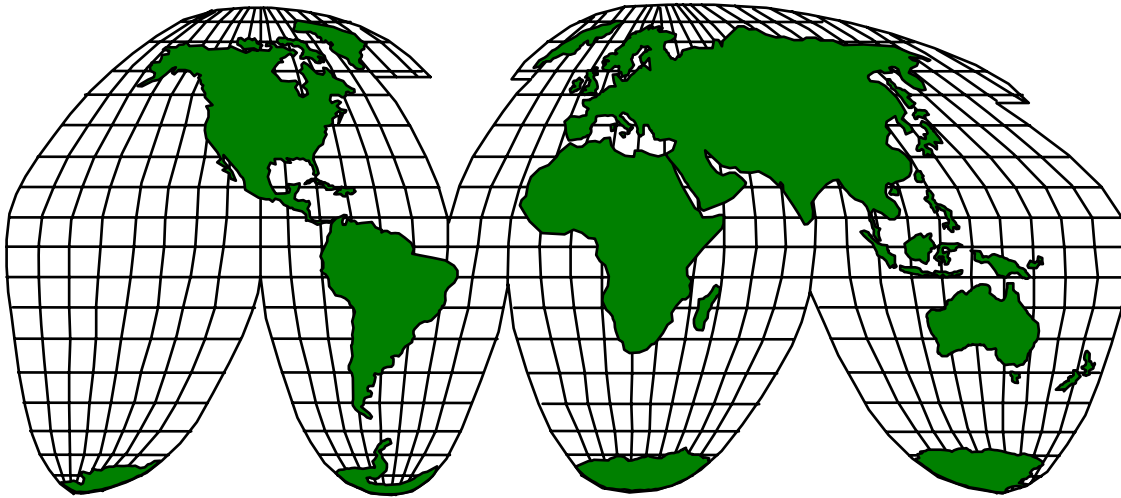


Master of Divinity in Missions With Emphasis in International Church Planting

“The 2 + 2 Program”
&
“The 2 + 3 Program”



“I will make you a light to the nations
so that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.”
Isaiah 49:6



The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

Billy Graham School of Missions, Evangelism and Church
Growth

! As a participant in the 2+2 or 2+3 programs, you are responsible for being familiar with and acting upon the guidelines and information contained herein and elsewhere. If you cannot find the information you need, ASK!

! As of October 2003, this notebook is as complete and accurate as possible. However, because of the nature of these programs, change is inevitable. Always, when in doubt, check with the program director to verify that your information is current and correct. Every attempt has been made to present the present material in a way that is consistent with the seminary catalog. In the event that you discover any disagreement between the two, however, consider the seminary catalog to be authoritative.

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1. INTRODUCTION

The Billy Graham School of Missions, Evangelism and Church Growth

The Billy Graham School is the first school at any Southern Baptist seminary completely devoted to training students to carry out the Great Commission. Founded in 1994, the Billy Graham School provides its students with advanced training in missions and evangelism in the context of the seminary's overall ministry, which is reflected in the mission statement: "Under the lordship of Jesus Christ, the mission of The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary is to be totally committed to the Bible as the Word of God and to be a servant of the churches of the Southern Baptist Convention by training, educating, and preparing ministers of the gospel for more faithful service."

The order of the words in the Graham School's title is significant. Like the Southern Baptist Convention, the Billy Graham School seeks to place missions at the forefront of both study and application. The Billy Graham School exists to help Southern Baptists and other Christians fulfill Matthew 28:18-20: *And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."*

The M.Div. in International Church Planting

The Billy Graham School offers a specialized vocational emphasis in our Master of Divinity program. In cooperation with the International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention we offer selected students the opportunity to complete their degrees overseas while they work as church planters. This program is designed to train students for service as missionary church planters. It is designed for those who believe God has called them into career missionary service. This specialized program will confirm the students' call to service and equip them for the essential task of church planting.

Admission Requirements

The SBTS Missions Department and the International Mission Board will screen those who wish to participate in either of the programs. All students who participate in the programs will be appointed as International Service Corps or Apprentice Missionaries. Therefore, all participants must qualify for ISC or Apprentice approval. This means they must be in good health and be members of Southern Baptist churches among other things. Only those students who feel called to career missions will be considered. Additional requirements include:

- A bachelor's degree from an accredited institution
- Endorsement by a Southern Baptist church
- Testimony of salvation
- Testimony of call to Christian service

Program Description

This program is a four-year program leading to the Master of Divinity in Missions through the Billy Graham School. Students will complete two years (68 semester hours) at the Louisville campus, then they will travel overseas to serve for two or three years as church planter

apprentices under the supervision of experienced church planters. The students will complete the final 23 semester hours of seminary studies overseas. At the end of the four-year program, students who successfully complete all the requirements will receive their Master of Divinity degrees and also qualify experientially for appointment as career international missionaries. Please **note that appointment as a career missionary is not guaranteed for those completing the program.**

Financial Considerations

As ISC or Apprentice missionaries, the students will receive a monthly salary from the International Mission Board after their appointment. Salary is based on the cost of living in each country and varies by location. The International Mission Board will pay transportation to and from the overseas assignment, and provide housing, health coverage, and life insurance. Students will be expected to pay their own tuition, books and other educational expenses. At present, a scholarship of \$500 per semester (total of \$2,000 over four semesters) for tuition and books is available from the seminary for our 2+2 and 2+3 students. The policy for this scholarship is found in section 4 of this notebook: “Financial Information.” Orientation expenses will be covered by the IMB.

When children are involved, the IMB will cover the cost of transportation to and from the field and health coverage. Educational expenses provided for the children will be in the amount of \$750 per child per school year.

Overseas Teaching Sites

Our present plans are to deploy students in East Asia, Southeast Asia and West Africa. Through a consortium relationship with other Southern Baptist seminaries, SBTS students may choose to participate in the program at a site sponsored by another seminary.

Academic Matters

Students who plan to participate in this program must complete 68 semester hours (categories I-IV) in the Billy Graham School Master of Divinity degree program before they leave for the overseas missions site. Students will receive credit for language learning and cultural acquisition, fieldwork as apprentice church planters (AM), and five missions courses, all which will be completed on the field. The seminary will deliver these courses to the students in short-term teaching modules. Missionaries will teach some of the courses and professors from Southern will teach some. The short-term modules will function much like Doctor of Ministry seminars with work to be done both before and after the time in contact with the professor.

Additional Information

If you desire further information about this program, contact twoplustwo@sbts.edu

2. SCHEDULE, SUPERVISION AND COMMUNICATION

An Overview of the Program

The student must be admitted to the Billy Graham School of Missions, Evangelism and Church Growth through the normal seminary admission process. When the student declares a major upon beginning studies at SBTS, they should also inform the director of the program about their interest in the 2+2 or 2+3 program. At that time, the student will complete a basic information and application form, and an interview with the director of the program and/or other missions professors will be scheduled.

Upon completion of the interview and acceptance into the program, students will begin to confer with the faculty advisor regarding the scheduling of classes through the remaining semesters of the program. Also, students must inform the International Mission Board of their intention to complete the 2+2 or 2+3 program and begin to work with a candidate consultant in order to seek International Service Corp or Apprentice appointment.

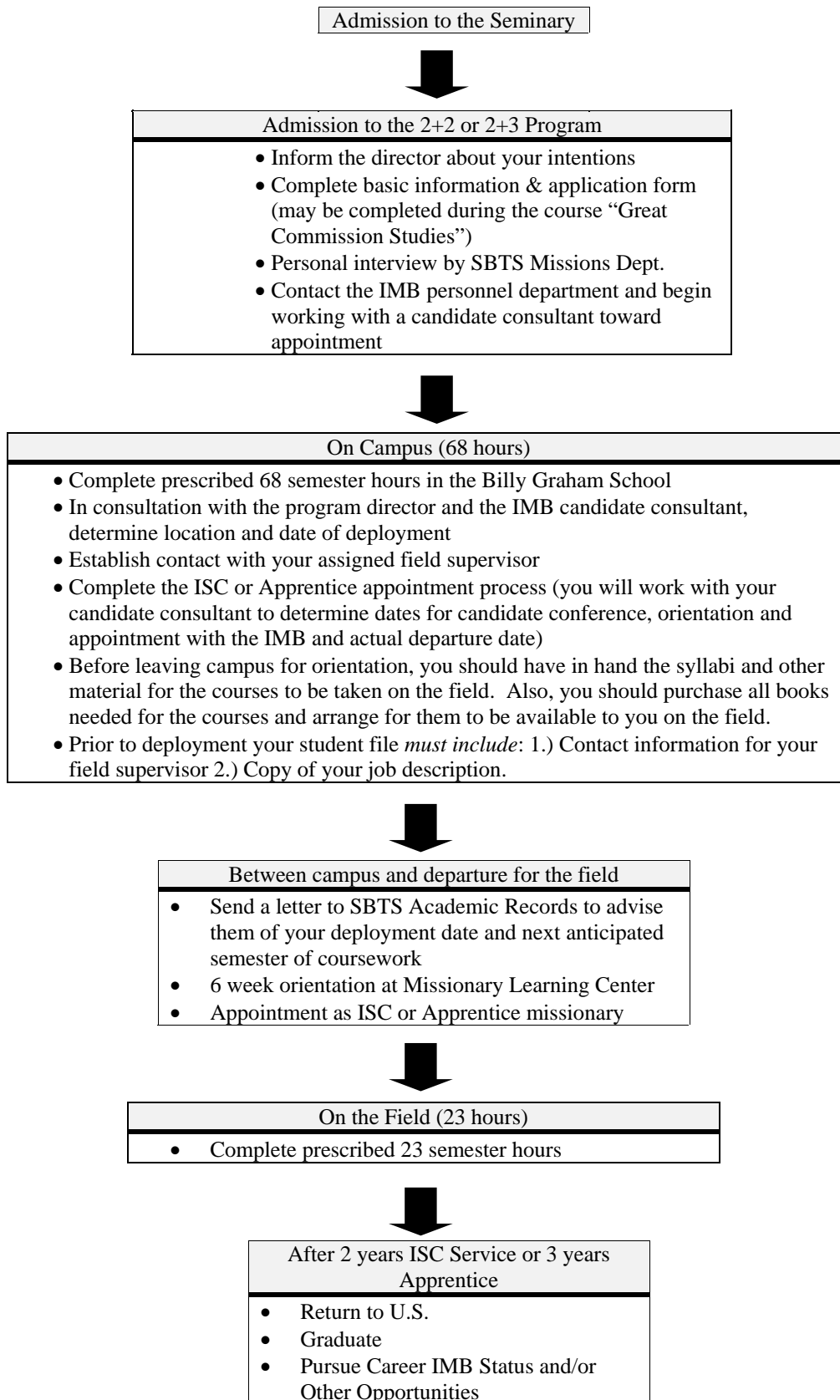
This program is a four-year program leading to the Master of Divinity in Missions (91 hours) through the Billy Graham School. Students will complete two years (68 semester hours) at the Louisville campus, then they will travel overseas to serve for two years as church planter apprentices under the supervision of experienced church planters. The students will complete the final 23 semester hours of seminary studies overseas. At the end of the four-year program, students who successfully complete all the requirements will receive their Master of Divinity degrees and also qualify experientially for appointment as career international missionaries.

