

**History of Missions**  
BMIS 382 — Spring 2009

**Instructor**

Allen Diles, Th.D.  
Mc 140 (Center for World Missions)  
279-4158 (HU office)  
www.harding.edu/rdiles

Campus Mail, Box 12280  
E-Mail: [rdiles@harding.edu](mailto:rdiles@harding.edu)  
268-4645 (home)

**Office Hours:**

Monday: 1:00-5:00  
Tuesday: 1:30-3:30  
Wednesday: 1:00-3:00  
Thursday: 1:30-3:30

**Please Read and Be Familiar with this Syllabus. In order to earn points for this class, each student is required to print off, sign, and turn in the statement at the end of this Syllabus.**

**An Invitation from Dr. Diles**

I am at Harding to uplift Christ, teach Scripture, and serve my students. I invite you to contact me whenever you need me, whether it has to do with academic or personal concerns. My office hours are listed above and are posted on my office door. Appointments are not necessary but are encouraged in order to avoid your being inconvenienced. Without an appointment, you may arrive at my office to find me visiting with another student or otherwise out of pocket. If you need to see me outside of office hours feel free to call and make an appointment.

**Notice to Students with Disabilities**

**Students with Disabilities:** It is the policy for Harding University to accommodate students with disabilities, pursuant to federal and state law. Therefore, any student with a *documented disability* condition (e.g. physical, learning, psychological, vision, hearing, etc.) who needs to arrange reasonable accommodations must contact the instructor and the Disabilities Office at the *beginning* of each semester. (If the diagnosis of the disability occurs during the academic year, the student must self-identify with the Disabilities Director *as soon as possible* in order to get academic accommodations in place for the remainder of the semester.) The Disabilities Office is located in Room 102 of the Lee Academic Center, telephone, (501) 279-4019.

**Assessment:** Harding University, since its charter in 1924, has been strongly committed to providing the best resources and environment for the teaching-learning process. The board, administration, faculty, and staff are wholeheartedly committed to full compliance with all criteria of the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The university values continuous, rigorous assessment at every level for its potential to improve student learning and achievement and for its centrality in fulfilling the stated mission of Harding. Thus, a comprehensive assessment program has been developed that includes both the Academic units and the Administrative and Educational Support (AES) units. Specifically, all academic units will be assessed in reference to the following Expanded Statement of Institutional Purpose: **The University provides programs that enable students to acquire essential**

**knowledge, skills, and dispositions in their academic disciplines for successful careers, advanced studies, and servant leadership.**

***Course description:***

This course is an upper level missions course intended for missions majors (but open to all upper level students) that surveys the history of Christian missions from the beginning of the church to modern times. We will consider examples of missions from a NT, Roman Catholic, and Protestant perspective and will also examine mission efforts of Churches of Christ.

**Outline of Course:**

- I. Spread of Christianity throughout the Roman Empire
- II. Spread of Christianity to the rest of Europe
- III. Catholic and Protestant missions beyond Europe
- IV. Mission efforts of Churches of Christ

***Goals:***

1. To be inspired by missions heroes of faith to greater sacrifice and spirituality.
2. To learn from both the successes and failures of missionaries throughout history.
3. To hear some of the stories of missions history from those who have created some of that history.

***Objectives: By the end of this course you should be able to***

1. Converse intelligently about the history of Christian missions from the time of Jesus to the present day.
2. Appreciate and describe in some detail important persons, events, and issues that have influenced the spread of the Gospel throughout the world.
3. Apply lessons from the history of Christian missions to the modern missionary endeavor, whether as a cross-cultural missionary, or as a domestic church member supporting missions.
4. Begin scholarly research in the area of the history of Christian missions.

***Required Materials:***

1. Bible. Especially, early in the semester we will spend time in the book of Acts, but we will also refer to the Bible from time to time throughout the course of the semester.
2. Ruth Tucker, *From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya*. A biographical history of missions. Students will be expected to read most of this book outside of class. This material will be tested both in the form of quizzes and major exams.
3. Adequate materials for taking notes. I recommend the use of a three-ring notebook in which to place your class syllabus, notes, and any materials that I might hand out throughout the semester.

