Please submit all precourse assignments via email to the COS office by May 5, 2014.

**Course Description**
The mission of the church is to serve God and neighbor by proclaiming the gospel for the redemption of the world. Redemption is God’s holy activity that transforms individuals, societies, and all of life. When faithful to its mission, the church serves as an agent of God’s transforming redemption. Based upon this understanding of the nature of the church and its mission, this course seeks to help pastors gain theological understanding and practical ministry skills for leading congregations to carry out the mission of the church as God’s agents of transformation.

**Course Objectives**
- Development of a biblical and theological framework for Christian mission
- Consideration of the Wesleyan understanding of personal piety and social holiness
- Examination of unjust social realities—such as racism, sexism, and classism—that impact society and thus impact the mission of the church
- Exploration of the growing influence of social, economic, and political globalization in the world and its implications for the mission of the church
- Exposure to United Methodist, ecumenical, inter-religious, and community programs that model effective social transformation in the spirit of the gospel
- Analysis of the context of ministry in local congregations for the development of strategies and leadership skills for the transforming mission of the church

**Required Textbooks**
Blackboard Texts: Selections from the books below will be posted on Blackboard. You will be required to read from these selections in order to complete your assignments. You will have to register and contact Michelle Levan in the COS Office to acquire your userID in order to access these readings.


Requirements and Assignments
This class is offered as a weekend intensive course during May 16-18th. Due to the intensive nature of this class, students should be prepared for longer daily sessions, and a final project to be completed post weekend. Students will also be expected to participate in a mission experience on Saturday from 1-5pm.

1. Precourse Work Emailed by May 5th to Emory Course of Study
   a. Based on your reading of The Next Christendom by Philip Jenkins, write a 3page, double spaced paper with the following:
      • A summary of Jenkins’ thesis
      • What do the changes in Christianity in the world mean to mission in the world?
• How has this book given you a different understanding of world events?
• What are the implications for the United Methodist Church?

b. Submit four 3-page reading interactions from the following Blackboard selections.
   • Mead, Loren, The Once and Future Church, Chapter 2, “Paradigms Lost”
   • Roxburg, Alan J., and M. Scott Boren, Introducing the Missional Church, Intro and Ch. 1 & 2
   • Van Gelder, Craig, The Ministry of the Missional Church, Chapter 2
   • Sample, Tex, Hard Living People & Mainstream Christians.

(A reading interaction form is included at the end of this syllabus. Write a 3-page paper for each interaction by typing your responses to the questions in the guide below.)

2. Complete by the 1st day of class, May 16th.
   a) Submit six 3-page reading interactions from any of the remaining Blackboard selections.
      (There are fourteen Blackboard texts. Four interactions were assigned above as precourse work. This means that from the remaining ten resources you may choose which six are the most relevant to your ministry setting and interact with those.) As mentioned above, use the form provided in this syllabus to complete your reading interactions.
   b) Reading Report: It is expected that you will have carefully read each of the four required texts. While you do not need to write papers on the texts by Robert, McNeal, and Rheenen, you will need to submit a reading report indicating that you have read this material. Using the form provided below in this syllabus, please make note of when you have read these texts.

3. Post Assignment to be completed by June 2, 2014.
   Write a 5-page critical review of your present ministry setting as it pertains to missions. The details and specifics for this assignment will be discussed in class.

Evaluation:
In grading, the course components will be weighted approximately as follows:
   Paper on The Next Christendom (20%)
   Reading interactions (40%)
   Reading report (10%),
   Class participation (10%),
   Final project (20%).
(Remember that four of these interactions are due on May 5th as precourse work. Six additional interactions, of your choosing from the remaining Blackboard resources, are due on the first day of class, May 16th).)

Book: ______________________________________________
Author’s name: _______________________________________

I. Write a brief summary, in your own words, about the contents of the text you read. Try to limit yourself between two and three paragraphs.

II. What are the three most significant lessons that you derived from the material?
(1)
(2)
(3)

III. What are some theological and/or pastoral implications of this text to the mission of the church?
(1)
(2)
(3)

IV. What are some subjects and themes mentioned by the text that cause some concerns and/or bring up questions for future studies and reflections on the text?
(1)
(2)
(3)
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Answer the following for each of the three texts:

What is your favorite quote from each of these books? Handwritten responses are acceptable....