M.Div. in International Church Planting Flow Chart

The broad overview just given is simply that – a broad overview. The student must be aware of other steps, procedures and responsibilities that will bring the program to a successful completion. The flow chart found on the next page should provide you a useful tool for charting your progress toward the M.Div. in International Church Planting. You should refer to this flow chart often as a reminder of the steps you have completed and those yet to be completed.

Remember, **ultimately it is your responsibility to make certain that the steps in the program are completed in a timely fashion and that your course work is on schedule.** The director of the program, your faculty advisor, and others with whom you will interact at Southern Seminary are available for advice, counsel and direction. However, you must take that input and act on it.

THE 2+2 / 2+3 PROGRAM — AN OVERVIEW



The Two Years on Campus

The Master of Divinity in International Church Planting requires the completion of 91 semester hours. The first 68 hours, which must be completed prior to departure to the field assignment, are the following:

Course Number: Course:	Credit Hours:	Semester Taken:
I. Biblical Studies (18 hours required); Three (3) hours of one language must be taken at an advanced level.		
20400 Elementary Hebrew and/or		
20440 Hebrew Syntax and Exegesis	3	_____
22400 Elementary Greek and/or		
22440 Greek Syntax and Exegesis	3	_____
20200 Introduction to the Old Testament, I	3	_____
20220 Introduction to the Old Testament, II	3	_____
22200 Introduction to the New Testament, I	3	_____
22220 Introduction to the New Testament, II	3	_____
II. Christian Life and Thought Studies (21 hours required)		
25100 Introduction to Church History, I	3	_____
25120 Introduction to Church History, II	3	_____
27060 Systematic Theology I	3	_____
27070 Systematic Theology II	3	_____
27080 Systematic Theology III	3	_____
28500 Introduction to Christian Philosophy	3	_____
29250 Survey of Christian Ethics	3	_____
III. Ministry and Proclamation (11 hours required)		
40010 Formation for Christian Ministry	2	_____
30000 The Ministry of Proclamation	3	_____
30020 Preaching Practicum (In consultation with the faculty advisor, female students may choose to substitute a communications course for this practicum.)	3	_____
_____ Pastoral Care/Counseling Elective (Any course numbered 34400-35000)	3	_____
IV. Great Commission Ministries (18 hours required)		
32960 Introduction to Missiology	3	_____
32100 Personal Evangelism	3	_____
32030 Introduction to Evangelism/Church Growth	3	_____
30960 Cross-Cultural Communication or Leadership in Intercultural	3	_____
33020 Contexts		
_____ Church and Society Elective (Any course numbered 36020-38640)	3	_____
_____ World Religion Elective (Any course numbered 32900, 32980, 33500-33642)	3	_____

The Two/Three Years on the Field

Once students have completed the 68 hours campus component of the program, they arrive on the field as newly appointed ISC or Apprentice missionaries. On the field they will serve for two or three years as church planter apprentices under the supervision of experienced church planters, during which they will complete the additional 23 semester hours of course work for the Master of Divinity. A checklist for the 23 hours is found below.

V. Vocational Ministry Studies (23 deployment hours required)

44945	Applied Ministry	2	_____
33410	Language Learning for Missionaries	3	_____
33420	Cultural Acquisition for Missionaries	3	_____
Directed Electives:			
_____	_____	3	_____
_____	_____	3	_____
_____	_____	3	_____
_____	_____	3	_____
_____	_____	3	_____

Though a typical program of overseas courses exists, the particulars will differ from student to student, depending on the location of deployment and the needs to be met for the specific job assignment. In conversation with the faculty advisor, the field supervisor, the IMB regional office and the director of the program, each student will confirm the completed two or three-year schedule of classes prior to deployment. A typical two-year academic schedule is found on the next page. A possible 2+3 schedule then follows.

The major difference between the 2+2 and the 2+3 schedules has to do with language learning and culture acquisition. Usually, the 2+3 students (Apprentice) will be involved in full time language study (33410) during the entire first year rather than one semester (2+2 students).

2-YEAR (2+2) ACADEMIC PLAN (TYPICAL)
M.DIV. IN INTERNATIONAL CHURCH PLANTING

FALL, YEAR 1

33410 Language Learning for Missionaries (3 hrs.)
33420 Cultural Acquisition for Missionaries (3 hrs.)

SPRING, YEAR 1

33060 Field Seminar in Church Planting (3 hrs.)
33080 Field Seminar in Church Planting (3 hrs.)

SUMMER, YEAR 1

33100 Principles and Practice of Missions (3 hrs.)

FALL, YEAR 2

44945 AM in Missions (2 hrs.)

SPRING, YEAR 2

33120 Area Study in Missions (3 hrs.)

SUMMER, YEAR 2

33830 Cross Cultural Church Planting (3 hrs.)

Note the following matters:

- During the first semester on the field, students **always** will register for 33410—Language Learning for Missionaries and 33420—Cultural Acquisition for Missionaries.
- The schedule is front loaded with much of the course work being done early in the deployment. This front loading is intentional. By completing much of the course work early, you will obtain principles and concepts that will be of help to you when you are engaged in the practical ministries of the second year, which will be much more hands-on. Also, such scheduling should free you up to spend much more time in practical ministry during your second year on the field.
- Two of your courses likely will be offered in a January or summer “J-term” type module. Usually, professors from Southern or missionaries on the field teach these J-term courses. These short-term modules (usually two weeks) will function much like Doctor of Ministry seminars, with work to be done both prior to and after the time in contact with the professor.
- As more internet seminary courses are offered, they might eventually be used to provide some of the field course work. Like all other work, the faculty and field supervisors in conversation and planning with you will determine the inclusion of internet courses in

Section 2 – Schedule, Supervision, and Communication

your schedule.

- 33060 & 33080: Field Seminars in Church Planting can take two different forms. The student might engage in the study of church planting approaches appropriate to the assignment and apply those in real life church planting projects under the direction of the field supervisor. Some students, however, have received the six hours credit (33060 + 33080) for participating in certain intensive workshops/seminars presented by the IMB on the field.
- **The schedule presented above is only typical. Your schedule of classes must be worked out to fit your specific assignment.** You can use the blank schedule on page eleven as a worksheet as you talk with your advisors and plan your two or three year course of study.

3-YEAR (2+3) ACADEMIC PLAN (TYPICAL)
M.DIV. IN INTERNATIONAL CHURCH PLANTING

FALL, YEAR 1

33420 Cultural Acquisition for Missionaries (3 hrs.)

SPRING, YEAR 1

33410 Language Learning for Missionaries (3 hrs.)

*Extends throughout the entire first year. The student enrolls in the course during the second semester because it will be completed at that time and a grade can be assigned.

SUMMER, YEAR 1

33100 Principles and Practice of Missions (3 hrs.)

*Sometimes offered during the summer.

FALL, YEAR 2

44945 AM in Missions (2 hrs.)

SPRING, YEAR 2

33060 Field Seminar in Church Planting (3 hrs.)

33080 Field Seminar in Church Planting (3 hrs.)

SUMMER, YEAR 2

33830 Cross Cultural Church Planting (3 hrs.)

*Sometimes offered in the summer.

FALL, YEAR 3

33120 Area Study in Missions (3 hrs.)

The tables on the next two pages are work sheets that you can use as you work on your field schedule in consultation with your advisors.

Academic Matters

In academic matters you are under the supervision of Dr. David Sills, Associate Professor of Christian Missions and Cultural Anthropology at the Billy Graham School of Missions, Evangelism and Church Growth. Academic issues should be addressed to him.

Field Supervision

In matters pertaining to your mission work you are under the authority of the International Mission Board. You will be primarily their employee and secondarily a student at SBTS. The chain of command for field missionaries goes like this:

First Level--Field Supervisor (Your church planter mentor)

Second Level--Strategy Team Leader

Third Level--Mission Administrator/Strategy Associate

Fourth Level--Regional Leader

Fifth Level--Vice President for Overseas Operations

Sixth Level--President of the International Mission Board

Thus, on day-to-day matters you are under the supervision of your mentor. If you have problems with your mentor, and after you have talked with him, consult first with the Team Leader, Mission Administrator, and/or Strategy Associate. If they cannot work out the problem, let Dr. Sills know and he will get involved. However, what he could do would be limited by distance, and you are encouraged to attempt to work out problems on the field with the personnel who are present there.

Communication

Correspondence

You can write to Dr. Sills at the seminary at Box 8-1942, 2825 Lexington Road, Louisville, KY 40280, USA. If you have an assignment to send, you may send that by airmail or email. Email is preferred because of its speed.

The cheapest way to send a simple letter is to buy an aerogramme at the post office. Remember, though, you cannot put anything inside the aerogramme. Also, if family and friends want to write to you, aerogrammes are the cheapest and fastest form of regular mail. Envelopes and packages are sometimes tampered with, but postal employees know that aerogrammes contain nothing of value.

Telephone

Telephoning from overseas is often an adventure. In most cities it is possible to make a telephone call from a telephone company office. Dr. Sills's office number is 502-897-4324. A voice mail feature allows you to leave a message day or night. You might tell your families that the quickest

Section 2 – Schedule, Supervision, and Communication

way to communicate with you in case of an emergency is to call the regional office at the International Mission Board at 800-999-2889/3113. The regional office staffs know how to handle emergencies.

Fax

You can fax any of your professors at the Billy Graham School office at 502-897-4042.

Email

By far the cheapest and fastest way to communicate is by e-mail. Dr. Sills's email address is dsills@sbts.edu. For those of you deployed to areas with security concerns, you may obtain from Dr. Sills a different email address that does not contain "sbts" (The "sbts.edu" would enable someone to track your email to a Christian/Baptist entity.).

Also, if security is an issue for you, you should install the PGP encryption program on your computer before leaving the country. Dr. Sills will be glad to help you with the PGP program.

3. DEPLOYMENT LOCATIONS: AN EXPLANATION

Our plans are to deploy students to the places that the International Mission Board agrees to send them as the Holy Spirit of God calls and leads. A degree of flexibility is built into the SBTS 2+2/3 program in terms of the deployment of students. Through a consortium relationship with other Southern Baptist seminaries, SBTS students may choose (with approval from Southern's 2+2/3 director) to participate in the program at a site sponsored by another seminary.

For obvious reasons, a complete listing of students deployed, along with their locations, is not included in this notebook. However, if you wish to keep track of your fellow 2+2 and 2+3 students and correspond with them, Dr. Sills will be glad to provide a list to you along with a world map showing the various locations of SBTS 2+2/3 students. For your personal use, a world map is included at the end of this manual. You might wish to use this map for pinpointing and keeping track of your fellow students.

4. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

ISC (2 year) Package

As International Service Corp missionaries, students receive IMB support for the two-year assignment. That support includes:

- Orientation expenses (you will receive precise information about this at candidate conference)
- Transportation for the entire family to/from the field
- Inoculations for the entire family
- Salary based on the cost of living on your field (you will receive precise information about this at candidate conference)
- Incidental expenses to/from the field
- Housing and work transportation on the field
- Health and life insurance for the entire family
- Education expenses -- \$750 per school year for each school age child

IMB support does not include:

- Travel insurance
- Educational costs for completion of the seminary degree

Apprentice (3 year) Package

Apprentices receive 80% of a career salary, full benefits, but no crates to the field until the second term.