***Course Requirements:***

- Regular and punctual attendance

Responsible participation in a Bible class is an integral part of the Harding experience. Though you are encouraged to be present for each of our class meetings this semester, you are allowed the equivalent of one week of unexcused absences (for a daily class, that is five; for a MWF, that is three, for a TTh class, that is two, for a night course, one). Use them responsibly. The instructor of this course intends to record attendance each day. Three (3) tardies count as one unexcused absence. If you are late to class it is your responsibility to see that you are not charged

with an absence. Tardies must be registered on the day you are late to class and before you leave class. Punctual means in class and in your seat on time. 3 tardies will result in an absence, and the instructor reserves the right to lock the doors when the bell rings and count anyone not in their seat as absent.

In addition, every two excused absences will reduce the number of unexcused absences you allowed by one. For example, if you have two excused absences, you are allowed only 1 unexcused absence before penalties are assessed. If you have four excused absences, you are not granted any unexcused absences without penalty.

EACH additional unexcused absence beyond the number allowed will be penalized as follows (assuming a 100 point scale for course grading):

For daily classes: 2 percent off the final grade

For MWF classes: 3 percent off the final grade

For TR classes: 4.5 percent off the final grade

For weekly classes: 9 percent off the final grade

When students accumulate unexcused absences totaling at least 20% (9 absences) of the total class meetings (the equivalent of three weeks) for the semester, they will be given a grade of "WF" for non-attendance (a WF - Withdrawn Failing) and referred to the office of the Vice-President of Academic Affairs where they will receive further discipline for violation of academic policy. See the catalog for further clarification.

If a student accumulates two "WFs" in Bible courses due to excessive absences, this will result in a "Bible attendance suspension" for at least one semester.

For an absence to be excused, the instructor of this course must receive written confirmation from the appropriate source within one week of the student's return to class. (Excuses are issued by the school nurse, the Vice President for Academic Affairs, a coach, or a sponsor and reported in Pipeline. Absences are not excused until posted in Pipeline.) In addition to the above, the instructor of this course reserves the right to discern whether or not a student is taking advantage of the University's excuse policy.

Excused absences are given for the following: Sickness, death in the immediate family, and officially sanctioned school activities. In ALL cases the absence must be cleared with me BEFORE class, either in person, by telephone, or by e-mail, and in the case of sickness or officially sanctioned school activity, you must bring me a hard-copy excuse from Pipeline, doctor, nurse, or if living off campus, relative with whom you live (for sickness). It is YOUR responsibility to print off the excuse and bring it to me. **I will NOT search pipe-line for class excuses.**

Students who exceed 7 absences, **whether excused or unexcused**, are not eligible for extra credit.

Exams, quizzes, and assignment deadlines missed due to unexcused absences result in a score of zero for the missed activity. When you miss an exam due to an excused absence, you may make it up without penalty but must do so within one week of the absence. Setting up a time to make up an exam is your responsibility, not the teacher's. You would be wise to inform me ahead of time when you know you will be absent (excused) for an exam. I reserve the right to give you an essay exam for the make-up.

**You are responsible for keeping track of your own attendance record.**

- Appropriate conduct
  - Your conduct should be in keeping with Christian standards, the policies of Harding University (including dress code), and the maturity expected of university students.
  - Display a respectful attitude toward other students in the class and toward me, even when you do not feel like doing so. I hope we can create a challenging yet safe learning environment. It will be safe to think and safe to disagree. Arrogant, rude, and disrespectful behavior, however, will not be tolerated.
  - If you bring food or drink to the classroom, you are responsible for cleaning any spills, crumbs, etc. If this privilege is abused, the policy may be changed at the discretion of the instructor. NO food or drinks (other than water) will be allowed in the classroom on exam days.
  - Please, have all cell phones and audible pagers turned off during class. **If your cell phone goes off in class, or if you are caught using it without permission for any reason, you will be marked with an unexcused absence for that day.** Lap-tops may NOT be used in this class without written permission from me. NO cell phones, pagers, lap-tops, i-pods, or other electronic devices will be allowed in class on exam days.
  - The teacher—not the bell—dismisses class. Please do not start packing your books until class is dismissed.
- Preparation for and participation in class
  - You are expected to take an active role in the learning process, which includes completing assigned readings and other assignments before class, attending class, paying attention, taking notes, asking and answering questions, participating in discussions, and being prepared for the exams.
  - You are encouraged to participate fully in class. Respectfully engage fellow students and me. Ask, answer, probe, question, discuss, and think.
- Completion of learning activities (see below).