Christian Mission: ________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________

The Present Future: ____________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________

Missions: Biblical Foundations and Contemporary Strategies: ______________
_______________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________
Guidelines for Written Assignments

- All papers should be typed, double-spaced, on 8 ½” by 11” paper, unless the instructor has asked for a different format specifically within the precourse work. Font should be Times New Roman or something similar and no larger than size 12. Margins are to be 1” on all four sides of each page.
- All papers must include a page number and the last name of the student in either the header or footer of every page.
- You should note the question you are answering at the beginning of each new section of materials.
- All papers should provide citations for all quoted material. You may use MLA, Turabain, APA or Chicago Style.
- Punctuation should be consistent; clarity of meaning is the primary purpose of punctuation. Edit and retype material as needed and check spelling in a standard dictionary.
- All papers should attempt to eliminate discriminatory language—for example: racism, ageism, sexism, classism, and prejudicial usage concerning handicapping conditions.

Inclusive Language Covenant

The faculty of Emory Course of Study School has adopted a covenant statement encouraging inclusiveness in the use of language, as follows:

The Inclusive Language Covenant is designed to create a linguistic environment in which all students, staff, and faculty can grow in understanding and appreciating the rich diversity of God’s people. The COS faculty commits itself—through continued discussion, reflection, and exploration—to using language in such a way that we respond to the fullness of God’s presence among us as much by our choice of words as by our care for one another. Recognizing that our experience with inclusive language is an integral part of theological formation, we invite students and others to share as partners with us in this learning process.

We understand “covenant” more in terms of its biblical and theological meaning than in a legal or contractual context. Covenant signifies the common commitment of a community of faith in response to God’s revelation and in partnership with one another. The values implied in the covenant have morally persuaded us to try to generate patterns of speech and behavior that bond the members of the community in mutual respect. We expect all members of the community to address issues of diversity constructively. The entire Inclusive Language Covenant can be found on the COS website, and you are encouraged to read the whole covenant.
Directions to Email Precourse Assignments

Please read all the directions below before emailing your assignments to the COS Office, any emails received that do not follow the directions below will not be accepted. You will receive an email confirmation of receipt and if your email is not submitted correctly an email indicating you will need to resend your assignments.

1) Email only michelle.levan@emory.edu do not email instructors precourse assignments.
2) Email must be received no later than 11:59pm on the deadline of May 5th.
   a. Please note that the cut off time is EASTERN STANDARD TIME zone, so email your assignments accordingly.
   b. Any precourse work received after May 5th at 11:59pm will be subject to a late penalty.
      • Precourse work received between May 6th – May 12th is 1 letter grade deduction.
      • Precourse work received between May 13th – May 15th is 2 letter grade deductions.
      • You will be drop from any course for which precourse work has not been received by 11:59pm on May 15th and you will not be refunded registration fees.
3) The course number and the phrase “precourse work” should be the subject of your email:
   Example - Precourse Work 113
   a. You will need to send a separate email for each course you are registered to attend.
4) Precourse work must be sent as an attached document and not in the body of the email.
   a. Any version of Microsoft Word will be accepted; PDF and Mac-Pages documents will not be accepted.
   b. All assignments for each course must be in one document, multiple documents are not acceptable. You should send only one attachment with all course assignments.
5) Your FULL name, phone number and email, should all be clearly included at the beginning of your email. See Example
6) Plagiarism Policy and Plagiarism Defined
   The plagiarism Policy and Defined paragraphs below must be included in the body of your email (both are below), not within your precourse work. The inclusion of the policy and definition in the body of the email, verifies that you agree to it and your email will represent your signature (which is a requirement). If the email does not include the plagiarism policy and definition it will not be accepted. Your email, with the plagiarism policy and definition will be printed and used as the cover sheet for your precourse assignments, because it has the verification of date and time received, and your agreement to the plagiarism policy and definition.
   Plagiarism Policy - I have read the plagiarism definition below and verify that this assignment represents my own work, except where credit is given.
   Plagiarism Defined: “You plagiarize when, intentionally or not, you use someone else’s words or ideas but fail to credit that person, leading your readers to think that those words are yours. In all fields, you plagiarize when you use a source’s words or ideas without citing that source. In most fields, you plagiarize even when you do credit the source but use its exact words without using quotation marks or block indentation” (201-202). Booth, Wayne C. Booth, Gregory G. Colomb, and Joseph M. Williams. The Craft of Research, Second Edition. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press, 2003.
7) If you do not follow the procedure your precourse work WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED!