

**Course:** IC – 4060 Area Study  
**Credit:** 3 Semester Hours  
**Semester:** Spring 2026  
**Time:** TBA  
**Instructor:** Joshua Paxton, [Joshua.paxton@calvary.edu](mailto:Joshua.paxton@calvary.edu), Office: CABRE 108  
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## I. DESCRIPTION

A study of a people group, investigating the successes and failures of past attempts to evangelize them and formulating a strategy to reach them with the gospel. The study will evaluate these issues in the light of revealed biblical truth.

## II. OBJECTIVES

### A. General competencies to be achieved:

1. Be made aware of the issues affecting a people group. (PLO 2, 3, 4) (A 1, 2, 3)
2. Be challenged to face these issues with a biblical worldview. (PLO 1, 2, 3, 4) (A 1, 2, 3)
3. Be exposed intellectually to how to strategize an effective outreach. (PLO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5) (A 1, 2, 3)

### B. Specific competencies to be achieved:

1. Exposure to a culture that is unfamiliar to the student through investigative research.
  - a. Gain practical insight into the daily household tasks of missionary life in another culture through understanding the culture of a people group (beliefs, behavior and products). (PLO 2, 3, 4) (A 1, 2, 3)
  - b. Analyze the ability to adapt to a new culture and ministry opportunities. (PLO 2, 3, 4, 5) (A 1, 2, 3)
2. Understand the issues and what is at stake in missions in a real situation.
  - a. Determine the major theologies in the contemporary religious scene. (PLO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5) (A 1, 2, 3)
  - b. Identify the biblical issues governing contemporary strategies in missions. (PLO 1, 2, 3, 4) (A 1, 2, 3)
3. Express clarity of thought regarding historical missions, current issues and trends by putting it in writing.
  - a. Draw on one's education to make a contribution to the missionary enterprise. (PLO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5) (A 1, 2, 3)
  - b. Determine if there are any weaknesses in preparedness, so that the student can look for further training in those areas. (PLO 1, 2, 3, 4) (A 1, 2, 3)

### III. REQUIREMENTS

#### A. Reading

The reading will consist of the research on one of the following topics. Read 1500 pages on the subject in order to write a paper and keep a log of the pages read as well as the sources. Note: The reading does not have to be from just one source. This reading is to report via an annotated bibliography of resources read. Instructions will be given on how to complete an annotated bibliography.

#### B. Interviews

As part of the project the student will interview two individuals who are of this people group or have experience working with this people group in order to get an insiders perspective. These interviews must be documented in the final paper.

#### C. Writing

Choose an area of the world and investigate the people, culture, current work and potential work. Write the background and philosophy to reach this group of people drawing on past experience and current resources. Write a paper based on your research (50 pages)

### IV. METHODS

**A. In-Class Methods:** none

**B. Out-of-class methods:** reading, writing, research.

#### 1. Grading:

a. Reading.....	100.....	20%
b. Research Paper.....	400.....	80%

2. See Grading Scale in University catalog

**C.** 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.

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- 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.

**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.*

**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**

**A. Required:**

The Bible (Instructor will use CSB)

Other research materials necessary to write the research paper.

**VI. TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE**

\*\*\*A Schedule will be worked out with the student\*\*\*