SBTS Scholarship Policy

Southern Seminary has recognized the strategic importance of the 2+2 and 2+3 programs in the advancement of God's kingdom around the world. In support of our 2+2 and 2+3 students, the seminary has made available a special scholarship designated specifically for those students. Below is the scholarship policy for the 2+2 and 2+3 programs. Be certain that you understand this policy, especially as it impacts other scholarship monies that you have coming in. Any questions that are not answered in the official policy statement can be directed to Dr. Janice Seifrid, Director of Student Life at Southern Seminary. Contact information for Dr. Seifrid:

Office: Honeycutt 205
Mail: Campus box 2369
Telephone: 502-897-4206
Email: financialaid@sbts.edu

Specific Responsibilities of the Student

SCHOLARSHIP POLICY FOR THE 2+2 AND THE 2 + 3 PROGRAMS

1. Because SBTS wants to support those students who participate in the 2+2 and 2+3 programs, students participating in these programs are eligible to receive \$80 for every SBTS credit enrolled/semester, not to exceed \$2000 total during their participation overseas in these programs.
 - a. Scholarship monies can only go for tuition and books, according to IRS regulations regarding tax-deductible monies. **One cannot receive more scholarship monies than the total cost of tuition and books in a semester.** Therefore, tuition costs and \$100/course for books will be totaled to calculate the amount available. If the total scholarship money (including any outside scholarships, i.e., state scholarships, Champions for Christ, etc.) on an account is more than can be received the scholarship(s) will be reversed and returned to the donor.
 - b. Scholarship monies cannot be carried over from one semester to the next.
 - c. Many scholarships require that you be registered full-time (9 hours or more) to be eligible for the scholarship.
 - d. If a student is registered for 0 credit hours in a semester, no scholarship money will be available.
 - e. The student is responsible to know the qualifications of each scholarship received and to make sure that those monies for which they are ineligible because of participating in the 2+2 or 2+3 program are returned.

From the information that you have received, or will receive, your personal financial responsibilities should be clear. However, to minimize any possible confusion, take careful note of the following. You are personally responsible for:

- Tuition, books and other educational expenses
- Additional costs because of deployment apart from the regular locations (when applicable)
- Normal living costs on the field (the ISC and Apprentice packages are adequate to cover these expenses)

Additional note: You may not use SBTS scholarship monies to pay for tuition and books for courses taken in programs of other seminaries.

5. THE IMB AND APPOINTMENT

Introductory Comments

By request, the following materials have been prepared for us by the International Mission Board. As you make use of these materials, please keep in mind the following:

- Though this information provides a good overview of the IMB appointment process, you will need to maintain regular contact with the appropriate person (career candidate consultant or ISC/Journeyman consultant) at the IMB, to whom you can address questions and issues as they arise.
- The section “Why Would I Go 2+2?” seems to imply that a student may choose the ISC option as a means of “testing the waters” for long-term, career service. Actually, our 2+2 program is intended for students who are committed to long-term, career service with the IMB. As stated elsewhere in this notebook, the clear expectation is that our students will return after the two-year deployment and seek career appointment.

Overview of the 2+2 and 2+3 Appointment Process



International Mission Board
P.O. Box 6767
Richmond, VA 23230

FAX (804) 219-1779

To: Applicants for SBTS 2+2 or 2+3 Missionary Service
From: Bonita Wilson, Candidate Consultant for Region 2 and SBTS
From: Scott Chafee, ISC/Jman Consultant
Re: Completing Information Form Part One

Dear Friend:

We are delighted that you have indicated an interest in serving as a missionary through the International Mission Board. This experience promises to expand your horizon in regard to mission opportunities overseas. It is our prayer that God will direct you during the following months as you begin the initial phase of the application process.

Since this is early in the screening process, you will want to view several documents:

- Choosing between the 2+2 and the 2+3 programs
- Caution notice on personal debt
- Caution notice on excessive weight
- Overview of the application/decision making process for the program you choose
 - The 2+2 (ISC/Jman) Application Process Sheet
 - The 2+3 (Apprentice) Application Process Sheet

If you are qualified and interested in proceeding, please complete and return the following items:

- The Information Form – to be completed online >> <https://secure.imb.org/infoform>
In addition, 2+2ers will complete a brief life sketch and Information Form part two
- Two recent passport-type photos – which are not used for getting your passport

Upon receipt and review, qualified applicants will be sent the full application.

Getting More Information Online:

- 2+2 Program Information = www.go2years.com
- 2+2 Timeline Deadlines = <http://going.imb.org/go2years/timeline.htm>
- 2+3 = <http://going.imb.org>

Choosing Between 2+2 and the 2+3 Options

Why Would I Go 2+2? (ISC/Journeyman or Masters Option)

- Not interested in serving long-term at this time
- Interested in career/associate but uncertain of long-term calling/motivation
- Sense of timing to move toward long-term service is not right
- Not comfortable making a commitment to long-term as a single
- Commitment only to a two-year experience instead of three years
- Needed growth/experience prior to long-term service
- Family with teenagers that needs to test adaptability to the field prior to making a long-term commitment
- Couple where one member is uncertain of long-term calling/motivation
- Not ready to do full-time language study prior to beginning assignment
- Not comfortable making a long-term commitment to a certain place or people group
- May not be able to meet long-term medical clearance standards
- Over the career debt limit (\$1500 unsecured limit)
- Under the ISC debt limit ((\$75/mo singles, \$125/mo couples)
- Assignment is recommended by your candidate consultant

Why Would I Go 2+3? (Apprentice Appointment Option)

- Clear definitive calling to long-term missions
- Readiness to choose, in consultation with your candidate consultant, a specific people group, language, country and assignment
- Able to meet long-term medical clearance standards
- Under the long-term debt limit (\$1500 unsecured limit)
- Sense of timing to move toward long-term service is right
- Long-term recommended by your candidate consultant

Benefits of the 2+3 Option

- Completion of the apprentice appointment process
- Long-term level language study is included
- Enhancement of salary over the 2+2 program
- IMB contribution to your annuity account

Who is My Contact for Missionary Service?

- Bonita Wilson (bwilson@imb.org) is the long-term candidate consultant for the SBTS campus. Students in the 2+3 program will work closely with her toward their appointment as apprentice. She is your first and regular contact, even for 2+2 students.
- Scott Chafee (schafee@imb.org) is the ISC/Journeyman consultant who will work with you through 2+2 process. You must meet with Bonita at least once each year even if you have chosen the 2+2 option.

DEBT CAUTION MEMO

As you begin this application process, we want you to take a moment to assess your current debt. We realize that you may own **cars or homes** (secured debt) and would be able take care of those debts through various means. We would like to know of your plans to take care of these secured debts should you choose to retain them.

Student loans should not yet require repayment since 2+2ers are still considered full-time students while completing their overseas portion of their degree. If student loan deferral should become necessary, it is your responsibility to make contact with your lending institution. Once you have been approved for service overseas, **your regional office** will be able to provide your lending institution with a letter of verification that will assist you in getting student loans deferred.

However, the salary that will be available to you overseas is not structured to allow for the payment of unsecured debt. If you have **unsecured debts** (credit cards, personal loans, etc.), before final approval for service can be given, you will need to make sure that your personal debt is within the following limits:

2+2

2+3

=====	=====
\$75 or less per month obligation - singles	\$1500 total unsecured debt
\$125 or less per month obligation - couples	

The following are important financial/ethical issues that (if applicable) should be explained in a separate letter included with your Part 2 Application materials:

- Disability** - Full or partial, how long on disability, how long off disability (or when do you anticipate being off)?
- Bankruptcy** - Type, when, circumstances, conditions, current ramifications and commitments.
- Bad Credit History** - Type, when, circumstances, include information on repossessions, foreclosures, default loans, utility/service cancellations, etc.

We request your careful attention to these issues as you proceed through the screening process and your application. Information shared will be kept in confidence. We appreciate your willingness to place your application on hold until your personal debt is within the limits.

The IMB covers:

The IMB does not cover:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Conference costs – attendance w/out children <input type="checkbox"/> Orientation costs – attendance w/children <input type="checkbox"/> Support (salary + cost of living + benefits) <input type="checkbox"/> Housing on the field <input type="checkbox"/> Travel (to/from the field, work related on the field) <input type="checkbox"/> Incidental travel expenses <input type="checkbox"/> Health and life insurance <input type="checkbox"/> Severance or continuation at the end of term for 2+2ers <input type="checkbox"/> Child education: 2+2 (at least \$750/child/school year) 2+3 (same as long-term) <input type="checkbox"/> Required inoculations | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> 2+2 - Personal/family travel insurance – although required <input type="checkbox"/> Seminary tuition and other educational expenses <input type="checkbox"/> Seminary related travel on the field |
|--|--|

WEIGHT CAUTION MEMO

Health is an important component of a successful missionary experience. It is our desire to honor God in this area. We want you to take a moment to assess your current health and in particular, your weight. The chart below lists an acceptable weight for men and women based on height. Find your height and weight on the chart:

Height in Inches Weight in Pounds

58	143
59	148
60	153
61	158
62	164
63	169
64	174
65	180
66	186
67	191
68	197
69	203
70	209
71	215
72	221
73	227
74	233
75	240
76	246

**For heights over or under this chart
Call (800) 999-3113 ext. 1304**

If you are over this weight, you will need to provide the IMB with your current height, weight and waist measurement documented by a licensed health care provider. The waist measurement must be taken just above the iliac crest (hip bone) at the end of a normal expiration of breath. Weight will not be acceptable from bathroom scales.

The IMB must receive this, along with your Comprehensive Health Questionnaire, (perhaps with a medical exam if required) in order to determine medical clearance and thus allow you to move on through the application process. Your application may be placed on hold pending the receipt of the verification of this information. Should you be invited to proceed, measurements may be verified at the conference and again at orientation.

Learn more about the Body Mass Index >> <http://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dnpa/bmi/index.htm> or use the online calculator >> <http://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dnpa/bmi/calc-bmi.htm>

Information for Missionary Apprentice Candidates The 2+3 Application Procedure:

1. Preliminary Information is requested from each inquirer. The *Information Form*, completed online, provides basic biographical data. Approximately one year prior to anticipated appointment, qualified inquirers are encouraged to complete a *Comprehensive Health Questionnaire* and a *Preliminary Dental Questionnaire*.

2. A Missions Information Conference (MIC) provides useful information related to missionary service. Candidates may be invited to participate in an MIC or similar group meeting in their area.

3. Personal History Instructions are shared with candidates who receive preliminary medical clearance. In addition to the personal history, candidates also complete a *Statement of Christian Beliefs* and *Life Sketch*.

4. Personal Interviews with a candidate consultant provide an opportunity to discuss missionary service, review shared materials and plan a future schedule.

5. Candidate Conference attendance is by invitation. Transportation, room and board are provided. The conference provides an opportunity for fellowship, worship, interviews and information sharing. *Medicals*, including physical and psychological exams, are scheduled during a candidate conference or a later date. *Personal Evangelism Training* is a prerequisite for this conference. Approved programs include WIN, CWT and EE. MasterLife training and seminary courses in evangelism may be acceptable if they include experience in personal witnessing. MasterLife training prior to entering orientation is recommended.

6. References are provided to the International Mission Board. The form for listing names of references is provided.

7. Personnel Committee reviews and evaluates all applications before making a formal recommendation to the board. The committee decision is shared with candidates immediately following the meeting.

