

CROSS-CULTURAL COMMUNICATIONS COURSE CURRICULUM

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Modules

Classroom Hours

Bible Translation Principles.....	21
Child Protection.....	2

Christian Life Modules

-Chapel/Prayer.....	2½ hrs every week
-Christian Life.....	27
-My Rights My God.....	5
-Practical Programme.....	9 hrs every week
-Spiritual Conflict.....	10

Church Planting Modules

-Contextualisation.....	5
-Continuing Church.....	24
-New Testament Church Principles.....	21
-Teaching Chronologically (from Creation to Christ).....	20

Crisis Management.....	21
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Cross-Cultural Modules

-Animism.....	12
-Cultural Anthropology.....	29
-Ministering Cross Culturally.....	8

Culture-Language Acquisition/Mission Simulation (CLA)....	8 weeks
CLA Local	(Course-long project)
Dorm Parenting.....	2
Emotional and Spiritual Health.....	17
Home Assignment.....	13

Family Relationships/Singles

-Husband/Wife Relationships..... 8
-Parent/Child Relationships.....6
-Singles.....3

Field Orientation16

Islam3

Language/Linguistics Methodology

-Grammar38
-Phonemics.....20
-Phonetics51

Leadership Skills.....5

Literacy28

Medical Matters.....25

MK Care and Education2

Outdoor Survival Training.....4 days

Photography.....3

Preaching and Teaching Skills.....7

Practical Technology.....36

Re-entry5

Teamwork15

Time Management4

Description of Modules

Bible Translation Principles

This introductory course aims to provide the student with a basis for further study of the principles of Bible translation. By the end of the module they will be able to describe the purpose of language as well as the difference between form and meaning. The student will be able to recognise different translation styles and have an increased understanding of how the problems encountered can be overcome to produce an accurate, clear and natural translation of Scripture.

Child Protection

This module aims to define child abuse and raise the student's awareness of its different forms. We also look at the major areas of abuse, how to recognise and handle it. We talk about how to put in measures that can help prevent abuse from taking place.

Christian Life Modules

- Chapel/Prayer

Chapel and prayer times are shared with the whole student body each week. The purpose of chapel is to focus on the Lord and spend time in worship together. Often overseas missionaries will pass through and share in chapel of their experiences on the field. Students also meet to pray for needs all over the world, including those of missionaries working with NTM on various fields.

- Christian Life

The Christian Life class is a module that begins with a brief look at the Attributes of God to lay a foundation for God-focused thinking that leads to right attitudes and right actions. Students are taken through a series of foundational building blocks that include; the origin of self-focused thinking, Christ and the cross, the believers position in Christ and the ministry of the Holy Spirit in a believer's life.

- "My Rights My God"

After reading this book by Robin Wells the student is encouraged to examine the rights and responsibilities of Christians. More specifically, as full time Christian workers, the student is encouraged to take a hard look at what the Bible says concerning these issues and how it should affect our attitude as God's servants.

-Practical Programme

For three afternoons each week, all students join together in a practical programme in which various tasks are given to assist in the practical running of the campus. Not only does this help to keep school fees at a minimum, but it also provides useful experience in learning to apply Christian life principles at work.

-Spiritual Conflict

The purpose of this unit is to study contemporary teaching on spiritual conflict, and what the Bible teaches concerning its true nature. Topics covered include the various teachings of what is commonly called *spiritual warfare*; a biblical response to those teachings; what the Bible teaches concerning the true nature of spiritual conflict; and how to put into practice Paul's teaching in Ephesians chapter six concerning the Christian and God's armour.

Church Planting Modules

-Contextualisation

During this module the student learns what it means to express the Christian faith in a manner which is both true to Scripture and relevant to the cultural context of the recipients. The goal is to enable the student to understand exactly what contextualisation is, along with its relevance for church planters.

-Continuing Church

Using the chronological approach to Bible teaching the student is taken through the entire process of how to disciple the believers, prepare and appoint church leadership, etc. to the point where the missionary is able to gradually withdraw from the ethnic group and leave them as fully-functioning churches.

