Syllabus
Communicating Christ Cross-Culturally
Winter 2018
Virginia District Training Center
Hollins Church of the Nazarene
Tuesday
5:30 – 9:30 pm
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Course Requirements

1. **Class attendance, attention, and participation** are especially important. Students are responsible for all assignments and in-class work. Much of the work in this course is small-group work. Cooperative, small-group work cannot be made up. That makes attendance imperative. Even if one does extra reading or writing, the values of discussion, dialogue, and learning from each other are thwarted. Because this is a nine-week course, each week is very significant. It is expected that students will be in every class. Any exceptions must be worked out with the facilitator prior to the first class.

**Small-Group Work:** Nothing is more important in this course than small-group work. The class members will be assigned to groups of two to four students each. The group members will serve as study partners for explorations and discussion.

2. **Assignments**

**Journaling:** Your journal is to be used regularly, if not daily. On at least one occasion during the term, the instructor will check the journals. In each lesson, a journal assignment is included.

The journal should become the student’s friend and treasury of insights, devotions, and ideas. Here the integration of theory and practice occurs. The spiritual life nature of the journal helps guard against the course of study being merely academic as you are repeatedly called upon to apply the principles studied to your own heart and your own ministry situation.

This journal is not a diary, not a catchall. It is, rather, a guided journal or a focused journal in which the educational experience and its implications are selected for reflection and writing.

The framers of this curriculum are concerned about the way students fall into learning “about” the Bible, or “about” the spiritual life rather than learning—that is coming to know and internalize the Bible and spiritual principles. The journaling experience ensures that the “Be” component of “Be, Know, and Do” is present in the course of study. Be faithful with all journaling assignments.
Daily Work: This module has regular homework assignments. Sometimes the homework assignments are quite heavy. The assignments are important. Homework must be handed in at the beginning of each class session. All assignments are to be completed.

PLEASE NOTE:
Submit all written assignments in typewritten “hard copy” or Word Document format. At top of the first page of each written assignment, include your name, the lesson number, the title of the assignment and the name of the class.

Example:
Sam Smith
Lesson #6
"Three Reasons for Studying the History of the Church"
Christian Heritage I

3. Term Project: Term Project is due at the end of the final class session. The Term Project must address the following: Identify and research four major cultural challenges to communicating Christ across cultural barriers. Develop an extensive strategy for embracing these challenges. Make sure you document all research and quotes properly with proper footnotes. All projects must include a five page description of the project (Times New Roman, 12 pt font, double-spaced), as well as a plan for the practical application of the project (2-3 pages). Completion of this project is required in order to pass the course. Even if the total points accumulated are sufficient for a passing grade, the student will not pass unless this project is satisfactorily completed.

Course Outline and Schedule

In order to complete, the course within a reasonable amount of time it is imperative that we begin each week promptly at 5:30PM. We will begin each week with a brief devotion and relationship building. The Lessons will run about 90-120 minutes each (breaks taken as needed) for a minimum of 20 hours according to the following schedule:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Session Date</th>
<th>Lesson</th>
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| January 16   | Introduction  
1. Why Communicate Christ Cross-Culturally?  
2. Living in a World That is Multicultural – (Homework for lesson 1 due) |
| January 30   | 3. Why and Where Communication Goes Wrong  
4. Understanding the Basics of Culture – (Homework lessons 2 and 3 due) |
| February 6   | 5. Understanding the Process of Communication – (Homework lesson 4 due)  
6. Understanding Worldview (Outline for Research project due) |
| February 13  | 7. Aspects of Communication – Cognitive, Linguistic and Behavioral  
8. Aspects of Communication – Social, Media, and Motivational (Homework lessons 5 and 6 due.) |
| February 20  | 9. Case Studies and Practical Applications of Communication Insights  
10. Reconciliation, Social Justice and Celebration of One Gospel (Research Project, all reading assignments, lessons 7 and 8 due) (Homework for lessons 9 and 10 due by Nov.3) |

Additional Information

Any student who has handicaps, learning disabilities, or other conditions that make the achievement of the class requirements exceedingly difficult should make an appointment with the instructor as soon as possible to help the student make the necessary adjustments to complete the class. Any student who is having trouble understanding the assignments, lectures, or other learning activities should make the instructor aware of the problem.

Instructor’s Availability

Good faith efforts to serve the students both in and beyond the classroom will be made.

Journaling: A Tool for Personal Reflection and Integration

Participating in the course of study is the heart of your preparation for ministry. To complete each course you will be required to listen to lectures, read several books, participate in discussions, write papers, and take exams. Content mastery is the goal.

