

Azusa Pacific University

Undergraduate Division of Religion and Philosophy Department of Practical Theology Course Instruction Plan Spring 2009

Course Information

Course Name and Call #: Introduction to Global Vision – CMIN 105

Units: 1 Unit

Prerequisites: There are no prerequisites for this course.

Course Meeting Times: Thursdays – 7:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Course Location: Duke 204

Professor: Matt Elofson, Ph.D.

Office: Duke 259

Email: melofson@apu.edu (Email is the best way to reach me and get a quick response!)

Telephone: Office – (626) 815-6000 x. 5619; Home – (626) 335-9955

Administrative Assistant: Pat Losie, (626) 815-5452, plosie@apu.edu

Office Hours: Mondays – 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Wednesdays – 2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

APU Mission Statement

Azusa Pacific University is an evangelical Christian community of disciples and scholars who seek to advance the work of God in the world through academic excellence in liberal arts and professional programs of higher education that encourage students to develop a Christian perspective of truth and life.

Division of Religion and Philosophy

The Division of Religion and Philosophy exists by the grace of God to equip and encourage men and women as they advance towards their educational and professional goals of service to the church and society in the name of Jesus Christ. Motivated by a vision of God's love consistent with the Wesleyan heritage of evangelical Christianity, we pursue this mission through coordinated courses of study appropriate to our various degree programs, and through opportunities for Christian scholarship and ministry.

Department of Practical Theology Mission Statement

The Department of Practical Theology equips undergraduate students majoring in Youth Ministry and Christian Ministries for professional ministry tasks and relationships in a transformational Christian community through multidisciplinary education and ministerial experiences that promote theological reflection, faith integration, and spiritual formation.

Course Description

Students are exposed to opportunities for Christian service abroad while gaining an overview of the present progress of the Great Commission. Does not count toward the Christian Ministries major.

Student Learning Outcomes

Student Learning Outcomes	Applicable Assignments
“By the end of the course, students should be able to...”	
1. Identify and describe significant attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors inherent in Kenyan culture.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance • Reading • Cultural Attitudes, Beliefs, and Behavior Presentation
2. Articulate important attitudes and skills necessary for making effective connections cross-culturally.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance • Reading • Reading Response Paper • Debriefing Discussion
3. Explain various cultural differences that tend to confuse or frustrate people engaged in cross-cultural experiences.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance • Reading • Reading Response Paper • Debriefing Discussion

Required Texts

Elmer, Duane. *Cross-Cultural Connections: Stepping Out and Fitting In Around the World*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2002.

Barsby, Jane. *Kenya – Culture Smart!: a quick guide to customs and etiquette*. London: Kuperard, 2007.

Additional articles, websites, and films as assigned by the instructor.

Course Assignments

1. Course Attendance (50 points)

Students are expected to attend class, be on time, and stay for the entirety of the class. Attendance will be taken and occasional in class assignments will be collected and assessed that cannot be made up unless one’s absence was excused. For every **unexcused absence over one, there will be a fifteen (15) point deduction from one’s semester point total.** Any student who misses three classes as a result of **any combination of excused or unexcused absences will not have successfully completed the requirements to pass the course.**

An excused absence must meet the following two criteria:

1. **You must inform me in advance (either by email or voice mail message).**
2. **I must agree that your excuse is legitimate (class trip, athletic travel, illness, wedding, funeral, etc.).**

2. Reading Discussions and Response Paper (200 points)

a. Reading Discussions (100 points)

Each student will be required to read all of the course material and be prepared to discuss it with the instructor by the assigned dates. The instructor will assign a grade based on the student's familiarity with the material and their ability to critically reflect on it.

b. Reading Response Paper (100 points)

Each student will compose a **four to six page critical response** to the book, *Cross-Cultural Connections: Stepping Out and Fitting In Around the World*. This response paper should address the following elements:

1. What is the author trying to communicate in the text? (Briefly summarize what the author is attempting to argue.)
2. Critically respond to the author's thoughts. What do you find insightful or question in the author's content? Are there aspects with which you agree or disagree? Why?
3. How does the content of the book impact the way you will prepare for and participate in the Kenya trip?

3. Cultural Attitudes, Beliefs, and Behavior Presentation (100 points)

Each student will construct a **10 minute presentation** on at least two specific attitudes, beliefs, and/or behaviors regarding Kenyan culture that they believe the fellow members of their team need to be aware of before departing. The required text, *Kenya – Culture Smart!: a quick guide to customs and etiquette* should serve as a starting point for exploring the specific attitudes, beliefs, and/or behaviors students might encounter on the trip. The student's presentation needs to clearly demonstrate that they have done additional reading regarding the attitudes, beliefs, and/or behavior they have chosen to address.