8. Appointment, Board Meeting requires appointees to be away from home four or five days. New missionaries receive information about salary, packing and shipping, orientation and International Mission Board policies. Transportation, room and board are provided by the board.

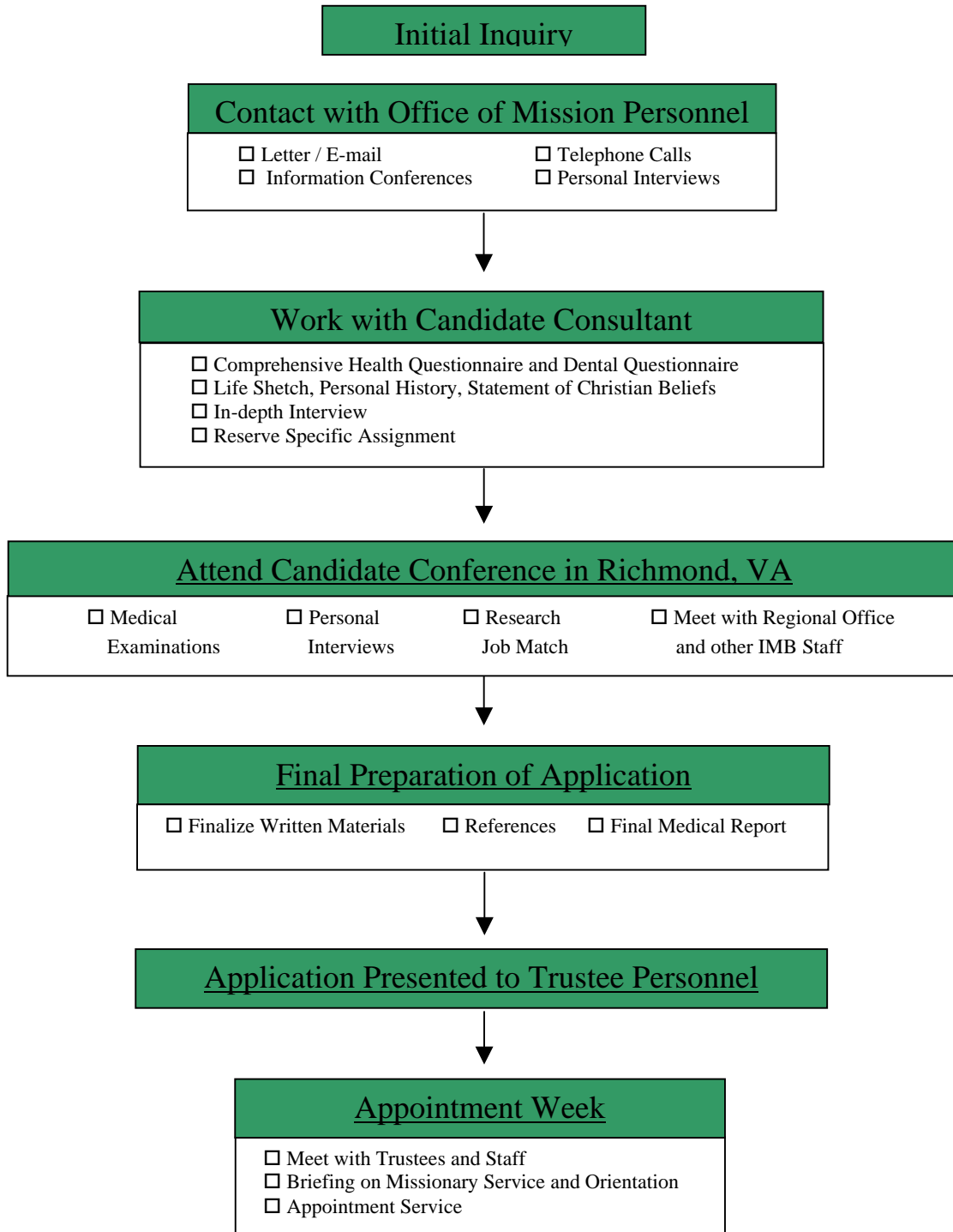
9. Orientation includes the entire family. Furnished quarters, child care and schooling are provided at the Cauthen Learning Center in Rockville, VA. *Orientation Salary* can begin one month prior to entering orientation, as authorized by your regional office. Salaries are paid at the end of each month.

10. Departure date for overseas assignment is determined in consultation with your regional office; usually missionaries depart two weeks following completion of orientation.

Produced by the Office of Mission Personnel



Overview of the Application Process Missionary Apprentice and 2+3



Following appointment, missionaries participate in a stateside orientation program at the Missionary Learning Center in Rockville, VA. Formal language study usually occurs overseas following completion of orientation.

Information for ISC, Journeyman or Masters Programs The 2+2 Application Procedure:

Preliminary Information is requested from each inquirer. Approximately six months prior to anticipated availability, qualified inquirers are encouraged to complete an *online information form*, which provides basic biographical data.

Completed Application Materials provide useful information related to selection of missionary personnel. Applicants are next requested to complete the following two items:

- **Information Form** – Part 2
- **Life Sketch** – complete online

After ISC/Jman Team review, qualified applicants will be allowed to complete the remainder of the application materials:

- **Comprehensive Health Questionnaire** (completed online), **immunization record**
- **Physical examination form** – age 40+
- **Autobiography** – with instructions
- **Statement of Christian beliefs**
- **Church recommendation**
- **Transcripts** – those age 40 or below
- **References** - Each applicant is requested to distribute *eight references* and submit a *form listing names* of references.

Decision Making / Job Selection Conference After file review, invitations are sent out to selected applicants, along with *travel information*, and *prayer information*, to participate in a working conference in Richmond that will include interviews and information gathering.

At the screening conference, each applicant is assigned to a *small group* for interaction and support.

Personal interviews provide an opportunity to discuss missionary service, review written materials and potential job matching.

Meeting with the *regional offices* provides an opportunity to discuss available jobs, people groups and regions of the world.

Decision Making / Job Selection Conference (Continued)

The conference also provides complete information regarding living overseas including financial and insurance arrangements.

Each applicant is provided an opportunity to withdraw, delay, or select three jobs that would be their preference.

All transportation, room and board expenses are provided by the International Mission Board.

Children are not invited to the conference experience. This is a time for couples to focus on their calling and direction together without the distraction of caring for the needs of their children.

Job Match and Committee Approval occurs following the screening conference. During this time, each qualified applicant may be matched to one of the job preferences they have chosen and be considered for approval by the committee. Following approval, each applicant is offered the opportunity to accept or decline the position to which they have been matched.

Orientation includes furnished quarters at the Missionary Learning Center in Rockville, Virginia. Orientation is a six-week training period for the entire family prior to arrival on the field. Travel, room and board expenses are provided by the IMB.

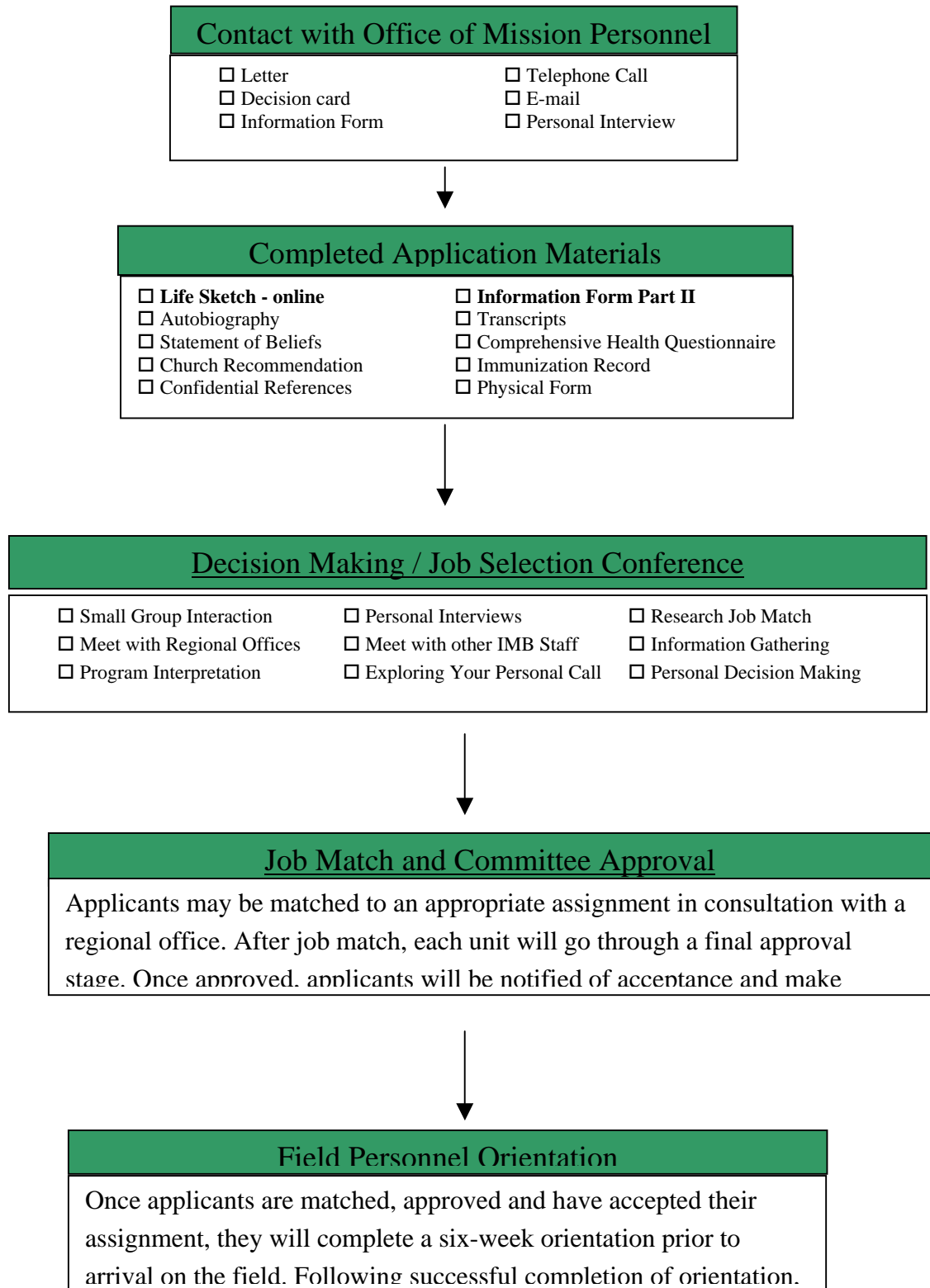
Field Departure The date for the overseas assignment is determined in consultation with the regional office. Departure is usually within two weeks following a successful completion of Field Personnel Orientation.

Produced by the Office of Mission Personnel



Continued, Next Column

Overview of the Application / Decision Making Process ISC/JMAN/Masters/2+2 Programs



6. COURSE SYLLABI

Pay close attention to the following notes/explanations.

