MS 508| Indigenous Church and Leadership Development

"I look upon foreign missionaries as the scaffolding around a rising building. The sooner it can be dispersed with, the better; or rather, the sooner it can be transferred to other places, to serve the same temporary use, the better."

- *Hudson Taylor*

Welcome to Indigenous Church and Leadership Development!

Course Information

Course Description	This course studies the development of indigenous, mature, responsible churches in the global context. It fosters an understanding of the globalization of global missions, the rapid expansion of the church, and taking the Gospel from everywhere to everywhere. Leadership development principles, strategies, and models are articulated.
Instructor	*Rev. Jim Poitras*
Instructor's Assistant	*Rev. Dominic Kassner*

Course Learning Outcomes

This course seeks to partially fulfill the Continuing Missionary Education objectives through a careful study of mission, vision, and planning to facilitate organizational success and fulfill the mandate of Scripture. This further augments continuous personal development, development of others, and organizational development.

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:
1.) Explain the attributes or aspects of the indigenous church.
2.) Articulate an understanding of the globalization of global missions.
3.) Identify tactics used to offset global missions.
4.) List and explain the various biblical images of leaders in Scripture. Evaluate evangelistic efforts of UPCI, national, and local churches.
5.) Identify classes or levels of leadership development and develop leadership development lessons or train leaders at each level.

6.) Assess problem areas that will develop in the global church if emphasis is not places on leadership development.

7.) Identify and be familiar with the various leadership development programs of UPCI global missions.

8.) Develop understanding of the changing role of the missionary in indigenous church development.

9.) Express cultural problems in leadership development.

Course Design Intentions

Continuing Missionary Education courses are designed for missionaries' educational development no matter their location or technology access. With a basic device and internet connection, missionaries can access their course materials, complete the assignment requirements, and submit their work via email.

Course Materials and Tools

Text/Readings/Other Material

Primary Textbooks	*Indigenous Church and Leadership Development* | Jim Poitras
Secondary Textbook	*The Indigenous Church and the Indigenous Church and the Missionary* | Melvin L. Hodges
Supplementary Reading	*Leading Across Cultures: Effective Ministry and Mission in the Global Church* | James E. Plueddemann

Technology Requirements

Continuing Missionary Education courses require a basic computer or device such as a smartphone, tablet, or PC. These devices can use either Windows or Apple operating systems. To access the course content, students will need a basic internet connection to download or purchase course materials. Students will need a basic word processor such as Microsoft Word or Google Docs for the completion of required assignments.

Grading Procedure and Feedback

Students will be graded in accordance with the assignment requirements. Upon completion of a required assignment, students are expected to submit their assignment via email to the instructor's assistant. Your assignment will be reviewed and graded by the instructor's assistant and then reviewed by the instructor. Students will then be notified on whether they pass, fail, or are asked to resubmit their assignment with notes from both the instructor and instructor's assistant.

Instructional Team: Who Are My Instructors?

Instructor

Rev. Jim Poitras, M. A.
Director of Education & Short-Term Missions

Served as a career missionary to West Africa for 28 years. The Poitras family returned from the field in 2012 to take up his current role in UPCI Global Missions. Jim and his wife Linda, have two wonderful daughters, a great son-in-law, and the very best grandkids they could ask for.

Support Team

Rev. Dominic Kassner, B. A.
Administrative Assistant to the Director of Education

Dominic and his wife Shayna have been called to education and global missions for many years. In pursuit of that call Dominic is wrapping up his time in Seminary. His passion lies in creativity, storytelling, and educational development.

Please contact dkassner@upci.org with any questions, comments, or concerns.

Course Policies

Course Completion Requirements

The following assignments are required to be completed in full to pass the course. They are to be completed at the student's pace and should be submitted to the instructor's assistant via email. Each GATS course, including the Continuing Missionary Education courses, requires two methods of evaluation in order to be following the academic expectations of the program. The assignments are as follows:

1. *Complete Reading of Course's Required Textbooks*
   Indigenous Church and Leadership Development | Jim Poitras
   The Indigenous Church and the Indigenous Church and the Missionary
      | Melvin L. Hodges

2. *Textbook Study Questions*
   a. Students are expected to read and answer the study questions in the primary textbook.
      i. *Indigenous Church and Leadership Development* | Jim Poitras

3. Personal Statement of Faith
   a. This assignment is a 2,500-word critical reflection paper.
   b. Analyze and access the growth of a nationalized mission field using principles and concepts identified and incorporated in the three texts for this course. This requires a comprehension of the textbooks for the course, research into the growth of the nationalized work being studied, reading books written concerning the work, and interviewing past and present missionaries to the field or the area coordinator or the regional director (or a combination of these). If you are the missionary or short-term missionary to the field being studied, then you would conduct a self-analysis and reflection.
      i. The assignment's rubric and Interview questions are posted on the course page.