Grading Criteria for Cultural Attitudes, Beliefs, and Behaviors Presentation

Thorough Description of Chosen Cultural Attitudes, Beliefs, and Behaviors	30 points
Thoughtful Reflection and Discussion regarding Implications for Team Kenya	30 points
Clear Integration of Additional Resources	20 points

Overall Quality of Presentation (Professionalism, Creativity, and Cohesiveness)	20 points
Total Points	100 points

4. Debriefing Discussion (50 points)

After returning from Kenya, each student will be required to meet with the instructor individually to discuss how the resources they engaged prior to their trip assisted or hindered their experience in the country. During this discussion, the student will need to demonstrate their knowledge of the required reading material as well as the ability to reflect on how it related to their cross-cultural experience.

Class Policies

1. Written Assignments

All assignments are due by the end of class on the day assigned. **I will not accept late assignments**, unless it involves a medical emergency or something that is **completely out of your control**.

With the exception of written assignments completed during class or **unless otherwise assigned**, all papers and written assignments are to be completed on a word processor or typed using **black ink**. Each written assignment should be **double-spaced with one-inch margins on all four sides** and, utilize a standard **12-point word processing font**. **Your name, name of the course, assignment title, and due date** should appear in the upper right-hand corner of the page. All sources must be documented using the ***Turabian/Chicago Manual of Style***. If you have any questions about this method of documentation, please consult <http://www.dianahacker.com/resdoc/>. **Any paper that does not follow proper formatting guidelines will automatically receive a 10% deduction.**

In addition, it is very important that you know that spelling, punctuation, grammar, as well as sentence, paragraph, and paper structure counts! Before turning in any assignment, make sure to read it over carefully to make sure that the paper is formatted correctly and written properly. **A minimum loss of one grade and a maximum penalty of an "F" will be applied to assignments that are formatted improperly or written poorly.** You should use inclusive language and metaphors in both written and verbal communication.

2. Participation

This class endeavors to engage the student in a cooperative learning experience in which all involved will benefit from the dialogue. Consequently, it is important that you realize there is more to this class than showing up and being on time. You will be graded on your participation throughout the semester.

In addition, the professor reserves the right to dismiss any student from a particular day's class, if they are participating in behaviors determined to be detrimental to the learning environment or displaying a lack of commitment to the enrichment of their peers' educational experience. This includes such activities as choosing to use your laptop or cell phone for surfing the web, chatting, e-mailing, instant messaging, text messaging or playing games during class. If a student is asked to leave a class, they will be credited with an unexcused absence for that day's class.

3. Laptop Usage

Students are welcome to bring laptops to class for the purpose of taking notes during lectures by the instructor. If using a laptop, it must remain on the desk and open at all times during the class. Any students choosing not to adhere to these guidelines will not be allowed to utilize a laptop in class. If at any time during a class it becomes obvious to the instructor that a student is using their laptop for surfing the web, e-mailing, instant messaging, or some purpose other than participating in class, the student will automatically be marked absent for that class period and will lose the **privilege** of utilizing a laptop in future classes. **No laptops are permitted in class during student-led presentations.**

4. Academic Integrity

The mission of Azusa Pacific University includes cultivating in each student not only the academic skills that are required for a university degree, but also the characteristics of academic integrity that are integral to a sound Christian education. It is therefore part of the mission of the university to nurture in each student a sense of moral responsibility consistent with the biblical teachings of honesty and accountability. Furthermore, a breach of academic integrity is viewed not merely as a private matter between the student and an instructor but rather as an act which is fundamentally inconsistent with the purpose and mission of the entire university. A complete copy of the Academic Integrity Policy is available in the Office of Student Life, the Office of the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Programs, and online.

It is expected that you will copy and adapt concepts from other sources, but when you do please footnote it. Any assignment submitted that attempts to pass off somebody else's work as one's own will be considered plagiarism and will result in the automatically forfeiture of all points for the assignment in question. Additionally, plagiarism or any other attempt to cheat or deceive the instructor in any way represents sufficient grounds for failure of an assignment, the course, and possible dismissal from the university. Students found guilty of plagiarism or any other form of cheating will be reported to the Provost, and a memorandum of the event will be placed in the student's permanent file in the Provost's office.