- Certain courses are taken on the field by **all** 2+2 and 2+3 students: 33410-Language Learning for Missionaries, 33420-Cultural Acquisition for Missionaries and 44945-Applied Ministry: Missions. These courses usually are taught by Dr. David Sills. Thus, Dr. Sills's name and contact information are included in these syllabi. The professor's name included with other syllabi reflect the fact that that professor typically teaches that particular course or was the last one to teach that course in the 2+2/3 program. However, when a different professor oversees the course work for any class, the student has the responsibility of communicating with that professor regarding any changes in the syllabus and course requirements.
- Be sure to note, for 33420, that **certain assignments are due prior to deployment** to the field. Furthermore, when possible, you should purchase textbooks for the various classes and carry them with you to the field. Once you arrive on the field, obtaining textbooks can be difficult and expensive.
- Additional course syllabi are included. You will not necessarily enroll in all these courses during your time on the field. However, from the available syllabi, you can select the books and materials that you will need for your particular courses and purchase them before deployment. Also, the availability of these syllabi will allow you to plan future class work and prepare your assignments in a timely fashion.
- **Very importantly**, understand that the syllabi are included in this manual for your benefit, to alert you to the **likely** course/work load of each class and the resources required. Other than those for 33410 and 33420, the syllabi are not provided as the final guides for your course work on the field. The final syllabi for your courses will be provided to you as needed with sufficient lead-time to obtain materials and prepare assignments. **Prior to deployment, you should check with the 2+2/3 director about your course work and what is expected from you.**
- All syllabi are intended to reflect accurately the course description, content outline, objectives, grading scale, attendance requirements, and other information necessary for students to appraise the courses. However, during the course of the term of study the professor reserves the right to modify any portion of a syllabus as may appear necessary because of events and circumstances that change.

32750 History of Christian Missions
Dr. James D. Chancellor

Course Description

An intensive study of the worldwide expansion of Christianity from apostolic times to the present.

Course Objectives

1. To have the student gain a perspective on the missionary enterprise of the Church.
2. To help students understand and communicate the major events, movements, and persons in the history of Christian expansion and to relate these elements to the task of missions today.
3. To have the student understand the wide diversity of the Christian experience and the contextual nature of the Church.

Texts

J. Mark Terry, *Evangelism: A Concise History*
Ruth Tucker, *From Jerusalem To Irian Jaya*

Course Requirements

1. Research Paper: Each student will write a research paper on a leading figure or important movement in the history of Christian missions. The professor or Garret Fellow must approve the topic. The paper should be 10 to 15 pages typed/double spaced and should conform to the seminary style guide. Selected students may present their findings to the class.
2. Text readings as assigned. Students will be responsible to read the appropriate sections of Terry and Tucker prior to class consideration.
3. View the video “The Gods are Dead” on reserve in the library prior to discussion of West Africa.
4. Attendance at all class sessions.

Grading

Paper	30%
Midterm Exam	30%
Final Exam	40%

Late work can receive no higher than a "C".
ALL WORK MUST BE COMPLETED TO
RECEIVE CREDIT

Course Format:

The course will consist of lectures, videos, discussion, and student presentations. Each student is expected to have read the appropriate chapters in Tucker and Terry and be prepared to ask meaningful questions and enter into discussion of the material.

Course Schedule:

Orientation and Planning
“History,” “Christian,” and “Missions”
Culture and Culture Shock
Indigenous Missions
Video: “Zulu Zion”

The Christian Mission in the Apostolic Period
The Christian Mission in the Early Church
The Christian Mission in the Middle Ages

The Christian Mission in the in the Church of the East
The Roman Catholic Mission and the Reformation
Video: “Conquest of Souls”
The Christian Mission in the age of Reformation

The Modern Mission Movement - Politics, Culture, and Religion
Women in the Modern Missions Movement
The Bible in the Modern Missions Movement

Case studies in the Modern Mission Movement:
China
Korea
West Africa (view “The Gods are Dead” in the library)
The Philippines
South Africa

Challenges of the 21st Century
Islam and the Mission
Pluralism
Theological considerations

This syllabus is not a contract. The professor reserves the right to modify any portion of this syllabus as may appear necessary because of events and circumstances that change during the semester.

33060 - 33080 Field Seminar in Church Planting
Dr. David Sills - 6 hours

Course Description

This off-campus course is a specialized learning experience for students involved in the Master of Divinity in Missions with Emphasis in International Church Planting. The course will be field-based, that is, the course will be taught on an international mission field. The course of study will be supervised by a member of the missions department, but the actual teaching will be provided by missionaries and nationals designated by the International Mission Board. The purpose of the course is to participate in new church starts under the direction of a professor and a mentor in the field.

General Learning Objectives

The student who completes this course should be able to:

1. Gain practical, hands-on experience in the area of church planting
2. Develop a reading list which is relevant to his or her church planting situation, and directly apply insights gained from those readings to the church planting situation
3. Experience the benefits of having a church planting mentor
4. Improve in personal evangelism skills
5. Improve in leadership development skills
6. Improve in writing skills

COURSE TEXTS

The student is responsible for developing a reading list that will be relevant to his or her church planting work. At least six books of approximately 1000 pages must be selected. The professor must approve the selected texts.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Critical Book Reviews. The student will prepare six critical book reviews over the texts selected for this course. Style and format should follow the seminary style guide.
2. Weekly Reports. The student will submit weekly email reports of his or her fieldwork to the professor. Reports will be submitted in accordance with the attached form.
3. Reflection Paper. At the conclusion of this course, the student will write an 8-10 page reflection paper. This paper is to discuss what the student gained from the fieldwork experience. Questions such as the following should be discussed in the paper: What did you learn about yourself? What worked well? What did not work well? Were the selected readings relevant and applicable to your church planting work? Was your mentor an asset to your church planting experience? If you could

- repeat the fieldwork, what would you have done differently? Do you have future plans to continue the work that you started?
4. Meetings. Though there are no regularly scheduled meetings for the field seminar, the student needs to meet with their mentor regularly to discuss the student's progress. If necessary, the meetings can be accomplished by phone or email.

COURSE GRADING/EVALUATION

Mentor's assessment	40%
Critical Reviews	30% (5% each)
Reflection Paper	30%

Total	100%

Grading

The semester grade will be calculated upon receipt of the report from the 2+2/2+3 mentor/supervisor on the field.

- A = 95-100
- B = 87-94
- C = 77-86
- D = 70-76

Communication

Students can communicate with Dr. Sills in several ways. His e-mail address is dsills@sbts.edu. His fax number is 502-897-4042. His telephone number is 502-897-4324.

Disclaimer

This syllabus is intended to reflect accurately the course description, content outline, objectives, grading scale, attendance requirements, and other information necessary for students to appraise the course. However, during the course of the term the professor reserves the right to modify any portion of this syllabus as may appear necessary because of events and circumstances that change during the semester.

FIELD SEMINAR READING LIST

(This information is to be submitted to professor within the first two weeks of class)

1. Author and Book Title

Total number of pages

How will this book relate to your church planting work?

2. Author and Book Title

Total number of pages

How will this book relate to your church planting work?

3. Author and Book Title

Total number of pages

How will this book relate to your church planting work?

4. Author and Book Title

Total number of pages

How will this book relate to your church planting work?

5. Author and Book Title

Total number of pages

How will this book relate to your church planting work?

6. Author and Book Title

Total number of pages

How will this book relate to your church planting work?

Weekly Field Seminar Report Form

Date:

Name:

Phone:

Email:

Target Area/Community:

Mentor:

Mentor's email address:

Witnessing Opportunities (actual presentations of the gospel):

Witnessing Opportunities (spiritual discussions, but gospel was not shared):

Conversions:

If conversions were made this week, what are you doing to teach the new believers "all that I commanded you"?

Bible studies you are leading: # of groups: # of people attending:

Ministry accomplishments this week:

Do you believe you are modeling a reproducible leadership style before the people you are trying to evangelize? Explain.

Do you believe you are modeling an overall reproducible church planting strategy before the people you are trying to evangelize? Explain.

Goals to be achieved within the next week:

Did you achieve your goals for this week? Why or Why not?

What was the greatest challenge you faced this past week?

Are you maintaining a daily devotion time with the Lord?

What has the Lord been telling you this past week?

Prayer concerns you may have:

33100: Principles and Practice of Missions
Dr. George H. Martin

I. Course Description

This course focuses on a study of the home and foreign missionary, qualifications for service, methods and types of missionary work, and contemporary developments and problems that affect Christian missions.

II. Objectives

Students will be able to:

1. Describe the overall picture of mission work, at home and abroad.
2. Explain the nature of the missionary task.
3. Relate the preparation and qualifications for missionary service.
4. Depict the various types of missionary work, with their special characteristics.
5. State the major principles of mission work.
6. Develop an approach to mission methodology.
7. Trace the main outlines of Southern Baptist home and foreign missions.
8. Project one's own involvement in missions, both directly and supportively.

III. Requirements

- A. Students will read selected articles from *Perspectives on the World Christian Movement: A Reader*, revised edition, and prepare an article interaction form (attached to this syllabus) for each of the articles. Each of these interactions will consist of a short summary statement on the article and an explanation of the practical significance of the article for your ministry. **DUE: First class meeting.**
- B. You will also read Thomas Hale's *On Being a Missionary*. Read the book at the beginning of the semester and write a reaction paper that is creative and insightful, not merely a summary of what you have read. Your focus should be on the practical application of Hale's book to your own ministry. How has this book helped you? Changed your perspective/thinking? Caused you to change? Etc. **DUE: First class meeting.**
- C. Each student will read Roland Allen's *Missionary Methods: St. Paul's or Ours?* and submit a review of the book. This assignment will be prepared according to the guidelines for book reviews found in this syllabus. For any issues not addressed in the guidelines contained in this syllabus students will follow the instructions found in the *Southern Seminary Manual of Style*, which is available in the LifeWay Christian Bookstore located in the Honeycutt Center. **DUE: First class meeting.**
- D. Final Exam: Based on the lecture material. **DATE: End of the course.**

NOTE: Typically, this course is taught on a two-week schedule (similar to a January term course). The present syllabus assumes such a schedule. If the course is offered on a different timetable, necessary adjustments will be made in the syllabus.

IV. Grading

Scale: A = 95-100	<i>Perspectives</i> interactions	25%
B = 87-94	Reaction to Hale	25%
C = 77-86	Review of Allen	25%
D = 70-76	Final Exam	25%

V. Textbooks

- Allen, Roland. *Missionary Methods: St. Paul's or Ours?* Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1992. ISBN 0-8028-1001-2.
- Hale, Thomas. *On Being a Missionary*. Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 1995. ISBN 0-87808-255-7.
- Winter, Ralph D. and Steven C. Hawthorne, eds. *Perspectives on the World Christian Movement: A Reader*, rev. ed. Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 1999. ISBN 0-87808-290-5.