Required Activities

- |  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| • Two major exams (100 pts. each)        | 200 points (33.3%) |
| • Final exam (comprehensive)             | 200 points (33.3%) |
| • Three Reflection Papers (25 pts. each) | 75 points (12.5%)  |
| • Research assignment                    | 25 points (4.2%)   |
| • Additional quizzes or assignments      | 100 points (16.7%) |

Total 600 points

- Plus optional activities (extra credit) up to 25 points (4.2 %)
- In NO CASE will optional activities improve your overall score more than 1 letter grade!
- Students with PERFECT attendance (meaning no absences, whether excused or not, and with less than 3 tardies) will receive a bonus of **20** points at the end of the semester.
- You CANNOT receive an A or B in the class without completing the all required assignments (reflection papers and research assignment).

**Important:**

Those taking this class for 3 hours credit will be required to submit an additional research assignment worth 25 points. It should follow the guidelines for the research assignment listed below. Deadline for this assignment is **March 25**. Late papers will receive a score of 0. This will increase the total points available for these students to 625. You CANNOT receive an A, B, or C in the class unless you complete this assignment.

***Explanation of Required Activities***

Exams: You will have two major exams. Each exam may be taken from any or all of the following: material we have discussed in class, from the assigned reading material, and from the applicable Scripture texts. These exams are worth **100** points each and will not be comprehensive.

Final Exam: The final exam, worth **200** points, will be taken from the same sources as the previous exams and will test all material for which the student is responsible. Thus it is both comprehensive and tests previously untested material.

Research Assignment: Students will be expected to find a **scholarly** article on a topic dealing with the history of missions (could be on a person or place we or the textbook covers) and write a one-page academic standard abstract (I will not read beyond one page). Each abstract should include a complete bibliographic entry (giving author's name, title of article, title of journal, volume # and date of journal issue, and page numbers where article is found) and give a brief summary of the article and the point of the author's argument. Direct quotes must be in quotation marks and give page numbers. You need to turn in a copy of the actual article, plus **two copies** of the abstract. In addition each abstract should be submitted to turnitin.com. Password for this class is **methodius** and the class ID is **2547510**. The abstract should be typed, double-spaced, in Times New Roman size 10 font or larger, and each copy should be **stapled** to the article. You should follow the guidelines for writing given on my web page. Grammar, style, and spelling will be factored into your grade, and I reserve the right to refuse to read papers that are unintelligible. Each abstract is worth 25 points. Abstracts are due at class time **Wednesday, February 25**. Late items will receive a score of zero. Jammed printers and unreadable disks are not valid excuses for late assignments.

Reflection Papers: For each assignment students will turn in **two copies** of a one page (I will not read beyond one page) reflective paper related to class discussion, reading from the textbook, or even other research in the history of missions. The paper should deal with lessons learned or with how the student has been positively or even negatively impacted by this material. Students should refer to concrete historical events, situations, problems, or people within the

paper. The paper should include your name, be typed, double-spaced, in Times New Roman size 10 font or larger. You should follow the guidelines for writing given on my web page. Grammar, style, and spelling will be factored into your grade, and I reserve the right to refuse to read papers that are unintelligible. Reflection papers are due at class time on the following dates: **1/30; 3/18; 4/22**. Each paper is worth 25 points and late papers will receive a score of zero. Each paper should also be submitted to turnitin.com using the information given above.