All standards and explanations of appropriate conduct in regards to class work in the 2008/2009 Student Handbook are expected and enforced. Failure in any area

regarding academic integrity will result in the loss of all points on an assignment and may result in the failure of the course.

5. Special Resources

Some students may have extra challenges to overcome in order to be successful in this course. Disabilities or having a first language other than English may cause problems. Azusa Pacific University provides special assistance to all students through the Learning Enrichment Center.

Students with any disability that may prevent them from fully demonstrating his or her abilities are urged to advise the instructor of their needs and meet with an advisor in the Learning Enrichment Center as soon as possible. The use of services provided in the Learning Enrichment Center will help ensure full participation in the successful completion of the course requirements.

Students are also encouraged to make use of the resources available at the University Writing Center located in the Marshburn Library on East Campus. The Writing Center is available to help students with all aspects of their writing projects.

6. University Policies

All university and department policies affecting student work, appeals, and grievances, as outlined in the Undergraduate Catalog and/or Department Handbook will apply, unless otherwise indicated in this syllabus.

Please understand it is each student's responsibility to read and adhere to all of the class policies outlined in this syllabus.

Grading

The instructor will make every attempt to be impartial and objective when grading a student's work and involvement in the course. However, grading is most often subjective and so the instructor (due to his age, education, and experience) may evaluate a student's work, attitude, and overall performance differently than the student does. From time to time, a student may disagree with or question a grade. **When disagreements or questions arise concerning a grade on an assignment, please consult the instructor for clarification as soon as possible.** Do not wait until the end of the semester or after the semester is over to raise questions and/or discuss assignments and evaluations.

The grading scale is as follows:

- A Outstanding mastery of the subject: excellence evident in preparation for and attendance in class sessions, curious and retentive mind, unusual ability to analyze and synthesize material, with a positive attitude making productive contributions to the learning community in the classroom. Superior thinking with information relevant to application, critique, and relationship to other information.
- B Above average in terms of attendance, preparation, time management. More than adequate knowledge regarding technical terms, distinctions, and ability to use information. Mostly consistent in test taking and attitude.
- C Average. Basic knowledge needed to function and carry on learning regarding major principles and central terms.
- D Serious gaps in knowledge, confusion of concepts and categories, inability to recall basic information, and below average attendance.
- F Absence of knowledge, incapable of carrying on a conversation about the subject, misunderstands most concepts, confuses all categories.

Grading

A	561-600	C	438-461
A-	537-560	C-	417-437
B+	522-536	D+	402-416
B	498-521	D	378-401
B-	477-497	D-	357-377
C+	462-476	F	0-356

Individual Assignment Possible Points and Total Possible Points

Course Attendance			50
Reading Discussions and Response Paper			200
	Reading Discussions (10)	100	
	Reading Response Paper	100	
Cultural Attitudes, Beliefs, and Behavior Presentation			100
	Exploring Contemporary Issues Influencing Youth Ministry Presentation	60	
	Learning Team Participation and Contribution	25	
Debriefing Discussion			50
	Total Possible Points		<u>600</u>

INTRODUCTION TO GLOBAL VISION – SPRING 2009 READING AND ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE

JANUARY 15	INTRODUCTIONS AND SYLLABUS REVIEW
JANUARY 22	READING DUE: ELMER, PP. 9-32
JANUARY 29	READING DUE: ELMER, PP. 35-53 BARSBY, PP. 12-37
FEBRUARY 5	READING DUE: ELMER, PP. 54-71 BARSBY, PP. 38-67
FEBRUARY 12	READING DUE: ELMER, PP. 72-83 BARSBY, PP. 68-95
FEBRUARY 19	READING DUE: ELMER, PP. 87-92 BARSBY, PP. 96-118
FEBRUARY 26	READING DUE: ELMER, PP. 93-97 BARSBY, PP. 126-141
MARCH 5	READING DUE: ELMER, PP. 95-105 BARSBY, PP. 154-164
MARCH 12	READING DUE: ELMER, 106-134 ASSIGNMENT DUE: CULTURAL ATTITUDES, BELIEFS, AND BEHAVIOR PRESENTATIONS
MARCH 19	READING DUE: ELMER, 135-170
MARCH 26	READING DUE: ELMER, PP. 171-202
APRIL 2	ASSIGNMENT DUE: READING RESPONSE PAPER
APRIL 9	IN KENYA
APRIL 16	NO CLASS – RETURN FROM KENYA
APRIL 23	ASSIGNMENT DUE: DEBRIEFING DISCUSSION MUST BE COMPLETE

*****This schedule is subject to change at the instructor's discretion.*****