VI. Outline of Class Topics

(with assigned articles from *Perspectives*)

I. PRINCIPLES

A. Background

1. Introduction and definitions
2. Biblical background
 - George Elton Ladd, "The Gospel of the Kingdom"
 - Robertson McQuilkin, "Lost"
3. Historical background
 - Ralph D. Winter, "The Kingdom Strikes Back: Ten Epochs of Redemptive History"
4. Present context
 - Ralph Winter, "The New Macedonia: A Revolutionary New Era in Missions Begins"
 - Ralph Winter, "World Mission Survey"

B. The Missionary

1. The call to missions
 - J. Hudson Taylor, "The Call to Service"
2. Qualifications
3. The appointment
4. Types of appointment

II. PRACTICE

A. Missionary Life

1. Culture shock and culture
 - Paul Hiebert, "Cultural Differences and the Communication of the Gospel"
 - Charles Kraft, "Culture, Worldview and Contextualization"
 - Paul Hiebert, "The Flaw of the Excluded Middle"
2. Language learning

3. Personal life
 4. Family life
 - Ralph D. Winter, “Reconsecration to a Wartime, Not a Peacetime Lifestyle”
 5. Children on the mission field
 6. Relationships outside the family
 - E. Thomas and Elizabeth S. Brewster, “The Difference Bonding Makes”
 - William D. Reyburn, “Identification in the Missionary Task”
- B. Missionary Work
1. Missions methodology (an introduction)
 - Donald A. McGavran, “The Bridges of God”
 - C. Peter Wagner, “On the Cutting Edge of Mission Strategy”
 2. Types of work
 3. Financial support
 4. Change agents
 - Kietzman and Smalley, “The Missionary’s Role in Culture Change”
 5. World A & the 10/40 Window
 - Ralph Winter & Bruce A. Koch, “Finishing the Task: The Unreached Peoples Challenge”
 6. Church planting
 - George Patterson, “The Spontaneous Multiplication of Churches”
 7. Chronological storying
 - Tom A. Steffen, “Why Communicate the Gospel Through Stories?”
 8. Music ethnology
 9. Theological education
 10. Missions support in the local church
 - George Miley, “The Awesome Potential for Mission Found in Local Churches”
 11. Volunteers in missions
 - Larry Keyes, “A Global Harvest Force”
 12. Globalization of missions
 - Phillip Butler, “The Power of Partnership”

GUIDELINES FOR THE BOOK REVIEWS

Course name & number (NO COVER PAGE!)

Professor's name

Student's name

Date of assignment

Full bibliographical information (see the following example)

Olson, C. Gordon. *What in the World is God Doing?* Cedar Knolls, NJ: Global Gospel Publishers, 1994, 327 pp.

In addition to the above information, the review will be comprised of three other sections:

Biographical and historical information

The student will provide a biographical sketch of the author and a description and evaluation of the historical period in which he lived. No book is written in an historical vacuum. Especially in regard to theological and missiological works, they typically are written in response to events or prevalent opinions in the author's day. Issues of the day that are relevant to the book should be discussed. It is expected that this section will be brief, perhaps less than one page.

Summary of the book

This should be no longer than 2-3 pages.

Critical analysis

Typically, this section will be no longer than 3-4 pages. The following are some matters to look for (the list is not exhaustive). You may use several of these, but generally one or two are fully developed:

1. Author's themes
2. Author's assumptions (stated and hidden)
3. Reasoning errors
4. Strengths and weaknesses
5. Critical variables that shape the author's argument

HELPFUL HINTS:

1. Outline your work before you begin
2. Use argument, not opinion (support your argument)
3. Document your positions
4. Conclude something

NOTE: You are encouraged to be completely honest in your critique of the book. Your

grade will not depend on whether or not you agree with the professor's assessment of the book. Rather, you will be graded on the clarity and strength of your presentation.

STYLE GUIDELINES:

- 1) The five to seven page review must be typed on 8.5 X 11 standard typing paper, using a size 12 font. Neatness will be considered in assigning a grade for the review.
- 2) The composition must be double-spaced throughout.
- 3) On the seminary level students are expected to be able to write correctly, meaning that spelling, grammar and punctuation will be considered in grading the assignment.
- 4) Other matters related to form and style must be done in accordance with the guidelines in Kate Turabian's *A Manual for Writers*, 6th edition and the latest SBTS style guide.

ARTICLE INTERACTION FORM
Principles and Practice of Missions

Name _____ Date _____

Title of Article _____

Author _____

Your evaluation: [1 (lowest) - 10 (highest)] _____

SUMMARY:

What new insights have you gained from reading this article? (Do as many as fit you.)

1.

2.

3.

How can these new insights be applied to your own life and ministry? (Do as many as fit you.)

1.

2.

3.

Are there issues raised in the article, which you would like to be discussed in class?

33410 Language Learning for Missionaries
Dr. David Sills

Course Description

This course is a specialized course for students involved in the Master of Divinity in Missions with Emphasis in International Church Planting. The course will be field-based, that is, the course will be taught on an international mission field. The course of study will be supervised by a member of the missions department, but the actual teaching will be provided by missionaries and nationals designated by the International Mission Board. The purpose of the course is to teach the church planter interns to speak at a basic level in their target culture.

General Learning Objectives

1. The students will come to appreciate the importance of language learning for the missionary task.
2. The students will dedicate themselves to becoming lifelong language learners.
3. The students will appreciate the beauty and functionality of other languages.
4. The students will understand more fully that language is the key to acculturation.
5. The students will understand that language learning is one key to identification with, and acceptance by, the people of their target culture.

Specific Learning Objectives

1. 2+2 students will achieve a basic level of proficiency in the target language. 2+3 students are expected to achieve full proficiency as specified for career missionaries.
2. The students will successfully complete the language-learning program specified by their language-learning supervisor on the field.

Methods of Instruction

1. Assigned Readings
2. Field Trips
3. Tutoring by a Native Speaker
4. Daily Practice and Pattern Drills
5. Immersion experiences

Course Requirements

1. Complete the language learning requirements established by the International Mission Board. The language requirements for ISC students (2+2) and Apprentice (2+3) differ considerably. Typically, ISC students will be engaged in full-time language study during their first semester, whereas Apprentice students likely will spend their entire first year in language study.
2. Submit a report prepared by the mission's language learning supervisor evaluating your achievement in learning the language. This report may take any form that the

supervisor wishes to use. A five level language assessment form, which has been used and may be adapted as needed, is attached. Whatever format is employed, your language-learning supervisor should submit a report at the end of each semester of language study (one report for ISC students, two reports for Apprentice students). Also, submit a tape recording of your final oral examination.

Grading

The semester grade will be calculated on the report from the Language/Cultural Acquisition Supervisor on the field.

A = 95-100

B = 87-94

C = 77-86

D = 70-76

Communication

Students can communicate with Dr. Sills in several ways. His e-mail address is dsills@sbts.edu. His fax number is 502-897-4042. His telephone number is 502-897-4324.

Disclaimer

This syllabus is intended to reflect accurately the course description, content outline, objectives, grading scale, attendance requirements, and other information necessary for students to appraise the course. However, during the course of the term the professor reserves the right to modify any portion of this syllabus as may appear necessary because of events and circumstances that change during the semester.

Language: _____ Supervisor: _____ Date Started: _____

M. Div. In International Church Planting
Southern Baptist Theological Seminary
Language Acquisition Evaluation

Student: _____ Deployment Location: _____

Aim: Students are expected to begin the process of mastering the appropriate host or field language during their two/three years of service. The student is responsible for establishing a learning contract with the designated language supervisor. Due to probable limited formal exposure to the host language, progress is to be made via "barefoot language learning" models at fair and reasonable rates. This is to guide the language supervisor in assessing a PASS/FAIL grade. At the end of the formal language study period, please send your assessment to the address indicated.

Language Assessment:

0 -- No functional use of host language

1 = Introductory level acquisition (100 or more word vocabulary)

Student can initiate simple conversations using greetings and leave takings to close conversations, order from a menu, ask for a hotel room, ask and tell time, day of the week, month and date. Student can negotiate travel, ask and give simple directions and use enough language for market shopping. Student can make a social introduction of someone else and give a brief speech to introduce himself. Student can understand and correctly respond to questions about his marital status, nationality, occupation, age and place of birth.

2 = Intermediate level acquisition (500 or more word vocabulary)

Student can give information about the weather, family, home, housing, give and take simple telephone messages, share a brief autobiography and work plans, in simple detail describe his work, purpose and function of his organization and role as a language learner. Student can discuss politics and geography of both his home country and host country. Student can use his new language to negotiate the intelligible pronunciation and can be understood by most native speakers.

3 = Advanced level acquisition (1500 or more word vocabulary)

Student does not try to avoid any grammatical feature of the language and can complete any sentence that the student begins in conversation with a normal rate of speech. Student can actively engage in conversation between native speakers on topics of common interest and take accurate notes of professional subjects. Student can understand two or more native speakers talking with each other about a current event or issue. Student is able to correctly

understand any information given to him over the telephone. Student can understand opposing points of view and can politely describe or defend an organizational position. Student feels that he can carry out the professional responsibilities of his work in his new language.

4 = Mastery level acquisition (2500 or more word vocabulary)

Student rarely makes grammatical mistakes and can always understand native speakers when they talk with each other. Student can understand humor and actively participate in fun, language puns and humorous situations. His vocabulary is extensive and exact in meaning for professional discussions. Student can appropriately alter his speech for public speaking, with an employee or a close friend. Student feels that he could effectively carry out any job assignment as effectively in his second language as in English.

5 -- Fluency level acquisition (completely functional vocabulary)

Native speaker level with bilingual and bicultural ability equivalent to English, using a second language.

Final Progress Assessment

Date: _____

Based on my assessment, this student has achieved level _____ proficiency in the above named language and should be assigned a _____ (pass or fail) grade.

Signature
Language Supervisor

Please fax or mail this form to:

Dr. David Sills
Southern Baptist Theological Seminary
2825 Lexington Road
Louisville, KY 40280 USA
FAX: 502-897-4042
Email: dsills@sbts.edu

33420 Cultural Acquisition for Missionaries
Dr. David Sills

Course Description

This course is a specialized course for students involved in the Master of Divinity in Missions with Emphasis in International Church Planting. The course will be field-based; that is, the course will be taught on an international mission field. The course of study will be supervised by a member of the missions department, but the actual teaching will be provided by missionaries and nationals designated by the International Mission Board. The purpose of the course is to teach the church planter interns to function appropriately in their target culture.

General Learning Objectives

1. The students will appreciate the importance of acculturation for the missionary task.
2. The students commit themselves to learning their new culture.
3. The students will come to appreciate the positive elements in their target culture.
4. The students will learn how to cope with culture shock.
5. The students will gain insights into their own culture and worldview.
6. The students will make significant progress toward becoming bicultural.

Specific Learning Objectives

1. The students will be able to explain the key cultural traits in their adopted culture.
2. The students will be able to explain the history and development of their adopted culture.
3. The students will be able to describe the role and status of missionaries in their adopted culture.
4. The students will be able to explain the religious environment in their new culture.
5. The students will be able to describe the worldview of their target culture.

Methods of Instruction

1. Assigned Readings
2. Field Trips
3. Interviews with nationals, missionaries, and anthropologists
4. Audio-visual presentations
5. Immersion experiences

Course Requirements

1. Prepare book reports on the assigned textbooks. These reports should be typed and written according to the guide provided by the instructor.
2. Prepare an ethnography of the culture. This ethnography will include information on geography, ethnic groups, linguistic groups, cultural influences, social values, kinship groupings, alliances, community organization, social stratification, religious groups, government, economies, and population figures. This paper should be typed and prepared

according to the seminary style manual. This ethnography and the book reports are due during the final week of the semester.

Grading

The semester grade will be calculated on this basis:

33%	Book Reports	A = 95-100
33%	Ethnography	B = 87-94
34%	Report from the Language/Cultural Acquisition Supervisor on the field.	C = 77-86 D = 70-76

Communication

Students can communicate with Dr. Sills in several ways. His e-mail address is dsills@sbts.edu. His fax number is 502-897-4042. His telephone number is 502-897-4324.