Additional quizzes and assignments: We will have regular reading assignments from the *Jerusalem to Irian Jaya* text and we will have several short quizzes over this material. Other short assignments may be made throughout the semester. The total point value of all these assignments will be 100. I may choose to drop the lowest quiz grade. If you miss a quiz or writing due to an excused absence, you will be allowed to make it up in the form of a short writing assignment.

Explanation of Optional Activity (extra credit): Students whose performance on exams falls short of their goals may accumulate up to **25** “make-up” points by submitting a second abstract on a second scholarly article. Follow guidelines listed above. These are due no later than class time **Wed., April 22**. NOTE: You cannot get credit for optional activities unless you complete all major required assignments (reflection papers, research assignment, 3<sup>rd</sup> hour assignment).

### **Evaluation**

- Grades are meant to evaluate a particular kind of performance or achievement. I am aware that grades are incapable of measuring some things, including the most important kind of learning that Christians are to pursue—learning to be more and more like Christ in heart, mind, and actions. An academic grade cannot measure the degree to which a student has progressed in Christian character. Never let your grade in an academic class be the primary measurement of your selfhood.
- Attendance may affect your final grade (See attendance policy above).
- Honesty and integrity are characteristics that should describe each one of us as servants of Jesus Christ. As your instructor, I pledge that I will strive for honesty and integrity in how I handle the content of this course and in how I interact with each of you. I ask that you join me in pledging to do the same.

Academic dishonesty will result in penalties up to and including dismissal from the class with a failing grade and will be reported to the Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs. All instances of dishonesty will be handled according to the procedures delineated in the Harding University catalog. Dishonesty includes, but is not limited to: (1) handing in work you copied from someone else rather than doing it yourself; (2) submitting a paper written in whole or in part by another student whether in this semester or a previous one; (3) copying another student’s answer or using a cheat sheet during tests; (4) cutting and pasting off Internet sites; (5) handing in material you have purchased; (6) plagiarizing other authors’ material.

***Grading System:***

1. 90–100=A; 80–89=B; 70–79=C; 60–69=D; 59 and below=F

**Exam Dates**

- The two regular exams will be given around the **fifth and eleventh weeks** of the semester.

The final exam is scheduled for finals week on Friday, May 8 at 8:00.

***How to Succeed in this Class:***

1. Always attend and pay attention.
2. Take good but not excessive notes. Note headings and listings. Write down definitions. Note the Bible references made, look them up, learn where they are and what they mean. Get names, and principles, but don't try to write down everything. Although illustrations and stories probably won't be on the test, making a short note about them in your notes will help you later when you study to remember the concept being discussed.
3. Turn in assignments on time.
4. Get involved with the material. Participate in class.
5. When you don't understand something, ask questions.
6. Tell someone else about what you have learned.

## Tentative Reading Schedule

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Assigned readings should be done BEFORE the class period for which they are listed

Revisions may be made to this schedule at the discretion of the professor

*JIJ = From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya*

Date	Readings and Assignments
F 1/16	JIJ 21-30
W 1/21	Growth statements in Acts
F 1/23	JIJ 34-37
W 1/28	JIJ 37-43
F 1/30	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reflection paper</b>
M 2/2	JIJ 44-47
M 2/9	JIJ 47-53
F 2/13	JIJ 53-56
M 2/23	JIJ 56-70
W 2/25	<b>Abstract</b>
F 2/27	JIJ 71-96
M 3/2	JIJ 97-113
W 3/4	JIJ 117-130
M 3/16	JIJ 130-146
W 3/18	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reflection Paper</b>
F 3/20	JIJ 147-175
W 3/25	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> hour abstract</b>
F 3/27	JIJ 176-207
F 4/3	JIJ 208-232
M 4/6	JIJ 233-253
M 4/13	JIJ 254-277
F 4/17	JIJ 281-311
M 4/20	JIJ 312-334
W 4/22	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Reflection paper, Extra credit Abstract</b>
F 4/24	JIJ 335-363
W 4/29	JIJ 464-467
F 5/1	JIJ 399-419

I affirm that I have read and understand the contents of this syllabus and am willing to abide by them as a condition for participating in the class Missionary Principles and Practices, taught by Dr. Allen Diles.