



## 503 Theology of Missions Course Components

Welcome to our study of Theology of Missions. I will be serving as your professor-friend and Sister Poitras and Sister Laura Gohdes will be assisting me with administrative and grading details. By the way, if you haven't completed an application form for the Continuing Missionary Education, please do, so we can ensure we have everything set up for you to proceed. The application can be found at <https://gmstm.breezechms.com/form/cme>.

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.

For Theology of Missions you are expected to read and answer the study questions in the primary textbook written by James Poitras (that's me!) You may have used this text in your overseas Bible college if you are part of the GATS program (Global Association of Theological Studies). Don't despair. This course goes far beyond the scope of this one text.

Ready? Here's your assignment.

You will be required to compose your own 750 to 1000-word statement of faith when it comes to your personal theology of missions. It is to be a positive statement of what you believe and how this is going to be applied to your personal life and ministry. Excellence in biblical interpretation, appropriate use of academic theological resources and language, and proper use of English grammar and spelling are all expected. Avoid colloquialisms, slang, or filler words and phrases that have no place in academic papers. All claims as to what Scripture teaches must be supported by specific and contextually appropriate biblical texts.

The assignment will be graded based on proper use of Scriptural and logical argumentation, acknowledgement and response to major alternative (e.g., non-Apostolic) points of view, as well as appropriate use of secondary research resources. It is expected that the student will utilize proper English grammar and syntax as well as cite sources in the format prescribed by the Continuing Missionary Education program.

A rubric will be used in grading your paper. We will maintain the original copy of the reflective paper we receive, make notations on it for correction, input, and feedback purposes. You will receive, in return, a scanned copy (PDF) of your paper indicating whether you passed or failed and showing all our comments and corrections.

If, in the unfortunate chance, you fail, you will be given the opportunity to revise or redo your paper incorporating the improvements suggested.

If married, both husband and wife, are expected to complete this course. Good news: You can work together with your readings, reflection and discussion of the readings, answering the study questions in the primary textbook, and completing this reflective paper. We do not need to receive a separate paper from each spouse (unless that is what you desire). Otherwise, combine your efforts.

### **Form and Style Guide for Papers**

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1. Margins should be one inch on all sides.
2. Left align your paper except for the title page.
3. Use twelve-point Times New Roman or Courier font for the body of the paper.
4. Double-space all text except for block quotes.
5. Number each page except the title page (in the upper right-hand corner).
6. Provide the title in the header of the document so it appears on each page except for the title page.
7. A cover page is required for each paper. Include the title of the paper in the top third of the page. Include student's name, course name, program/institution name and date in the bottom third of the page.
8. Include a "Works Cited" page and provide in-text references. This means after quoting or paraphrasing provide a parenthetical citation (author's last name, year of publication, page number). For example: (Poitras, 2019, p. 55).
9. Quotations of fewer than forty words should be incorporated into the text and enclosed with quotation marks.
10. Quotations of forty words or more should be typed as a block quote with no quotation marks. The entire block quote should be indented with a ½ inch margin.

### **Background Basics of the Continuing Missionary Education Program**

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Peter Drucker, the famous management consultation, once said, "We now accept the fact that learning is a lifelong process of keeping abreast of change." It brings up a question, "What are the opportunities for life-long learning for global missionaries?" Part of the answer is continuous improvement and providing different opportunities.

Global Missions Continuing Missionary Education program is designed to educate and equip people for excellence in global missions ministry. This program targets those on the AIM program that would like to pursue associate missionary appointment, those in the associate missionary program that would like to pursue intermediate appointment, and intermediate missionaries that would like to pursue career appointment.

The Continuing Missionary Education program encourages potential and active missionary personnel to be educated and enhanced in their calling. We seek to educate, equip, empower, and encourage

innovation in reaching our globe with the whole Gospel while allowing appointed personnel to remain committed to their mission context.

The certificates in global missions will be awarded to those completing courses while under appointment and in service in global missions.

Courses taken through Global Missions would be developed at a standard where we would be able to seek an articulation agreement with colleges in North America.

### **Our Procedure:**

Our initial/immediate approach will be to make courses/books available as required reading with the opportunity to answer study questions. Each course will also include a paper or project covering the overall topics included in the study.

This would be followed by, or developed into, audio or video instruction that go along with the textbooks. Instructors would be selected from a list qualified personnel within Global Missions and our expanded missionary community.

### **Our Requirements:**

1. The completion of two courses or reading of textbooks prior to Associate Missionary appointment.
2. The completion of four courses or reading of textbooks prior to Intermediate Missionary appointment. (This would include the two courses taken at the previous level).
3. The completion of six courses or reading of textbooks prior to Career Missionary appointment. (This includes the four courses taken at the previous level).

\*This means those at Career Missionary appointment status would not be required to participate in the Continuing Missions Education program described here (but we would certainly be open to those desiring to do so).

\*For those already at the Associate Missionary level you would only need to take two courses prior to Intermediate appointment.

\*For those already at the Intermediate Missionary level you would only need to take two courses prior to Career appointment.

\*With couples, our preference would be that both the husband and wife complete the requirements.

A certificate could be given for each course with a Certificate in Global Missions provided for the completion of six courses.

Currently, the only charge to our missionary personnel would be the cost of the books involved. This can come out of the PIM account if funds are available.