asia	
2	18 Jul	Asian worldview and culture: Eastern vs Western; honour and shame; fatalism, determinism, collectivism, respect, duty, harmony	
3	25 Jul	Incarnational ministry; poverty; holistic ministry	
4	1 Aug	Asian religions: Buddhism, Shintoism	
5	8 Aug	Asian religions: Confucianism, Taoism, Hinduism	
6	15 Aug	Spiritual warfare: Biblical basis, preparation for, reality of, relationship with other religions, confrontation, prayer	
7	22 Aug	Trends in Asian Christianity: Asia as a missionary force; theological educational development; animism and syncretism; indigenous theology	
8	29 Aug	Asian ministry models: depth vs breadth; discipleship; development of indigenous leadership; Charismatic movement; megachurch movement	
9	5 Sept	Contextualisation and contextual issues facing Asian Christianity	
10	12 Sept	Mission strategies for Asian mission: Business as Mission, Business for Ministry, professional tent-making, teaching English, theological education	
***	***	Intra-semester break	***
11	3 Oct	Asian-Australian Christianity: 1G. 1.5G and 2G issues; cultural identity; Asian-Australian internalized racism; Christianity and culture	
12	10 Oct	Area study: History and impact of missionary activity, cultural values, contribution of women in, ecclesiastical practices in Asian country: China	
13	17 Oct	Area study: History and impact of missionary activity, cultural values, ecclesiastical practices in East Asian country: Philippines/ Japan	

ASSESSMENT OUTLINE

This applies to students who are enrolled at Bachelor level.

Assessment 1	Item	Descriptive paper, 1500 words
	Details/ Due Date	Select a historical figure that has been influential in Asian mission. The paper must describe this historical figure's background, ministry, challenges they faced, along with the impact of their ministry, before suggesting reasons as to why their ministry was so influential. Due: Monday 7th August, 5pm
	Weighting	20%
Assessment 2	Item	Essay, 3000 words
	Details/ Due Date	Students are to identify an Asian country, and discuss unique historical, and cultural features of that country that might helpfully inform a prospective mission worker to that country. The essay is to further outline and describe issues that would be likely faced by a mission worker in that country, before suggesting strategies for dealing with these issues. Due: Monday 11th Sept, 5pm
	Weighting	50%
Assessment 3	Item	Fieldwork report and analysis, 1500 words
	Details/ Due Date	For a minimum of 20 hours students are to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Participate in either an Asian or Australian-Asian congregation which represents a culture other than the student's own; and 2. Interview at least two leaders and two congregation members of this church in order to ascertain some of the challenges it faces as an Asian church, including: leadership patterns and processes, learning styles and worship preferences, generational issues, and being an Asian church in an Australian context. 3. Evaluate this ministry in accordance with your knowledge of Asian culture, worldview and

		<p>ministry principles considered throughout the unit. Consider possible strategies for the future ministry of the congregation.</p> <p>The Fieldwork report should use eight to ten bibliographical references.</p> <p>Due: Monday 30th October, 5pm</p>
	Weighting	30%

LECTURE ATTENDANCE

Please note the [ACT policy](#) (see also BST Student Handbook) on lecture attendance in the *Undergraduate Handbook* and the *Graduate and Postgraduate Handbook*. You are required to attend at least 80% of lectures. This means you can miss a maximum of 8 hours of lectures. If you know that you will not be at a lecture, please phone or email the lecturer beforehand. If you miss more than two lectures, your enrolment for this unit may be ended.

LATE SUBMISSION OF WORK

Please note the [ACT Late Penalties Policy](#) (including extensions; see also BST Student Handbook). 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 Academic Misconduct Policy](#) (see also 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.

READING MATERIALS

* Books marked with an asterisk are on the Frozen Shelf in the library.

Prescribed texts

- * Maggay, Melba. *The gospel in culture: contextualization issues through Asian eyes*. Manila: OMF Lit/ ISACC, 2013.
- * Nadeau, Randall L. *Asian Religions: A Cultural Perspective*. Chichester: Wiley Blackwell, 2014.
- * Sunquist, Scott W. *Explorations in Asian Christianity: History, Theology, and Mission*. Downers Grove: IVP, 2017.

Other recommended texts

- * Bays, Daniel H. *A New History of Christianity in China*. Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell, 2012.
- * Ingleby, Jonathan, Tan Kang San, and Tan Loun Ling (eds). *Contextualisation and Mission Training: Engaging Asia's Religious Worlds*. Oxford: Regnum Books, 2013.
- * Nicholls, Bruce, Theresa Roco Lua, and Julie Belding. *The church in a changing world: An Asian response: Challenges from the Malang consultation on globalization*. Quezon City: Asian Theological Association, 2010.
- * Park, Timothy K (ed.) *Mission History of Asian Churches*. Pasadena: William Carey, 2011.
- * Wu, Jackson. *One Gospel for All Nations: A Practical Approach to Biblical Contextualization*. Pasadena: William Carey, 2015.

GRADUATE OUTCOMES

Attribute	Emphases of Unit			Comment
	Strong	Moderate	Light	
1) Passionate discipleship	√			The unit relates directly to discipleship as it applies the Great Commission to Asian mission contexts.
2) Sound knowledge of Bible		√		The unit will be biblically based. Issues in Asian mission will be explored from the perspective of the Bible; hence students will have a more sophisticated understanding of the Bible as it applies to mission in an Asian context.
3) Humility and faithfulness			√	The unit will seek to challenge students with respect to their <i>commitment</i> to cross-cultural mission in an Asian context. 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 an Asian context.
5) Commitment to mission	√			Students will be regularly challenged with the call to mission as they consider a range of issues in ministry in an Asian context.
6) Commitment to team ministry			√	The importance of team ministry will be highlighted in carrying out the work of mission in an Asian context. There will also be opportunities for students to interact with one another in class discussion.
7) Basic ministry skills	√			Students will develop strategies for engaging in with both believers and unbelievers in an Asian context- including evangelism, discipling, and Asian-Australian church.
8) Commitment to lifelong learning		√		Mission underscores the need to be continually open to the leading of the Lord Jesus and the need to be open continually to take up new challenges.

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).