

IN583D: The Missional Church
University of Dubuque Theological Seminary

Fall Semester, 2017

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Course Description

It is not so much that the church has a mission, but that God's mission (the *missio Dei*) has a church. This course reflects on the concrete practice of leading congregations into greater missional identity and practice. Focus will be placed on pastoral approaches to renewal via cultivation of missional culture, spirituality, and engagement.

Course Objectives

1. Articulate the practical significance of the *missio Dei* for Christian ministry
2. Theologically assess practices of church mission and identify best practices
3. Utilize practical tools and processes for leading ministries in missional transformation

M.Div. Curricular Goals

1. Lead and nurture congregations to promote peace and justice in the public arena and encourage the witness and service of the church in mission to the world
2. Evangelize the world with faithfulness and contextual sensitivity

MAMD Curricular Goals

1. Articulate and reflect critically and constructively on the biblical and theological foundations of God's mission to the world
2. Develop, implement, and assess strategies for missional living in a specific cultural context

Course Requirements

1. Conscientious preparation and engaged participation (20%)
2. Two brief (2-3 page) papers as assigned (20%)
3. One book review on book of choice from selected bibliography (20%)
4. Missional Renewal Project (40%)

Required Texts

Barrett, Lois, et al., *Treasure in Clay Jars: Patterns in Missional Faithfulness*

Branson, Mark Lau, *Memories, Hopes and Conversations: Appreciative Inquiry and Congregational Change*

Roxburgh, Alan, *Joining God, Remaking Church, Changing the World: The New Shape of the Church in Our Time*

Roxburgh, Alan & M. Scott Boren, *Introducing the Missional Church: What it is, Why it Matters, How to Become One*