

**Course:** IC3610 Intercultural Methods I  
**Credit:** 3 Credit Hours  
**Semester:** Fall 2025  
**Time:** By appointment  
**Instructor:** Dr. Joshua Paxton, [Joshua.paxton@calvary.edu](mailto:Joshua.paxton@calvary.edu),  
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## I. DESCRIPTION

Methods I is designed to provide the student opportunity for practical hands-on training through a ministry partner of Calvary University. Methods I lays a foundation for the future Methods coursework by introducing the student to their agency's specifics and covering such topics as team building, cultural awareness, learning styles, personal development, and assessment for cross cultural service. (Requirements: Junior class standing and permission of the Intercultural Studies Program Director; Fee: \$600 to Missions agency)

## II. OBJECTIVES

### A. General competencies to be achieved:

1. Provide the student with both academic and hands on training through missions practitioners. (PLO 1, 4, 5) (A 2, 3, 4, 5)
2. Determine a student's compatibility and suitability for missionary service and ministry. (PLO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5) (A 1, 3, 4)
3. Develop and exercise sufficient aptitude for missionary work. (PLO 4, 5) (A 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
4. Combine training and preparedness aspects such that students may engage in missions work sooner. (PLO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5) (A 3, 4)
5. Cultivate a greater passion for intercultural ministries through missions exposure (PLO 5) (A 3, 4)
6. Foster a relationship with organizations working in the students chosen field. (PLO 5) (A 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)

### B. Specific competencies to be achieved:

1. Formulate a training program with an approved agency that will carry the student through their education, missions training and to their chosen field. (PLO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5) (A 1, 4)
2. Introduce the student to this particular agency and its unique cross cultural ministry niche. (PLO 1, 5) (A 1, 3, 4, 5)
3. Prepare for ministry as a part of a team through team building exercises. (PLO 1, 4, 5) (A 1, 2)
4. Assess the student's readiness for cross-cultural ministry. (PLO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5) (A 3)
5. Introduce the student to cultural aspects unique to their chosen ministry field. (PLO 1, 4) (A 3, 4, 5)

*Our Mission: "...to prepare Christians to live and serve in the church and in the world according to the Biblical worldview."*

6. Explore the student's gifts and necessary qualifications for cross-cultural ministry. (PLO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5) (A 1, 3, 4, 5)

### **III. REQUIREMENTS**

#### **A. Methods Coursework**

1. The Methods courses are to be completed as a unit with the same mission organization. The student will select one of the approved mission organizations to complete their methods coursework in conjunction with. To that end the student is encouraged to begin planning for their methods track no later than the fall semester of their sophomore year.
2. Methods coursework should build on knowledge attained through general and core courses as well as each other. Each methods course is intended to build on the course before it.
3. Once a student is ready for their methods course they will meet with both the Intercultural Studies Program Director and their Methods Supervisor to discuss the details of the Methods coursework unique to their particular mission organization as well as standard requirements across every organization.

#### **B. Methods Requirements**

1. Obtain a copy of Intercultural Methods Syllabus.
  - a. This syllabus is designed to acquaint the student, the methods supervisor, and the program director with basic information about the coursework.
  - b. The methods coursework is a requirement for the four-year degree and is considered extremely important and valuable in the total educational process.
  - c. The methods involves working directly with an approved mission organization in their ministry training program as well as assignments turned in to the IC Program Director.
2. Obtain a copy of the Methods Handbook
  - a. The Methods Handbook will acquaint the student with the necessary procedures specific to their chosen mission organization.
  - b. Each mission organization has unique requirements for completing their training and those requirements must be met and kept track of through the assignments listed in this syllabus. While the track is unique the topics covered and assignments completed are standard across each organization to ensure that students receive a comparable education.
3. Raise the funds necessary to participate in the program – if required
4. Complete all requirements: These requirements include: journals, interviews, assignments unique to the organization, attendance, good standing with the organization, papers and work submitted to the IC Program Director.