-New Testament Church Principles

In this module a basic understanding is given of what the Bible teaches concerning the universal and local church, especially those principles relevant to church planting amongst animistic people groups. The student learns the basic principles concerning the form and function of a local church and how these principles should be applied in the context of an indigenous church.

-Teaching Chronologically ("from Creation to Christ")

The purpose of this unit is to give a thorough practical knowledge of how to teach God's Word chronologically to an unreached people group. The student is taught how to: prepare a lesson; use cultural illustrations; be aware of potential cultural misunderstanding and identify the important truths to be taught in each lesson.

Crisis Management

Social and political upheavals occur in many parts of the world, and the impact upon missions is often acute. In this module students will learn about the potential crises missionaries may encounter, along with necessary precautions to be taken.

Cross Cultural Modules

-Animism

Animism is the religion of many minority people groups. This module covers the general concepts and practices of animism and folk religions. Upon completion of this unit the student will gain an understanding of the animistic worldview, and why a good understanding is essential for working amongst remote people groups.

-Cultural Anthropology

This module provides a methodology for cultural analysis. The student is taught how to: define culture, analyse it and file cultural data in a computer programme. We also learn why a good understanding of culture is essential to cross-cultural evangelism and church planting.

-Ministering Cross-Culturally

The key components in becoming an effective communicator in a cross-cultural context are covered in this module. The student will gain an understanding of how individuals acquire and apply cultural information, how conflicts can often arise in cross-cultural situations, and tools to help one adapt to cultures different from one's own.

Culture and Language Acquisition / Mission Simulation (CLA)

This is a practical module that involves learning a distinct language and its associated culture through applying many of the principles already taught in the course. During this module all students spend several weeks living in a rustic setting in order to acquire basic skills in living without modern conveniences. Upon completion of this module the student will know how to organise their own work in order to systematically learn a previously unwritten language and culture. The student will learn many practical expressions and be able to converse within a few situations in the language they have studied. They will also have gained some insight as to the challenges of life in remote locations without modern conveniences.

CLA Local

CLA Local is culture and language acquisition practiced in the local Lincolnshire culture. This project extends throughout most of the 3C course and involves getting out into the local community, building relationships and learning how people think in the local culture. Data is recorded and analysed using NTM's own software programme, CLAware. The goal is to put into practice some of the principles that will be needed for integration on the field in order to become someone in the culture from whom people are interested to hear the important message we bear.

Dorm Parenting

Many missionaries choose to place their children in a boarding home on the field so they can attend the mission school. This module seeks to give a broad picture of what dorm life is like and what is involved in the ministry of dorm parenting. An open forum takes place for discussing issues related to this subject.

Emotional and Spiritual Health

In the this module the student will discover the many ways in which missionaries can care for themselves emotionally and spiritually as well as help each other in practical ways. Topics such as *listening skills* and how to encourage and support one another in the daily issues of life are emphasised.

Home Assignment

On completion of this module the student will have a good understanding of all aspects of preparation for the field as well as how to present their work to various audiences during home leave times. They will be able to present the Biblical basis for missionary endeavour, and communicate their vision in a manner that stimulates both interest and a burden for the needs of unreached ethnic groups. The student will also learn how to establish and maintain a partnership with interested supporters.

Family Relationships/Singles

-Husband/Wife Relationships

The history of missionary endeavour has shown the tremendous impact a family unit can have in illustrating Christianity at work. This module is designed to equip students with sound biblical principles for family life, particularly in relationship to living in a foreign culture.

-Parent/Child Relationships

This module seeks to provide practical Biblical help for developing sound parent-child relationships that can bring glory to God, both on the mission field and in the home country.

-Singles

Whether we are single or married we each have an important role in the body of Christ and as part of the NTM team. As we consider the blessings and challenges unique to the single life it will equip candidates to consider the implications for serving overseas where many of our teams combine singles and married couples. Understanding one another enables us to treat each other with dignity and be an encouragement to each other.

