

Adventist Institute in Advanced Studies

CHMN/MSSN 670 Growing Disciples and Mission

3 Semester Credits

October 21 to December 11, 2008 • AIIAS

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Course Description: An exploration of the biblical basis for the organic reproduction of disciples and mission in both the Old and New Testament, and how God grows the church by growing people. Emphasis will be given throughout the course on practical principles which will inform and empower the local church pastor to grow new and established members in discipleship and mission.

Contribution to the Fulfillment of the AIIAS Mission Statement: This course will fulfill the AIIAS mission statement by providing both a theological and practical framework for the pastors to fulfill the Great Commission to go make disciples of all nations. It will provide key insights in how to give spirit-filled and competent leadership in principles and methods to grow the church both qualitatively and quantitatively.

Contribution to the Attainment of AIIAS Goals: This course will contribute to the attainment of AIIAS goals by offering both a Biblical and a practical study of how to grow the church effectively in a broad context. It will seek to blend spiritual formation with the using of practical tools for pastoral ministry. It will seek to provide a high quality educational experience in the their own ministry context, with practical exercises that will grow the life of the minister and his church.

Perspective and Goals of the Course: This course is designed to help the pastor of the church understand both the principles and practice of Biblical church growth. It will seek to combine insights from discipleship, spiritual formation and contextualized ministry in order to impact the church and society with the saving gospel for these last days. The goals for this course will be met by incorporating the following perspectives into the course:

- 1) The character of spiritual formation and mission in Psalms 1.
- 2) Understanding the history and people behind the church growth movement.
- 3) How communion, community and commission provide a firm foundation for a balanced church growth theory and practice.
- 4) The purpose of Matthew's gospel as the formation of missionary disciples.
- 5) The role of the Holy Spirit in the church in Luke-Acts.
- 6) Practical implementation of church growth theory through a contextualized theology.

Methodology: The class is initially scheduled to meet Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm from October 21 to December 11, 2008 in order to fulfill the 48 hours of classroom instruction time for three semester hours. Beyond this, the student should spend at least two additional hours per contact hour in research, reading and reflection. The teaching strategies will include class lectures many group activities and individual research.

Course Requirements:

1) Class Attendance—100 points

Campus policy on attendance will be applied. The students are expected to attend all the lectures and classroom activities. (This is especially critical in an intensive course of a short duration). Emergencies may occur and absences will be accepted with a written excuse. All unexcused absences will be deducted from the student's final grade.

2) Reading Report—200 points

Write three four page double spaced reading report divided into two parts: 1) The first three pages will give an overview of the portions of the readings you found to be most significant. 2) The second part of the report will give a listing of at least four ways the principles of the readings could be applied to your current ministry. The Reading Reports are due on November 4, November 25 and December 9.

3) Presentation—300 Points

Each student will make a 20 to 30 minute oral presentation of the assigned topic. The presentation will attempt to outline the significant and relevant parts of the *student's context*, the *lecture* and *reading material*. Power point slides may be used but are not required. A written outline of the topic must be printed out for the professor at the time of the presentation.

4) The Final Test—400 points

A final written test will be given over all the lecture material of the course. The questions will be fill in the blank and short answers and attempt to uncover the student's knowledge of the general principles of discipleship and church growth.

Grading Guidelines: The following will serve as a general guideline in determining the final grades. The percentages may be altered slightly to accommodate the overall level of the class.

Letter Grade	Percentage	Letter Grade	Percentage	Letter Grade	Percentage
A	93-100	B+	87-89	C+	77-79
A-	90-92	B	83-86	C	73-76
		B-	80-82	C-	70-72

Ethics: All quotations taken from an author needs to be properly noted. Even when paraphrasing an author's thoughts and putting them in your own words, it is always best to let the teacher know just where you are getting the source of your remarks. When in doubt, give the note. Plagiarism, or the taking of a writing or idea that belongs to another without proper credit is intellectually and dishonest and can lead to academic investigation and consequences. Finally, when mentioning an author in any way, make sure the position presented in the text is an honest and complete formulation of his thought.

Required Reading

The following is a listing of the required reading. Except for the first book, all other references can be found on the web. These can be downloaded and read by the student. Printing out of all the material is not necessary but helpful for the student.

Section One Reading Report will be due on November 4.

Lecture 1: *Discipleship* by Billy Ray Hanks Jr. and William A. Shell: Intro–Chapters 1-4

Lecture 2: *Discipleship* by Billy Ray Hanks Jr. and William A. Shell: Chapters 5-9

Lecture 3: *Discipleship* by Billy Ray Hanks Jr. and William A. Shell: Chapters 10-Reading List

Section Two Reading Report will be due on November 25.

Lecture 4: Great Commission Contextualization by David J. Hesselgrave

http://www.ijfm.org/PDFs_IJFM/12_3_PDFs/06_Hesselgrave.pdf

Lecture 5: Contextualization and Taiwanese Funeral Rites by Scott F. Grandi

<http://members.aol.com/taimission/funeral.htm>

Lecture 6: On the Urban Scene, We Must Know the Territory by Glover Shipp

http://www.bible.acu.edu/ministry/centers_institutes/missions/page.asp?ID=430

Section Three Reading Report will be due on December 9.

Lecture 7: Training Leaders

<http://www.missiology.org/essentialtasks/trainingleaders.htm>

Lecture 8: Framework for Local Church Mission

https://online2.aiias.edu/file.php/62/unit7/materials/Framework_for_local_church_mission.pdf

Lecture 9: Church Planting—(use the links provided to find one good article of 5+ pages).

<http://www.mislinks.org/church/chplant.htm>

Discipleship and Mission

Course Outline

Day	Topic		Text
I. Biblical Foundation			
T-10-21	Communion	The Wholistic Mission of Psalm 1	<i>Psalm 1</i>
Th-10-23	Community	The Mission of the Holy Spirit	<i>Luke 1-2</i>
T-10-28	Commission	The Great Commission in Matthew	<i>Matthew 28</i>
II. Contextualization			
T-11-4	History	The History of Church Growth	
Th-11-6	Context	The Profound Influence of Context	
T-11-11	City	The Urban Context	
III. Strategy			
Th-11-13	Leaders	How to Grow Core Group Leaders	<i>Mark 3:13-15</i>
T-11-18	Groups	How to Grow Small Groups	<i>Acts 2:42-47</i>
Th-11-20	Churches	How to Plant Churches	
IV. Presentations			
T-12-2	Presentations		
Th-12-4	Presentations		
T-12-9	Presentations		
IV. Final Test			
Th-12-11	A final test will be given which will cover all the lecture material.		

Reading Report 1 Due: November 6.

Reading Report 2 Due: November 18.

Reading Report 3 Due: December 2.

Student Evaluation Form

Name of Student: _____

Attendance

How many classes did the student miss?		
Were any excuses written and substantial?		
Take away 50 points for each unexcused class missed.		
Total Points	100	

Required Reading

How well did the student summarize the significant findings?	100	
How well did the student apply it to their own ministry context?	50	
Was the three page report handed in by the due date?	50	
Total Points	200	

Presentation

Did the presentation show knowledge of the lecture material?	100	
Did the presentation show knowledge of the reading material?	100	
Did the presentation show a relevance to the student's context?	100	
Total Points	300	

Final Test

Total Points	400	
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Grand Total

Total Points	1000	
Grade		