

Course: IC459-O Senior Seminar-Intercultural Studies
Credit: 3 Semester Hours
Semester: Fall 2026
Time By Appointment
Instructor: Joshua Paxton, Joshua.paxton@calvary.edu,
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I. DESCRIPTION

An assessment of the student's cumulative studies through a written philosophy of intercultural studies, a written doctrinal statement, and an oral comprehensive examination. The review panel consists of professors and the Intercultural Studies program director.

This course is offered in two formats: in-person and online. Students registered for in-person attend the classes in person, online students attend the classes via the online classroom. For both in-person and online students, assignments, and interaction outside of the class period are done in the learning management system.

II. OBJECTIVES

A. General competencies to be achieved:

1. Demonstrate doctrinal awareness and comprehension. (PLO 1, 2, 3, 4) (A 1, 2, 3)
2. Express missiological knowledge and understanding. (PLO 1, 2, 3, 4) (A 1, 2, 3)
3. Exhibit an ability to orally communicate doctrine and missiology simply, precisely, and accurately. (PLO 1, 2, 3, 4) (A 1, 2, 3)

B. Specific competencies to be achieved. The student will:

1. Defend personal doctrinal convictions. (PLO 1, 2, 3, 4) (A 1, 2, 3)
2. Defend personal position on significant missiological issues. (PLO 1, 2, 3, 4) (A 1, 2, 3)
3. Successfully pass an oral examination covering the Theology and Missions courses taken. (PLO 1, 2, 3, 4) (A 1, 2, 3)

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

III. REQUIREMENTS / ASSIGNMENTS

1. Participate in class discussions.

1. Be prepared to discuss assigned areas of theology and missions issues.
2. Handouts will be given and readings will be suggested to guide the student's preparations.

2. Prepare a personal written doctrinal statement and position statements on missiological issues.

1. Following each class discussion, prepare a written personal statement of understanding of the area of theology and/or missions ministry discussed.
2. These written statements will be due one week following the class discussion and should be around 3 or more pages in length.
3. At the end of the classroom discussion sessions and before the oral examination, the student will present a revised and complete Personal Doctrinal Statement to be used during the oral examination.

3. Take an oral examination.

1. The student will take a one hour and fifteen minute oral examination of questions from a committee of college and seminary faculty.
 - a. Be prepared to give brief, succinct answers to the questions below but do not be concerned if you 'draw a blank' on a few of the questions.
 - b. Remember that you are evaluated more based on your overall knowledge than your ability to recall every specific answer.
 - c. During the exam, be sure to answer the questions you are asked, not the questions below.
2. Oral examination categories:
 - a. Theology:
 - 1) BIBLIOLOGY: What is inspiration? What is revelation? Inerrancy? Verbal-plenary? Inspiration of the New Testament? Which version is correct?
 - 2) THEOLOGY PROPER: What is God like? What are His names in the O.T.? What are His attributes? What is the Trinity? Arguments for God's existence?
 - 3) PNEUMATOLOGY: Who is the Holy Spirit? What are the ministries of the Holy Spirit? What is your position on the charismatic teachings?
 - 4) ANTHROPOLOGY: What is a human being? What is the origin of humanity? What is meant by the "image of God"?
 - 5) HAMARTIOLOGY: How did we get in this mess? What is sin? What is 'total depravity'? Are the heathen lost?
 - 6) CHRISTOLOGY: Who is Jesus Christ? What are the major proofs of his deity? What was His work? In what way is He both human and divine?

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- 7) SOTERIOLOGY: What is salvation? How is it accomplished? What is meant by the "security of the believer"?
- 8) ANGELOLOGY: What is an angel? What do angels do? Who is Satan? What is his work? How is he defeated? What is his destiny?
- 9) ECCLESIOLOGY: What is the church? Universal? Local? What is the church's origin? What is the work of the church? What is the church's destiny?
- 10) ESCHATOLOGY: Define and distinguish the millennial views. Which is your view? Define and distinguish the views of the rapture. Which is your view? Who goes to hell?
- 11) ENGLISH BIBLE: Can you trace the major arguments of Genesis, John (or Matthew), Acts, and Romans? What are the major eras of O.T. history?
- 12) PERSONAL: Are you a godly person? Are you winning the ethical, moral, and spiritual battles of life? What is your central, driving passion in life? Do you agree with the CBC doctrinal statement?

b. Missions:

- 1) THEOLOGY OF MISSIONS: What is the theological basis for missions? What are the key features of the Great Commission? What is the role of the local church in missions? What is the Pauline method of missions?
 - 2) MISSIONS AGENCIES: What are the types of mission agencies? How should agencies relate to the local church? What are the major associations of agencies? How should one choose a missions agency?
 - 3) MISSIONARY LIFE: What is culture shock? What are the major areas of long-term stress for missionaries? Why is language acquisition important?
 - 4) CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY: What is a culture? How does one identify with a culture? How do cultural differences affect missions? What is the relationship between cultural relativism and biblical absolutes?
 - 5) MISSIONS HISTORY: What happened in world missions in the first 500 years of the church? In the next 1000 years? During the reformation? The century following William Carey? In the 20th century?
 - 6) MISSIONS TODAY: Describe animism. Islam. Hinduism. Buddhism. What is meant by "unreached peoples?" Non-professional missionaries? Indigenous missions? Indigenous churches?
2. The student will bring a Bible and be prepared to use it, giving brief, succinct answers to the questions asked.
 3. This examination will be scheduled late in the course at a time convenient for the faculty committee members and the student.
 4. **Note:** If the performance is sub-standard, the student will be required to retake all, or part of, this oral examination.

IV. Methods.

- A. In class methods** include lecture, discussion, and question and answer.
- B. Out of class methods** include reading, writing, and studying.
- C. Grading.**
1. The Faculty committee will assign a pass/fail grade as well as a letter grade for GPA purposes for the student's performance on the oral examination.
 2. The student will be evaluated more on the basis of overall knowledge than ability to recall every specific answer.
- 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.
- D.** 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.
- E. Late Assignments:** Assignments will be penalized according to the professor's late policy as explained in Canvas.
- F. Plagiarism and AI:** 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.

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

H. The Clark Academic Center (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.

I. 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

1. The Bible (Instructor will use ESV)

B. Recommended study materials.

1. Ryrie, Charles C. *Basic Theology: A Popular Systematic Guide to Understanding Biblical Truth*. Chicago: Moody Publishers, 1999. **ISBN-13:** 978-0-8024-2734-2, **Retail price:** \$34.99
2. Class notes from all Theology courses.
3. Class notes from all intercultural studies-related courses.

VI. TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

Schedule will be presented during first class session

See Canvas for Due Dates