Field Orientation

This module seeks to provide a broad overview of what is involved in the process of arriving on the mission field. It provides information concerning the necessary adjustments the new missionary will face and a general overview of how mission fields function. The module includes presentations of the various ministries from missionaries who have served on the field.

Islam

Missionaries face particular challenges working amongst Muslims around the world. The purpose of this module is to give a basic introduction to Islam, looking at its history, beliefs and practices. We also consider how to communicate biblical truths in a way that is both clear and challenging.

Language/Linguistics Methodology

-Grammar

This unit introduces grammatical principles and how to analyse language data. The student learns how to break a language down into its constituent parts and to classify the function of each. This is studied in order to understand how the language is put together.

-Phonemics

This unit builds on the knowledge gained in Phonetics and is the science of alphabet formation which includes the process of reducing a language into writing. The student will gain the tools needed to successfully produce an alphabet for literacy and Bible translation.

-Phonetics

Using the IPA (*International Phonetic Alphabet*) phonetic system, this unit teaches the skills involved in writing down all the sounds within any given language. The student will become acquainted at a foundational level with how speech sounds are produced, as well as how to accurately recognise, transcribe and reproduce them. The student will gain an understanding of the mechanisms used in human speech, as well as the different characteristics of consonants and vowels.

Leadership Skills

In this module the student will learn the biblical principles of leadership. The study includes both the personal and spiritual characteristics of a

leader, together with how leadership principles work in everyday life, particularly on the mission field.

Literacy

This course introduces the basic principles and most effective methods of teaching pre-literate people to read. It provides an overview of how to plan and organise a literacy programme and includes a workshop for students to make a sample literacy primer and other teaching aids.

Medical Matters

This course prepares the potential missionary for life in the developing world. The student will learn methods for maintaining good health in the foreign environment. They will also learn how to recognise both common diseases and serious problems. The student will receive guidelines on what to do when medical help is not readily available. The use of reliable existing medical help on the field is, however, strongly recommended.

MK Care and Education

Missionaries' children (MKs) are an important part of the NTM team around the world. How do I prepare my children for the mission field? How do I help my children/teenagers prepare for re-entry and transition? What choices are there for my child's education and how will these choices affect their opportunities for attending college or university in their passport country? The answers you give to these questions and the choices you make not only have an impact on your family but also affect your ministry, your co-workers and the wider NTM family. The course seeks to give help to families as they consider the care and education of their children and to also help singles and marrieds with no children to realise the importance of giving value and encouragement to the children of their co-workers.

Outdoor Survival Training

In this course, the student will acquire basic skills needed to survive outdoors in a remote situation. During this four-day woodlands experience, they will learn from an expert in outdoor survival how to build a shelter from materials found in the forest; light a fire without using matches; collect and filter water and also how to recognise and gather edible wild food.

Photography

This course is designed to give the student tools to enhance their ability to communicate effectively through photography. The student will learn basic tips and helps for composing photos to a higher standard than the average camera user. The second portion of the Photography class will involve learning to manipulate a digital image of a self-portrait to produce a prayer card, including the skills and software available for that purpose.

Preaching and Teaching Skills

Missionaries and missionary candidates are often called upon to speak and preach in churches. The purpose of this module is to give students the necessary skills to prepare and deliver a sermon that is solidly scriptural, inspiring, informative and challenging.

Practical Technology

Living in an isolated setting without electricity or other amenities presents unique challenges. This module is designed to give hands-on instruction on various technical skills such as setting up a solar power electrical system, water filtration models and simple building techniques. The student will see how many of these projects can also be used to help indigenous people in village development.

Re-entry

In this module the student will receive guidance in how to prepare for and successfully negotiate re-entry, (or adjustment to your home culture,) in order to prevent “reverse culture shock”.

Teamwork

In this unit we learn the important basic principles of how to work together with others on a team, particularly in a church planting situation. The student is taught how to: explain the biblical basis of teamwork; understand different team structures and also see the importance of teams having vision, goals and objectives.

Time Management

This class teaches the vital importance of managing one's time effectively, including the 'why' and 'how' of setting goals in a way that glorifies God.