Textbooks

The textbooks for this course are:

Lanier, Sarah A. *Foreign to Familiar: A guide to understanding hot- and cold-climate cultures*. Hagerstown, MD: MacDougal Publishing, 2000.

Sherwood G. Lingenfelter, *Ministering Cross-Culturally, 2nd Edition*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 2003.

Myron Loss, *Culture Shock*.

Craig Storti, *The Art of Crossing Cultures*.

Disclaimer

This syllabus is intended to reflect accurately the course description, content outline, objectives, grading scale, attendance requirements, and other information necessary for students to appraise the course. However, during the course of the term the professor reserves the right to modify any portion of this syllabus as may appear necessary because of events and circumstances that change during the semester.

33830 Cross Cultural Church Planting
Professor: TBA

Course Description

This course is a study of church planting in intercultural contexts. The course will introduce the students to the anthropological, sociological, and missiological factors that affect church planting across cultures. Students will also be exposed to resources that aid church planters in their work.

General Learning Objectives

1. The students will understand the importance of church planting in missions, evangelism, and denominational vitality.
2. The students will be encouraged to commit themselves to planting new churches in present or future fields of service.
3. The students will appreciate the value of cooperation in church planting projects.
4. The students will come to appreciate the value of anthropology in understanding their target audience.
5. The students will appreciate the value of sociological research in preparation for church planting.
6. The students will understand the biblical mandate for planting new churches cross-culturally.

Specific Learning Objectives

1. The students will be able to list the models of church planting presented in the course and write a brief description of each.
2. The students will be able to draw a diagram that explains the process of cross-cultural communication.
3. The students will be able to list and explain the six characteristics of an indigenous church.
4. The students will be able to draw and explain a diagram showing the types of church leaders a healthy church requires.
5. The students will be able to list the characteristics of an effective church planter.
6. The students will be able to list the steps involved in creating a sociological profile of their target community.
7. The students will be able to list the phases of the relationship of a church planter to an indigenous church.
8. The students will be able to list and explain the ten steps in the Pauline cycle of church planting according to Hesselgrave.

Methods of Instruction

1. Lectures
2. Class Discussion
3. Audio-visual presentations
4. Guest speakers

Course Requirements

1. Tests. Students will be required to take both tests given during the semester. The tests will cover the two textbooks plus designated material from class presentations. A study guide will be provided for each test. The first test will cover Hiebert's book, and the second Hesselgrave's.
2. Research paper. Each student will be required to submit a research paper in which the student will set forth a plan for planting churches in a specific ethnolinguistic group. This paper must be at least twenty pages in length (double-spaced) and prepared according to the Turabian style manual. The paper should contain these features: a description of the people group's location, history, and culture; an explanation of their religious orientation and worldview; a description of the status of Christianity in that group; and a projected strategy for planting and developing churches in that people group. This paper is due on _____.

Note: Late assignments will be assessed a penalty of one point per day. Failure to complete any one of the major course requirements will result in a grade of "I" which eventually becomes a failing grade according to the specifications of the seminary catalog.

Tests and Grading

1. Examinations. There will be two major tests: one over each of the two textbooks. A study guide will be provided for each test by the professor.
2. Grading. The semester grade will be calculated according to this formula:

33% first test	A = 95-100
33% second test	B = 87-94
34% research paper	C = 77-86
	D = 70-76
3. Questions about grading should be directed first to the Garrett Fellow. If the Garrett Fellow cannot resolve the problem, the student should consult the professor.

Textbooks

The textbooks for this course are:

Paul G. Hiebert, *Anthropological Insights for Missionaries* (Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1985).

David Hesselgrave, *Planting Churches Cross-culturally* (Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1980).

Attendance

Students are expected to attend all class sessions. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class. Any student who misses more than 25% of the class meetings will lose credit for the course. Students should also avoid being tardy. Three tardies count as one absence.

Disclaimer

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Special Needs

In order to ensure full class participation, any student with a disabling condition requiring special accommodations (e.g., tape recorders, special adaptive equipment, special note taking, or test-taking needs), is strongly encouraged to contact the professor at the beginning of the course.

Course Schedule

Syllabus

Necessity of Church Planting
Church Planting in the N.T.
Obstacles to Church Planting
Understanding the Target Culture
Communicating with the Target Audience
Surveying the Target Community/Group
Models of Church Planting
Selecting a Church Planting Model
Preparing a Church Planting Plan
Church Planting Techniques
Mid-term Examination
Developing--the New Church
Developing Church Leaders
Constituting the New Church
Transition to Local Leadership
Final Examination

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Church Planting

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***33120 Area Study in Christian Missions: Southeast Asia**

*From the following list, students in areas other than Southeast Asia will register for the course appropriate to their assignment. Any reference to Southeast Asia in this syllabus will be understood to refer to the area that is relevant to you.

33130 Area Study in Christian Missions: Europe

33140 Area Study in Christian Missions: Africa

33150 Area Study in Christian Missions (all others)

Course Description

This is a course devoted to the study of missions in Southeast Asia with special emphasis on Southern Baptist Missions. The students will be exposed to materials related to the past, present, and future of missions in Southeast Asia.

General Learning Objectives

The students will:

1. Appreciate the efforts of missionaries who have labored in the past.
2. Understand the unique characteristics of missions in SE Asia.
3. Contextualize missions strategy for the situation in their particular location in SE Asia.
4. Commit themselves to doing missions in their location.

Specific Learning Objectives

The students will be able to:

1. List the eras of church history in SE Asia.
2. Explain how Protestant missions developed.
3. List opportunities and obstacles to missions.
4. List and describe the major religious groups.
5. Articulate a missions strategy for the future.

Course Requirements

1. Each student, with approval from the professor, will choose one book to read during the semester. This book must focus on some aspect(s) of mission work (culture, language, social systems, etc.) that is directly related to the student's assignment. Prepare a five-page book report, which will be due in the middle of the semester.
2. Prepare a paper on the history of mission work in the area or among the people group where you will be serving. A substantial amount of the material used for this paper might be gathered through interviews and contacts on the field. Due by the last week of the semester.

3. Prepare a reflection paper that describes what you experienced and what you learned during your time in Southeast Asia. Also due by the last week of the semester.

Grading

The term grade will be calculated on the following basis:

33%	First book report	A = 95-100
33%	History of missions paper	B = 87-94
34%	Reflection Paper	C = 77-86
		D = 70-76

Textbooks

The student with approval of the professor will choose the textbook for this course.

Disclaimer

This syllabus is intended to reflect accurately the course description, content outline, objective, grading scale, attendance requirements, and other information necessary for students to appraise the course. However, during the course of the term the professor reserves the right to modify any portion of this syllabus as may appear necessary because of events and circumstances that change during the semester.

***44945: Applied Ministry: Missions**

Campus Supervisor: _____

Field Supervisor: _____

Course Description: This course is designed to give students ministry experience while providing supervision and reflection. This particular AM utilizes as a major component of learning a supervised cross-cultural missions experience under the direction of a professor and a field supervisor.

Course Objectives: Students who have completed this course will:

1. Have gained valuable experience in ministry within a missiological setting.
2. Be more familiar with the theology and practice of missions.
3. Have learned how to work with others in cooperative ministry.
4. Have learned how to be a more productive servant of Christ through appropriate reflection and reading.

Course Texts:

First semester

A Missionary Biography from the list below:

- Olson, Bruce. *Bruchko*. YWAM Publishing, 2005.
- Elliot, Jim. *The Journals of Jim Elliot*. Edited by Elisabeth Elliot. New ed. Revell, 2002.
- George, Timothy. *Faithful Witness*. Vision Video, 1998.
- Hudson, Taylor. *Hudson Taylor*. 2nd ed. Bethany House Publishers, 1987.
- Hunt, Rosalie Hall. *Bless God and Take Courage: The Judson History And Legacy*. Judson Press, 2005.

Hesselgrave, David. *Paradigms in Conflict: 10 Key Questions in Christian Missions Today*. Kregel Publications, 2006.

Applied Ministry Manual.

Course Requirements:

1. You will read the required text and write a five to seven page review of the book. Book reviews should follow Seminary style. The review is due at the end of the semester.

2. You will turn in all required AM forms to their respective AM office. Please route these forms through your professor, who will check them and take them to the AM office. All the forms are located in the *Applied Ministry Manual*, which can be purchased in the bookstore.
3. Keep a learning journal throughout the semester and submit it to the professor at the end of the semester.
4. Complete the reflection form that is provided with this syllabus. Submit this completed form to the professor at the end of the semester.

Evaluation/Grading:

Book Review	25%
Completed AM forms	25%
Journal	25%
Reflection Report Form	25%

Disclaimer: This syllabus is intended to reflect accurately the course description, course objectives, general content, course requirements, grading criteria, attendance requirements and other information necessary for students to appraise the course. However, the professor reserves the right to modify any portion of this syllabus as necessary because of events and circumstances that change during the term.

7. FIELD MENTORSHIP

Normally, your field contact person and your mentor on the field will be the same person. Prior to your deployment as an ISC or Apprentice appointee, your field mentor will be determined and you and the 2+2/3 director will have already established communication with him/her on a regular basis. Because each assignment differs somewhat, the mentoring relationship and responsibilities will be fine-tuned to your specific needs and those of the assignment.

However, generally, your field supervisor/mentor will be your primary resource person on the field (refer to “Supervision,” page 14 of this manual). Decisions regarding classes to be completed on the field, special IMB training, language study, ministry assignments, etc. will always be made in consultation with your mentor.

A copy of this manual will be provided to your mentor along with additional materials as needed. As mentors have guided and worked with our 2+2 and 2+3 students in the past, a number of forms and guides have been helpful to those mentors in fashioning assignments and evaluating students and their work. These materials are included below, and may be used and adapted as needed or desired by your mentor.

M.DIV. IN INTERNATIONAL CHURCH PLANTING
Church Planting Practica
SUGGESTED AGENDA FOR SUPERVISORY CONFERENCES
(Use as basis for regulating learning experiences in each of the AMs)

- Week 1 Get Acquainted Session As a means of getting started, they may share parts of their own "stories."
Begin Developing the Learning Covenant The student presents tentative church planting strategies in this session for accomplishing set objectives.
- Week 2 Complete the Learning Covenant The final form of the Learning Covenant should be completed, signed by both student and supervisor, and used for reference throughout the practicum period. Post one copy to SBTS.
- Week 3 Open Session The focus of these sessions is the personal development of the student as a church planter. The student normally provides the agenda for the discussion by raising the issues and/or strategic problems being encountered in implementing set objectives, but the field supervisor may raise issues that need attention.
- Week 4 First Progress Paper The first performance assessment paper will be discussed at this session. The supervisor will lead the student to explore additional information from four sources (student's background assumptions, biblical church planting principles, cross-cultural experiences, and applications). The aim is to compare and contrast these areas of concern to enhance the student's ability to transfer effectively biblical models to the target context without unnecessary ethnocentric tendencies.
- Week 5 Open Session
- Week 6 Open Session
- Week 7 Open Session
- Week 8 Second Progress Assessment Paper
- Week 9 Open Session
- Week 10 Open Session
- Week 11 Open Session
- Week 12 Third Progress Assessment Paper
- Week 13 Open Session
- Week 14 Open Session
- Week 15 Open Session
- Week 16 Final Evaluation Final evaluation will be shared by both the student and the supervisor. The purpose of the evaluation is to provide accurate, honest feedback within the context of a supportive relationship,

NOTE: (in addition to meeting regularly with your supervisor, you should schedule regular "brainstorming" sessions with others that are posted near you. Compare and contrast strategies, successes, and problems. Learn from each other.)