An equally important part of ministerial preparation is spiritual formation. Some might choose to call spiritual formation devotions, while others might refer to it as
growth in grace. Whichever title you place on the process, it is the intentional
cultivation of your relationship with God. The course work will be helpful in adding to
your knowledge, your skills, and your ability to do ministry. The spiritually formative
work will weave all you learn into the fabric of your being, allowing your education to
flow freely from your head to your heart to those you serve.

Although there are many spiritual disciplines to help you cultivate your relationship
with God, journaling is the critical skill that ties them all together. Journaling simply
means keeping a record of your experiences and the insights you have gained along
the way. It is a discipline because it does require a good deal of work and time, daily
make entries in your journal. Many people confess that this is a practice they tend to
push aside when pressed by their many other responsibilities. Even five minutes a
day, journaling, can make a major difference in your education and your spiritual
development. Example:

Consider journaling as time spent with your best friend. Onto the pages of a journal
you will pour out your candid responses to the events of the day, the insights you
earned from class, a quote gleaned from a book, an ah-ha that came to you as two
ideas connected. This is not the same as keeping a diary, since a diary seems to be a
chronicle of events without the personal dialogue. The journal is the repository for all
of your thoughts, reactions, prayers, insights, visions, and plans. Though some
people like to keep complex journals with sections for each type of reflection, others
find a simple running commentary more helpful. In either case, record the date and
the location at the beginning of every journal entry. It will help you when it comes
time to review your thoughts.

It is important to chat briefly about the logistics of journaling. All you will need is a
pen and paper to begin. Some folks prefer loose-leaf paper that in a three-ring
binder, others like spiral-bound notebooks, while others enjoy using composition
books. Whichever style you choose, it is important to develop a pattern that works
for you.

Establishing a time and a place for writing in your journal is essential. If there is no
space etched out for journaling, it will not happen with the regularity needed to
make it valuable. It seems natural to spend time journaling after the day is over and
you can sift through all that has transpired. Yet, family commitments, evening
activities, and fatigue militate against this time slot. Morning offers another
possibility. Sleep filters much of the previous day's experiences, and processes deep
insights, that can be recorded first thing in the morning. In conjunction with
devotions, journaling enables you to begin to weave your experiences with the Word,
and with course material that has been steeping on the back burner of your mind.
You will probably find that carrying your journal will allow you to jot down ideas that
come to you at odd times throughout the day.

It seems that we have been suggesting that journaling is a handwritten exercise.
Some may be wondering about doing their work on a computer. Traditionally, there
is a special bond between hand, pen, and paper. It is more personal, direct, and
aesthetic. Moreover, it is flexible, portable, and available.

With regular use, your journal is the repository of your journey. As important as it is
to make daily entries, it is equally important to review your work. Read over each
week's record at the end of the week. Make a summary statement and note
movements of the Holy Spirit or your own growth. Do a monthly review of your
journal every 30 days. This might best be done on a half-day retreat where you can prayerfully focus on your thoughts in solitude and silence. As you do this, you will begin to see the accumulated value of the Word, your course work, and your experience in ministry all coming together in ways you had not considered possible. This is integration, weaving together faith development with learning. Integration moves information from your head to your heart so that ministry is a matter of being rather than doing. Journaling will help you answer the central question of education: “Why do I do what I do when I do it?”

Journaling really is the linchpin in ministerial preparation. Your journal is the chronicle of your journey into spiritual maturity as well as content mastery. These volumes will hold the rich insights that will pull your education together. A journal is the tool for integration. May you treasure the journaling process!

**Grade Format for this Class**

Each student will be given a pass/fail grade. In order to assess your progress I will use the following point system.

- **Attendance** 10 points each class session – Total 100
- **Participation** 10 points each class session - Total 100

- **Home Work turned in on time** 50 points each lesson assignment – Total 500
  (Late Work will result in 10 point deduction each for assignment turned in after due date.)

- **Journal** - Total 200

- **Reading Assignments** - 400
- **Research Project Paper** (see above requirements) 800 points

**Total Possible point for this class – 2300 points**

In order to receive a passing grade your total points must be at least 75% of total possible points.

Students will receive a “Pass,” either “Fail” or “Pass with Distinction” for their course work.

**75-95% = Pass**
**95-100% = Pass with Distinction**


"Please note" would be usual. You want readers to pay particular attention to the point (one sense of note) rather than merely be aware of it. Note also makes more sense as an active exhortation. The abbreviation NB is often used too (for nota bene, "note well").

Please note that... This is a formal way to direct people's attention to some information. For example, if you're selling something on the internet that has to be mailed, your site might have this sentence: Please note that delivery may take up to three weeks. One reason to use "Please note that..." is because it can sometimes seem rude if you say or write things directly without any introduction. For example, if you're making a short introduction at the beginning of a conference, you might announce