5. Methods Responsibilities:

- a. The student is responsible for:
  - i. Selecting which organization and methods track they wish to complete. (A student may change their track after completing Methods I, however, Methods I will need to be repeated with the new organization and this could affect graduation dates)
  - ii. Securing all required written material from the Intercultural Studies Program Director
  - iii. Obtaining written approval from both the IC Program Director and the organization.
  - iv. Completing all assignments
  - v. Meeting with the Intercultural Studies Program Director for the exit interview.
- b. The Immediate Supervisor is to be:
  - i. A staff worker in the organization through which the methods coursework is being done.
  - ii. Willing to supervise the student and communicate progress to the Intercultural Studies Program Director.
- c. The Intercultural Studies Program Director is responsible for:
  - i. Giving approval and advice to the student about the methods.
  - ii. Collecting and reviewing the student's and supervisor's documentation.
  - iii. Grading submitted assignments.
  - iv. Meeting with the student after the methods has been completed to go over data, assess the effectiveness of the learning, and assign a grade.

6. Methods Commitment

- a. The student will:
  - i. Give himself/herself wholly to the direction and supervision of the supervisor.
  - ii. Demonstrate a high degree of diligence and faithfulness.
  - iii. Be responsible to submit all required forms and information.
  - iv. Complete assignments in a timely manner.
- b. The immediate supervisor will:
  - i. Provide the student with the methods program and accompanying requirements.
  - ii. Communicate to the Intercultural Studies Program Director as soon as possible any concerns or dissatisfaction with the student.
  - iii. The methods course may be terminated by mutual consent or by the supervisor and/or mission organization at any time. If this should be necessary, a meeting with the student and

notification of the Intercultural Studies Program Director is required.

**C. Methods Procedures**

1. Seek approval from the Intercultural Studies Advisor AND the Immediate Supervisor.
2. Complete the Methods Self-Evaluation
3. Submit all written assignments, reports, and evaluation forms.
4. Have the supervisor submit the Supervisor's Evaluation to the Intercultural Studies Program Director.
5. Make an appointment with the Intercultural Studies Advisor for an exit interview.
6. Remember
  - i. The methods is not official until the Supervisor submits a tentative plan.
  - ii. All requirements listed in the course syllabus are met no later than the required dates.
  - iii. Schedule a personal interview and evaluation with the Intercultural Studies Program Director as soon as you return to campus or as soon as you complete the requirements if the methods was during the school year.
  - iv. The student should keep one copy of all reports, evaluations, and materials submitted to the Intercultural Studies Program Director.

**D. Assignments**

1. Reflective Journal
  - i. A personal ministry journal is required. This journal is simply an account of the daily activities, relationships, ministries, and exposures as well as lessons learned, areas that indicate where God blessed and areas where you need to improve. This may be done in the form of a blog.
  - ii. The Journal is to be turned in one weeks prior to the end of the term.
2. Team Building Paper
  - i. Team building and aspects of team work are covered by each agency in Methods I. This assignment has two parts.
  - ii. The student will read *The Five Dysfunctions of a Team* by Patrick Lencioni.
  - iii. The student will then write a 5 page paper in which they compare lessons learned through the reading and lessons learned from the agency. What is the most valuable lesson learned? How will you apply these principles on the mission field? What benefits and what dangers are inherit with team based ministry?
3. Assessment of Readiness for Cross-cultural Service
  - i. The student will write a 5 page paper in which they evaluate their preparedness for cross cultural service based on surveys and learning done through the agency.
  - ii. This assessment is to be completed and turned in prior to beginning on the Personal Growth and Development Plan.
4. Personal Growth and Development Plan

- i. A key part of Methods I is understanding the student's need to be a good spiritual steward.
  - ii. Through interaction and learning with the agency as well as the student's personal reflection the student is to write a 10 page personal plan for ongoing spiritual and professional growth. This plan should cover the following time periods.
    - 1. Now until graduation
    - 2. Graduation to field departure
    - 3. While on the mission field
  - iii. The student should note the following in their plan.
    - 1. What is their plan and goals for their ongoing spiritual growth in the walk with the Lord?
    - 2. How will they continue to develop professionally as a missions practitioner?
    - 3. What support does the agency provide in this area?
    - 4. What areas of struggle will the student encounter and how can he/she be proactive in dealing with them now?
    - 5. What current struggles need to be dealt with?
5. Agency Specific Assignments
- i. The student is to also turn in to the professor any work that is assigned by the agency itself. This will be included in their assessment for the course.

\*\*\*\*\* All work should be submitted through Canvas.

#### **IV. METHODS**

- A. Assessment:** All work submitted constitutes the background and basis for assessment.
- B. In-class Methods:** Students are expected to meet all obligations of the organization they are doing their methods program through. Obligations are organization specific and can be found in the Methods Handbook. Any assignments completed for the organization must be passed on to the IC Program Director through Canvas or other means.
- C. Out-of-class Methods:** The student will seek training with one of the approved missions organizations. The student is expected to participate in all activities relevant to their training, this participation will be tracked as a means of attendance. Methods could include off-campus class time, field work, tests, papers, etc...

**D. Grading:** Grades are based on the student's overall performance in the organizations training as well as work submitted to the IC Program Director. Any grades assigned by the organization will be considered in the grade given for the practicum course.

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| a. Organizational grade  | 20% |
| b. Completed assignments | 20% |
| c. Daily Journal         | 10% |
| d. Self-Evaluation       | 15% |
| e. Supervisor Evaluation | 15% |
| f. Professor Interview   | 20% |

E. The Bible is a required textbook in every course at Calvary University. To facilitate academic level study, students are required to use for assignments and research an English translation or version of the Bible based on formal equivalence (*meaning that the translation is generally word-for-word from the original languages*), including any of the following: New American Standard (NASB), English Standard Version (ESV), New King James (NKJV), or King James (KJV). Other translations and versions based on dynamic equivalence (*paraphrases, and thought-for-thought translations like NLT and NIV*) may be used as supplemental sources. Please ask the professor if you have questions about a particular translation or version.

F. All class papers must follow the Turabian style according to *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 8th edition. Unless otherwise indicated book reports and study questions may be in non-research format, interviews and other research papers should be in research paper format. A copy of the Turabian Style Guide is available on the Clark Academic Center page of Calvary's website.

**G. Late Assignments:** Assignments will be penalized according to the professor's late policy as explained in Canvas.

**C. H. Plagiarism:** Plagiarism is defined as copying any content without identifying the source. This also includes taking another person's or AI entity's ideas or constructs and presenting them as your own. Plagiarism of any kind will not be tolerated. Most assignments at Calvary require the student to produce original work. Therefore, unless specifically permitted by the instructor, the use of AI-generated content is prohibited (even if cited) as it does not represent original work created by the student and is an unreliable aggregate of ideas from other sources. AI, however, may be utilized in cases where the instructor has explicitly permitted its use to accomplish specific tasks. It is only in these cases that AI-generated (or modified) content may be submitted by the student. If there are any questions as to the permissibility of AI use for an assignment, please ask your instructor for clarification.

*Any assignment that includes plagiarism will receive a zero (0) grade. Students should note that papers will be submitted in Canvas via "Turn-It-In". This program automatically gives the student's work a plagiarism score, students should strive for a score less than 20.*

**IC361-O Intercultural Methods I  
Syllabus, Fall 2025**

**I. Disabilities:** Students with disabilities have the responsibility of informing the Accommodations Support Coordinator ([aso@calvary.edu](mailto:aso@calvary.edu)) of any disabling condition that may require support

**J. The Clark Academic Center** ([learning@calvary.edu](mailto:learning@calvary.edu)), located in the library building, is dedicated to providing free academic assistance for all CU students. Student tutors aid with all facets of the writing process, tutor in various subject areas, prepare students for exams and facilitate tests. Please take advantage of this service.

**K. Attendance Policy** – Calvary has no official attendance policy, the attendance policy of the professor will be explained in class and in Canvas.