How To Prepare A Learning Covenant

I. Definition: A Learning Covenant is an agreement between a student and a supervisor on mutually agreed goals and how they are to be reached.

II. Why Using Learning Covenants is Important.

Learning Covenants are useful in supervised learning experiences because they establish a relationship within which intentional learning can take place, and because they provide lasting benefits for the student throughout the semester. The Learning Covenant should help in the following ways:

1. Contracting should involve both the student and the supervisor in the learning process in such a way that they begin to build a trust/risk relationship. The Covenant can function as a means of bringing the expectations of each to the surface for discussion. It may also, therefore, serve as a means for detecting latent conflict between the intern and the supervisor. If so, the two begin to develop communications skills that can prevent problems later on.

2. It Promotes the Negotiation of Intentional Learning Activities.

Negotiation is crucial to the development of healthy relationships, and intentionality enables the church planter to develop a proactive rather than a reactive approach to church planting.

3. It Serves as an Instrument to Measure Growth.

The Learning Covenant helps the student to establish where he is at the beginning of the semester. If it is properly prepared, it causes the student to give some thought to his strengths, weaknesses, needs and hopes at that point in time. It also establishes some criteria by which the student can evaluate the degree of progress by achieving objectives by the end of the term.

III. Preparation of the Learning Covenant

1. Things to do before drawing up the covenant.

- a. Assess where you believe yourself to be at this point in your cross-cultural church-planting venture.
- b. List what your important needs for personal and professional development are at this point.
- c. Prioritize those needs and look at the factors that you think have motivated you to determine your priorities in this way.
- d. Try to take a good, long look at where you are assigned to work during your ISC tenure, and think about the contribution you can make there.

2. Things to do when you begin writing the covenant
 - a. Put some ideas on paper concerning what you hope to accomplish in this segment of your church planting experience before you meet with your supervisor to work on you Covenant. Most supervisors prefer that you have done some thinking about your objectives, methods for achieving them, and criteria for evaluating them before you come for the supervisory conference to draft the covenant.
 - b. Go to this conference, however, with the understanding that the covenant is a joint effort between the two of you. Do not present the covenant to the supervisor as a finished document for his signature, but remain open to suggested changes by the supervisor. The supervisor should be made to feel free to suggest alterations in the objectives and in the methods that you have chosen. Throughout the practicum the student should allow the supervisor to assume a prescriptive role to help the student "troubleshoot" problems being encountered (Notice this assumes you will encounter problems).
 - c. "General Expectations of Supervisory Relationship." Provides an opportunity for both of you to spell out the ground rules by which you are going to be working with each other for the semester.

Examples of the Supervisor's Expectations

"Let's agree on an attitude of respect for each other and the possibility of developing a lasting friendship."

"I expect you to be on time for our conferences."

Examples of the Student's Expectations-

"I ask that you will be open and honest in sharing your observations with me as I seek to identify my weaknesses and strengths for ministry."

"I will count on your prayers for me, and your frank counsel as I pursue the goals we have agreed on."

- d. "Regular time for supervisory conferences."

Under this heading set a definite time for your regular meetings. If you try to negotiate your conference times on an ad hoc basis, they will likely be irregular and ineffective. It is unwise to do so.

- e. "Student's overall grades for this experience"

IV. Use of the Learning Covenant

The usefulness of the learning covenant has just begun when it is completed, and signed by the student and supervisor. Its preparation should be greatly beneficial to you, but its use throughout the semester should be even more beneficial as your guide to things you want to accomplish.

The supervisor and student should review the learning covenant in each supervisory conference and evaluate the progress being made in reaching the objectives.

Do not hesitate completing the covenant because you fear being locked into an objective that may prove inadvisable later due to changing factors involved. If you think that you need to amend the covenant during the semester, turn it over and write the date and the change that you and the supervisor agree to make. The amendment can refer to any part of the covenant and will serve to indicate its true nature as a tool for learning.

DEVELOPING LEADERS FOR NEW CHURCHES

1. Make leadership development a priority. After all, you will have to turn over this congregation to a pastor in the future. Begin to plan for that from the first. In other words, begin your church planting work with your goal in view.
2. Pray and ask God to show you which people to invest your life in. Jesus spent the night praying before he selected his 12 disciples.
3. Look for people with these four qualities:

People with a searching mind
People with a humble heart
People with an evident spiritual gift
People with a faithful spirit. (Ray Stedman)

4. Give your disciple appropriate training and opportunities to grow. Delegate responsibilities when the disciple(s) are ready. Follow the example of on the job training modeled by Jesus:

Step 1: I do--you watch.
Step 2: I do--you help.
Step 3: You do--I help.
Step 4: You do--I watch.
Step 5: You do--someone else watches.

5. Remember this blueprint for successful coaching:

Listen actively
Celebrate wins
Care personally
Strategize plans
Skill training
Develop character
Challenge specifically
(Steve Ogne and Tom Nebel, *Empowering Leaders Through Coaching*, Churchmart)

Source for above material: Robert E. Logan, "Geese or Golden Eggs," *Global Church Growth*, 32:2 (April-June 1995) : 8-9.

M.DIV. IN INTERNATIONAL CHURCH PLANTING
SUPERVISED CHURCH PLANTING PRACTICUM #(1, 2, or 3) _____
(Indicate which one)

SUPERVISOR'S FINAL EVALUATION

STUDENT _____ FIELD SITE (CITY) _____

Supervisor: _____

Semester: Fall/Spring Year _____
(Circle One)

How do you rate your student's church planting performance? Please complete this form and return it to SBTS as soon as possible.

CHURCH PLANTING OBJECTIVE #1:

F D- D D+ C- C C+ B- B B+ A- A A+
Circle One

COMMENTS:

CHURCH PLANTING OBJECTIVE #2:

F D- D D+ C- C C+ B- B B+ A- A A+
Circle One

COMMENTS:

CHURCH PLANTING OBJECTIVE #3:

F D- D D+ C- C C+ B- B B+ A- A A+
Circle One

COMMENTS:

CHURCH PLANTING OBJECTIVE #4:

F D- D D+ C- C C+ B- B B+ A- A A+
Circle One

COMMENTS:

8. MEMOS AND CORRESPONDENCE

Insert and save here all pertinent memos and correspondence concerning your participation in the 2+2 or 2+3 program.

9. MISCELLANEOUS

Included here are information sheets, documents, etc. that have been collected from various sources. Refer to these as needed. Also, this is a good place to save additional materials that you will come across from time to time, which might be useful at a later date.

How to Register

Following is a step-by-step guide to registering for classes while you are in the field.

General Guidelines:

- You are responsible for communicating with the seminary and for making your needs known.
- All communication necessary for registration will be between you and the Registrar, Kim Atchley.
- You must have a "Course Study Plan" on file in the Registrar's office (**You are responsible to see that this plan is submitted to the Registrar.**). The "Course Study Plan" is the schedule of classes that you will take while on the field that you worked out with Dr. Martin before your deployment.
- If you want to drop a class or alter your schedule, you must notify both the Registrar's office and the 2+2/3 director in writing (mail or email) before the midpoint of the term or semester.

When you're ready to register:

Step # 1: At least two weeks before the beginning date of the semester, notify the Registrar in writing of the course(s) you want to take. The preferred method of notification is via E-mail. Norm Chung's E-mail address is nchung@sbts.edu. The mailing address is:

Office of the Registrar
Southern Baptist Theological Seminary
2825 Lexington Road
Louisville, Kentucky 40280

The fax number is 502-897-4814.

Step # 2: By the time you provide the Registrar with the written notification described in Step # 1, you must have already paid for the class. Include in your notification a statement that confirms when and how payment was made. You may make payment in any of the following ways:

1. Send a check in advance to Accounting Services (at the street address provided above),
2. Have someone else send a check for payment to Accounting Services,

3. Provide credit card information and authorization to Accounting Services either by mail or by telephone (502-897-4011),
4. Arrange to have someone pay for you in person at the office of Accounting Services.

Your registration request must include a statement of how and when payment was, or will be, made.

Step # 3: If you want the Registrar's office to provide you a confirmation of registration via E-mail, include that request in your registration notification. Registration cannot be confirmed until payment has been received by Accounting Services.

Information for 2+2 students regarding graduation

Intent to Graduate

An intent to graduate form (card) must be submitted to the Academic Services office by September 15 or February 15 of the semester you plan to graduate. The intent to graduate form can be faxed or sent by e-mail. Students serving in sensitive areas should be proactive and contact the Office of Academic Services regarding your anticipated graduation date. Please contact the Director of Academic Counseling, who is responsible for maintaining the list of graduates, at rwilliams@sbts.edu.

Graduation Options

Some 2+2 students choose to graduate in absentia. When a student chooses not to attend graduation, his diploma will be mailed to him the week following the graduation ceremony. Diplomas are shipped certified mail to ensure safe arrival. Please notify Academic Services of the address to which the diploma should be sent. A relative's address is acceptable; but be aware that when you submit an address other than your own, you will be responsible for retrieving the diploma from the person to whom you asked the seminary to ship it.

Some students postpone their graduation so that they can return to the States and participate in commencement exercises. If you choose to delay your graduation, please notify the Academic Services office of your plans. Contact the office to change your anticipated graduation date and/or to request an intent to graduate form. Also communicate directly with the Student Services office early in the semester you plan to graduate regarding invitations, class rings, and the picture composite. The e-mail address for the Office of Student Services is studentservices@sbts.edu.

Approval to Graduate

Students must be approved by the Office of Academic Services, the faculty, Accounting Services, and the library to graduate from Southern Seminary. Degree requirements are audited in Academic Services and the list of approved students is submitted to the faculty for their approval. All fees due the seminary, including the graduation fee, must be paid prior to graduation. The Accounting Services office will contact you if their records show you have any outstanding balance on your student account. All books must be returned to the library, and all fines for lost or overdue books must be paid prior to graduation.

Graduation Activities

The dates for graduation activities can be found on the seminary website. The academic calendar includes the graduation dates for the current academic year. Graduation activities begin with rehearsal at 10:00 a.m. Thursday, the day before commencement. Attendance at rehearsal is required.

Academic apparel is distributed on Monday and Tuesday of graduation week. For those students who are unable to pick it up at that time, apparel will be distributed in Norton 250, the Academic Services office, following rehearsal. Any changes in the location will be announced at rehearsal.

A reception for all graduates is held Thursday afternoon at the President's home. Information regarding the reception can be obtained from Student Services.

Commencement begins at 10:00 a.m. on Friday. Graduates should begin assembling at 9:15 a.m. in Norton 195. Academic Services staff will be available to help adjust academic apparel, if that is needed, and to answer any questions.

Guests can be seated in the chapel as early as 8:30 a.m. Currently no limits are placed on the number of guests each graduate may invite to the ceremony.

Free Transcript

Students who attend graduation rehearsal are given the opportunity to fill out a request for a free transcript. The transcript, which will be stamped "Issued to Student," will be mailed to the address specified approximately six weeks after graduation. If you are unable to participate in graduation activities, please contact the registrar to request a free transcript.

