

MISSION AND MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH

EP 157

Saturday 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Fall 2018

Butler 201

Instructor: Robert Honeychurch
Phone: 510-299-9995
Email: bhoneychurch@gmail.com

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will offer students the opportunity to explore a variety of approaches to Mission and Ministry, with special emphasis on Baptismal Ministry as the focal point of current models of Mission and Ministry in the Episcopal Church. The class will discuss ways in which church leaders can support a model of Christian life that affirms ministry as active engagement with the world. A critical element of the course will be discussions of important issues relating to multicultural, intercultural, small church, emergent church, and models for area and mutual ministry being utilized within the Episcopal Church.

STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the completion of this course, the students will have:

1. Developed an understanding of the scriptural and historical foundations that have shaped a current understanding of Mission and Ministry.
2. Developed an understanding of a variety of contemporary expressions of Mission and Ministry across the Christian Church.
3. Developed an understanding of Baptismal Ministry (various referred to as “Total Ministry,” “Shared Ministry,” and “Mutual Ministry”) as it is expressed in the Episcopal tradition.
4. Developed an understanding of the theology and practice of “Emerging Church” ministry, especially as it is experienced in Southern California..
5. Developed an appreciation for the unique aspects of mission in a multicultural/intercultural context.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Bosch, David. *Transforming Mission*, Orbis Books, 2011.

Butler Bass, Diana. *Christianity after Religion*. Harper Collins, 2012.

Curry, Michael. *Crazy Christians – A Call to Follow Jesus*. Morehouse Publishing, 2013.

Hunter, George. *The Celtic Way of Evangelism*, Abingdon Press, 2010.

Zscheile, Dwight. *People of the Way*. Morehouse Publishing, 2012.

Additional Readings as distributed in class.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Regular attendance and active participation in class, demonstrating the timely completion of each session's reading assignments.
2. Writing assignments as follows. Grading will be based on clarity of thought, integration of concepts from the written materials, and an understanding of the connection between the theoretical concepts as described in the writings and the lived experience of the contemporary church. Each of the three papers due during this term is to be approximately 5-7 full pages in length. The worship reflection is to be approximately 3-5 full pages in length.
3. Papers are to be typed using one-inch margins, double spaced, using 12 pt. Times New Roman (or its equivalent).
4. All assignments are due by 1 p.m. (the beginning of class time) on the assigned date. One letter grade will be deducted for each day that the assignment is submitted after the due date. (In other words, an assignment received between 1:01 p.m. on Saturday [the due date] and 1 p.m. on Sunday [the day following the due date] will be penalized one letter grade.)
5. Auditors for this class are expected to complete all outside reading for the course, and to participate fully in class discussions. Auditors are invited, but not required, to complete graded written assignments.

Paper #1, Due September 22

Choose one of the three mission models in the New Testament as described by Bosch (Matthew, Luke-Acts, or Paul). Describe your understanding of the unique characteristics of that particular mission model. Describe how that New Testament model informs your understanding of Celtic evangelism as described by Hunter – both in its original context, and how that Celtic model might be used more fully in current times.

Paper #2, Due October 27

Choose three elements of the Emerging Missionary Paradigm as described by Bosch in Chapter 12 (*Mission as...*). Pair each element with one of the three dimensions of "A New Vision" in Part 2 of Butler Bass' book (one *Mission as...* element with *Believing*; a second *Mission as...* element with *Behaving*; a third *Mission as...* element with *Belonging*.) Describe how those missionary paradigm elements are expressed in a "post-Christian" world through each respective dimension of Butler Bass' typology.

Worship Reflection, Due November 10

Prior to completing this assignment, the student will attend a worship service or gathering in an "Emerging Church" context. A list of potential sites will be provided. Attending a service or event at a site not listed on the list provided must be approved in advance by the instructor. Following the attendance at the service or event, the student will complete a short reflection. Specific guidelines for that reflection will be provided in class.

Paper #3, Due December 8

Choose one of the five characteristics of a Missional Community as described by Zscheile (“*A People...*”). Reflect on that principle in light of Curry’s image of the essential qualities necessary to faithfully follow Jesus in the 21st century.

BASIS FOR EVALUATION

Class Participation	25%
Three papers	60% (20% each)
Worship Reflection	15%

HOURS OF AVAILABILITY FOR STUDENT CONTACT

I am on campus at Bloy House on Saturdays, and am available, by appointment, either before or after regular class hours. I am also available by email or telephone as needed.

COURSE OUTLINE

August 18

There is no class on August 15. Please come prepared for class on August 22, having completed the assigned reading for that day.

August 25

Readings:	Bosch: 1 – 56 Hunter: <i>ix</i> – 45
Discussion Topic:	Course Introduction: “What is a Missional Church?” Presiding Bishop Michael Curry: “We are the Episcopal branch of the Jesus movement.”

September 8

Readings:	Bosch: 57 – 124 Hunter: 46 – 89
Discussion Topic:	Understanding the Context for Mission and Ministry

September 22

Readings:	Bosch: 125 – 181 Hunter 90 – 130
Discussion Topic:	A Changing Church in a Changing World – Internal and External Forces at Work Shaping the Church of Today and Tomorrow Paper #1 Due

September 29

Readings: Bosch: 185 – 194; 357 – 398
Butler Bass: 1 – 99

Discussion Topic: Total Ministry Development – Exploring Baptism as our Primary Call to Ministry.

October 13

Readings: Bosch: 398 – 458
Butler Bass: 103 – 214

Discussion Topic: Mission and Ministry in an Inter-faith Context

Class Guest: Sheryl Kujawa-Holbrook: Bloy House and Claremont School of Theology

October 27

Readings: Bosch: 458 – 555
Butler Bass: 217 – 269

Discussion Topic: Congregational and Personal Ministry Development

Paper #2 Due

November 10

Readings: Curry: *vii* – 48
Zscheile: 1 – 58

Discussion Topic: The Emergent/Emerging Church

Class Guests: Mary Crist: St. Michael's, Riverside
Jon Dephouse: Thad's, Santa Monica
Christian Kassoff, Laundry Love

Worship Reflection Due

November 17

Readings: Curry: 49 – 88
Zscheile: 59 – 86

Discussion Topic: Mission and Ministry in a Multi- and Inter-Cultural Context

Class Guests: TBA

December 8

Readings: Curry: 89 – 141
Zscheile: 87 – 130

Paper #3 Due

Discussion Topic: Developing a Mission Plan for a Local Congregation
Wrap-up