**V. MATERIALS:** To be arranged with the Student and Immediate Supervisor

- The Bible (Instructor will use ESV)

**VI. TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE**

Form	Due Date
1. Enrollment Forms	See Synergy Handbook
2. Methods Organization Assignments	Throughout Course
a. Team Building Paper	See Canvas
b. Assessment of Readiness	See Canvas
c. Personal G&D Plan	See Canvas
3. Methods Self-Evaluation	One Week Prior to the end of the cycle
4. Student's Daily Journal	One Week Prior to the end of the cycle
5. Student's Journal Summary	One Week Prior to the end of the cycle
6. Supervisor's Evaluation	One Week Prior to the end of the cycle
7. Interview with IC Program Director: To be scheduled once all written materials have been received by the IC Program Director	

**CALVARY UNIVERSITY  
METHODS SELF-EVALUATION  
(To be completed by the intern)**

1. I was satisfied with my methods experience.

No\_\_\_\_\_ Somewhat\_\_\_\_\_ Yes\_\_\_\_\_

2. As a result of this program, what concerns do you now have about your future ministry, abilities, attitudes, awareness, and relationships with others?

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3. List areas you would have liked to have become involved in during your program but were not able to:

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4. What did you discover about your abilities and gifts?

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5. What did you discover were difficulties in the methods program?

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6. What did you learn about relating to people?

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7. What were the most fulfilling and joyful aspects of ministry?

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8. List areas you need to review and rebuild.

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9. Describe the relationship you had with the supervisor and/or team.

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10. Do you feel more or less inclined to missionary ministry? Explain briefly why or why not.

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11. Did you receive adequate supervision? Yes\_\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_\_

12. How could the experiences (responsibilities and supervision) be more effective and useful?

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13. What did the supervisor and people to whom you ministered appreciate most about you?

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14. What did the supervisor and people to whom you ministered appreciate least about you?

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15. What do you think are your strengths?

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16. What areas in your life need improvement?

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**METHODS JOURNAL SUMMARY**

A personal ministry journal is required for the Methods course. This journal is simply an account of the daily activities, relationships, ministries, and exposures as well as lessons learned, areas that indicate where God blessed and areas where you need to improve. Using your diary, please complete the following summary form:

1. Name\_\_\_\_\_

2. List five major takeaways and a statement of the significance of each (attach extra sheets, if necessary):

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3. List three situations that either confused or hindered you from ministering effectively (attach extra sheets, if necessary):.

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4. Do you think you related well to people? Yes\_\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_\_  
How do you measure this issue?

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5. Did you encounter relational problems with others? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
If so, what was the nature of the difficulties, and how did you deal with them?

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6. Overall, how would you rate yourself in the following areas on a scale of 1-5, with 5 being superior (circle your rating)?

A.	Communication	5	4	3	2	1
B.	Attitude	5	4	3	2	1
C.	Promptness	5	4	3	2	1
D.	Faithfulness	5	4	3	2	1
E.	Diligence	5	4	3	2	1
F.	Counseling	5	4	3	2	1
G.	Organization/Administration	5	4	3	2	1
H.	Worry	5	4	3	2	1
I.	Quality of Work	5	4	3	2	1
J.	Ministry Impact	5	4	3	2	1

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**CALVARY UNIVERSITY**  
**SUPERVISOR'S METHODS EVALUATION**  
**(To be complete by Immediate Supervisor)**

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

The information shared will be used to give specific direction to the student. Please make every attempt to be accurate. For additional comments, use the back of this sheet. Please circle the appropriate figure as follows:

5	Outstanding
4	Above Average
3	Average
2	Below Average
1	Needs Improvement

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|-----|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1.  | The student was focused on reaching the goals set out for this practicum.   | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 2.  | The student was prompt to all meetings and events.  | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 3.  | The student displayed a teachable spirit.   | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 4.  | The student would foresee a situation and act upon it; did not always need prompting from supervisor or team workers. | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 5.  | The student was cooperative on tasks set before him without undue questioning of ideas or methods used.               | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 6.  | The student was responsive to the needs of others.  | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 7.  | The student handled conflict with others in a calm manner using biblical principles.                                  | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 8.  | The student maintained listener's interest by communicating subject matter clearly.                                   | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 9.  | The student displayed an accepting attitude toward events and situations rather than a complaining spirit.            | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 10. | The student was flexible with unexpected changes in schedules and duties.   | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 11. | The student has a basic knowledge of missions and missionary responsibility.  | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 12. | The student is a team worker.   | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 13. | Rate the overall performance of the student during the program period.  | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 14. | I would rate this student's current ability to succeed in missions.   | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |

Supervisor's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_