



PAST 314/MINS 408

Cultures, Migration and Faith

Short Course Description

Lecturer: Dr Lynne Taylor

Brief Introduction to the Paper

We are all migrants, or descendants of migrants to Aotearoa New Zealand. At some stage we or our ancestors came to these shores. Perhaps seeking a fresh start or new opportunities. Perhaps fleeing oppression or hardship. Perhaps coming for a short trip and remaining. Whatever our story, migration is part of it.

Similarly, the Bible, particularly the Old Testament, is a story of migrations. Of exodus, exile and return. Christians and Kiwis are migrant people: pilgrims seeking a welcome and a home; people learning to live well together.

This paper begins by situating ourselves biculturally – as residents of Aotearoa New Zealand. From there, it explores theological issues related to culture, migration, and ministry across cultures. What theological resources might we draw on to do so? How might they affirm, challenge or extend our understandings of bicultural, multicultural, or intercultural ministry? Next, the paper considers Aotearoa's increasing multiculturalism, and the patterns of migration that continue to shape our nation and the world. We consider the implications that these theologies and migration patterns might have on contemporary ministry practice. In doing so, we also learn from other churches and leaders working in multicultural or intercultural settings.

Assessment

This paper is fully internally assessed. There is no examination.

PAST 314: Three essays or projects (1900 words - 30% each) and one brief report (five minutes/500 words - 10%).

MINS 408: Three essays or projects (2500 words - 30% each) and one brief report (five minutes/500 words - 10%).

Teaching schedule

This paper is taught by distance through six video-conferences, plus a teaching day. Most video-conferences are 1 hr 50 mins but the first is just 50 mins. The teaching day is either in-person in Wellington, or online (depending on travel restrictions).

Timetable details are available at <https://www.otago.ac.nz/theology/study/> (See the hyperlinks under "Timetables", on the right hand side)

Learning Outcomes

Students who successfully complete the paper at 300-level should be able to:

- Articulate the theological issues that relate to culture, migration and ministry across cultures
- Articulate the patterns of migration that are shaping New Zealand society and analyse their impact on congregations and other ministry organisations
- Demonstrate an understanding of the implications for congregations and ministry organisations of New Zealand's bicultural commitment in a multicultural society
- Render an informed account of options for ministry in a multicultural society
- Identify and analyse ministry practices of actual congregations working in multicultural settings

Students who successfully complete the paper at 400-level should be able to:

- Articulate the theological issues that relate to culture and migration and critically analyse the worldwide implications, as well as their relevance in Aotearoa/New Zealand
- Articulate the theological implications of ministry across cultures and critically analyse worldwide patterns of ministry across cultures, with particular attention to their impact in Aotearoa
- Demonstrate a sophisticated understanding of the patterns of migration that are shaping New Zealand society and critically analyse their impact on churches and ministry organisations in Aotearoa

- Critically analyse the implications of New Zealand's bicultural commitment in a multicultural society, particularly as it impacts congregations and ministry organisations
- Critically engage with options for ministry in a multicultural society, both overseas and in Aotearoa
- Critically analyse ministry practices of actual congregations and ministry organisations working in multicultural settings both overseas and in Aotearoa
- Demonstrate a sophisticated understanding of the relevance for New Zealand of multicultural ministry models from Australia, North America and Europe, where most books and articles on the topic originate

For more information

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