

ME 8000  
Short-Term Missions

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Syllabus

July 23-Aug 1, 2009

Robert J. Priest

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**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course provides an overview of the exploding phenomenon of short-term mission trips, reviews the latest research and literature on short-term missions and closely related subjects, and gives course participants the opportunity to interact extensively with nationally-known leaders and researchers of short-term missions. Course participants will be coached in individually designed projects.

**COURSE DESIGN:**

This course will begin with two days of class at Trinity (Thur-Sat, July 23-25), followed by a two-day (July 26-27) service-learning mission project in Chicago (with details to be posted by June 30), followed by classes back at Trinity from July 28-30, and ending with participation in an international conference at Trinity on short-term missions (July 30-Aug 1) – see [www.tiu.edu/stm](http://www.tiu.edu/stm).

**WHO SHOULD TAKE THIS COURSE:**

- 1.) Seminarians preparing for pastoral and/or youth ministry, or preparing to be missionaries.
- 2.) Youth pastors, mission pastors, or other pastors with responsibilities for mission trips.
- 3.) Missionaries with responsibilities involving supervision of visiting mission teams.
- 4.) Doctoral or masters students wishing to do research related to short-term missions.

**TEXTBOOKS:**

Fortunak, Laurie and A. Scott Moreau, Eds. 2008. *Engaging the Church: Analyzing the Canvas of Short-Term Missions*. Wheaton, IL: EMIS.

Gmelch, Sharon Bohn. 2004. *Tourists and Tourism: A Reader*. Long Grove, IL: Waveland Press.

Priest, Robert J., Guest Editor. 2006. *Theme Issue on Short-Term Missions, Missiology: An International Review* 34 (4).

Priest, Robert J., ed. 2008. *Effective Engagement in Short-Term Missions: Doing It Right!* Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library.

Wuthnow, Robert. 2009. *Boundless Faith: The Global Outreach of American Churches*. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press.

## ASSIGNMENTS:

1. Write a five-page summary-review of Wuthnow's book, *Boundless Faith: The Global Outreach of American Churches*, with special focus on how it relates to short-term missions. Be prepared to discuss this the first day of class.
2. Read the following chapters and prepare a reading journal of your readings. On average, half a page of summary/interaction (double-spaced) should be provided for each chapter which you read – but not less than a paragraph, or more than a page. Key quotes, key ideas, implications for the practice and understanding of short-term missions should be the focus. As much of this as possible should be done ahead of time, so that we can discuss these together in class.
  - a. From the book by Gmelch read chapters 1, 2, 7, 8, 14, 15, 25.
  - b. From the theme issue on Short-Term Missions, *Missiology* 34(4) edited by Priest (2006), read chapters by Priest et. al., Linhart, Adeney, Birth.
  - c. From the book *Effective Engagement in Short-Term Missions* (Priest 2008), reach chapters 1, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 17, 18, 19.
  - d. An additional five papers will be posted on-line as required reading.
  - e. Each student will select and read an additional 10 articles (from any of the above books or from articles posted on-line) in accord with your own interests.
3. A five-to-six page paper (double-spaced) will provide reflections and assessment of the two-day service-learning experience which you participate in.
4. A five-to-ten page paper (double-spaced) will provide summary and reflections on key conference presentations.

For doctoral students a major final project will also be required. Details will be provided by the end of June.

## DEADLINES:

- July 23: Book review on Wuthnow's *Boundless Faith* is due.
- Aug 30: Reading journal, paper on your service-learning experience, and paper reporting on the conference are all due.
- Sept 30: Doctoral Projects are due.

## Bibliography of Journal Articles on Short-Term Missions

- Adeney, Miriam. 2003. When the elephant dances, the mouse may die. In *Short-term missions today*, edited by Bill Berry, pp. 86-89. Pasadena, CA: Into All the World Magazine.
- Adeney, Miriam. 2006. Shalom tourist: Loving your neighbor while using her. *Missiology* 34 (4): 463-476.
- Adeney, Miriam. 2008. The myth of the blank slate: A check-list for short-term missions. In *Effective Engagement in Short-Term Missions: Doing it Right!* (edited by Robert Priest, William Carey Library), pp. 121-145.
- Alegre Villón, Joaquín. 2007. Short-Term Missions: Experiences and perspectives from Callao, Peru. In *Special Issue on Short-Term Missions in Latin America (Guest editors Robert Priest and Tito Paredes) -- Journal of Latin American Theology: Christian Reflections from the Latino South 2*: 119-138.
- Bahamonde, Marcos Arroyo. 2007. Contextualization of mission: A missiological analysis of short-term missions. In *Special Issue on Short-Term Missions in Latin America (Guest editors Robert Priest and Tito Paredes) -- Journal of Latin American Theology: Christian Reflections from the Latino South 2*: 227-248.
- Barnett, Keri L. Nancy S. Duball, Keith J. Edwards, Hal M. Elizabet Lewis. 2005. Psychological and spiritual predictors of domains of functioning and effectiveness of short-term missionaries. *Journal of Psychology and Theology* 33.
- Beers, Steve. 2001. The effects of study abroad/mission trips on the faith development of college students. *Growth: The Journal of the Association for Christians in Student Development* 1: 83 - 107.
- Birth, Kevin. 2006. What is your mission here? A Trinidadian perspective on visits from the "Church of Disneyworld." *Missiology* 34 (4):497-508.
- Bramadat, Paul A. 2000. Chapter 7: Witnessing at McMaster and Abroad. In *The church on the world's turf: An evangelical Christian group at a secular university*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Brown, C. M. 2008. Friendship is forever: Congregation-to-congregation relationships. In *Effective Engagement in Short-Term Missions: Doing it Right!* (edited by Robert Priest, William Carey Library), pp. 203-231.
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- Cook, Charles and Joel Van Hoogen. 2007. Towards a missiologically and morally responsible short-term ministry: Lessons learned in the development of church partnership evangelism. In *Special Issue on Short-Term Missions in Latin America (Guest editors Robert Priest and Tito Paredes) -- Journal of Latin American Theology: Christian Reflections from the Latino South* 2: 48-68.
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- Friesen, Randy. 2005. The long-term impact of short-term missions. *Evangelical Missions Quarterly* 41:448-454.
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- Linhart, Terence D. 2005. Planting seeds: The hope of short-term mission experience in youth ministry. *Christian Education Journal* (series 3) 2 (2): 256-272.
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