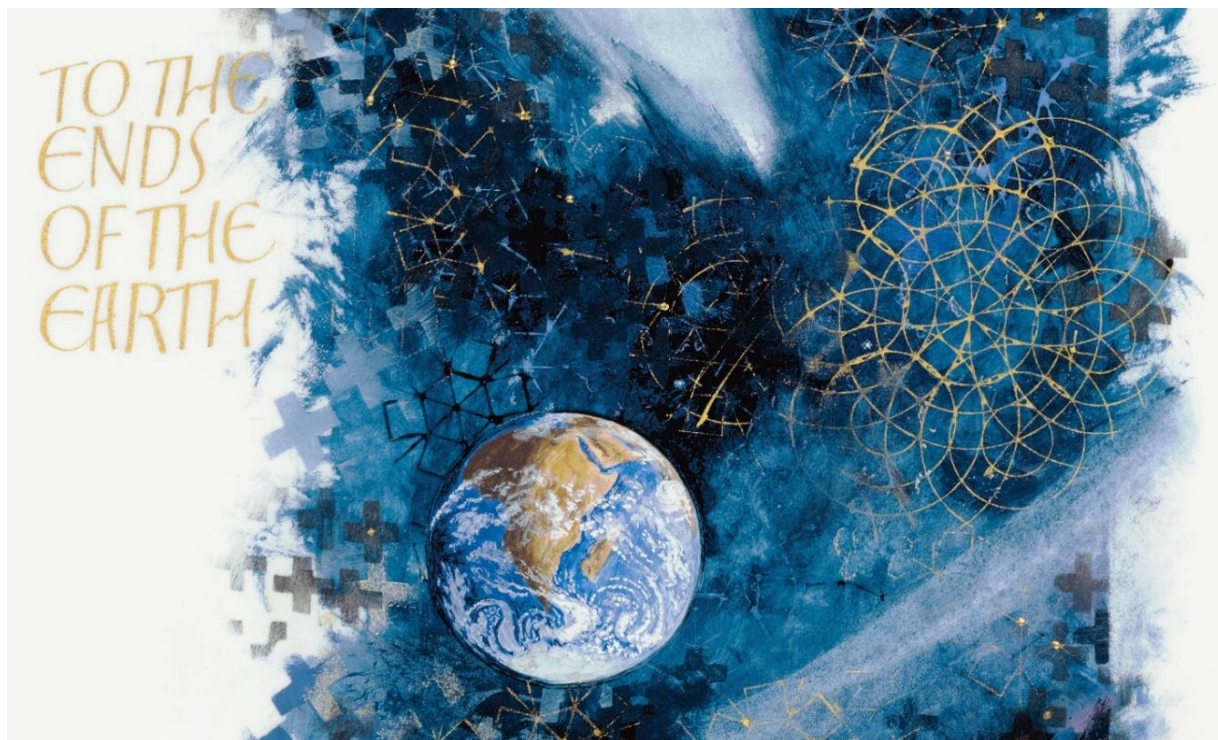


## IN520 God's Redemptive Mission - August 2025

4 credits, Graded



Dr. Mary Emily Briehl Duba

[MDuba@dbq.edu](mailto:MDuba@dbq.edu)

Rev. Dr. Susan Forshey

[SForshey@dbq.edu](mailto:SForshey@dbq.edu)

### Introduction to the Course

This four-credit introductory course for all incoming students helps prepare students for their seminary experience and ministry vocations by providing an orientation and overview of the mission of God down through the ages, and exploring what it means for the Church to participate in God's redemption of the world through Christ. The course focuses on the Triune God as a missionary God, the worshipping community as witness to the Gospel, and all Christians as apostolic members of the body of Christ. Furthermore, the course exposes students to practices which nurture a life of discipleship, intimacy with Jesus Christ, and attentive listening to the Holy Spirit, and unify prayer, study, and service as disciples of Christ Jesus in today's world. **Course Fee: \$30 per student for day retreat, August 11.**

#### The student who is successful in this course will:

1. Integrate theological learning, discipleship and formation.
2. Build a sense of spiritual community needed to sustain pastoral ministry for years to come.
3. Identify methods of cross-cultural transmission and transformation of Christian faith in the history of the missionary movement.
4. Recognize the changing context of world mission and its implications for mission structures and strategies today and live out the Gospel in wise and winsome ways.
5. Understand God's story of redeeming mission as shown in the canon of scripture and the history of the church, highlighting how immersion in the scriptures has influenced and continues to influence mission.

#### M.Div. Student Learning Outcomes

1. Nurture habits and disciplines of study, prayer, and reflection that increase their love of God and neighbor and shape their personal and professional lives.
2. Be formed by, live in, and minister out of Scripture and the historical and theological tradition of the Church.

3. Educate and equip individuals and congregations to live and minister joyfully and faithfully as part of their own denomination and the ecumenical church.
4. Lead and nurture congregations to promote peace and justice in the public arena and encourage the witness and service of the church in mission to the world
5. Integrate theology and practice in all areas of life and ministry.

#### **MAMD Student Learning Outcomes**

1. Articulate and reflect critically and constructively on the biblical and theological foundations of God's mission to the world.
2. Adopt spiritual practices that nurture their personal lives as faithful disciples and witnesses.
3. Develop skills and capacities for faithful and competent Christian witness.

#### **MAM Student Learning Outcomes (in place of IN519 Theology and Practice of Ministry)**

1. Articulate and interpret key themes from the Christian scriptures in conversation with contemporary and ecclesial contexts.
2. Articulate and interpret key Christian theological affirmations for Christian discipleship and ecclesial life.
3. Develop pastoral and practical theological methods and strategies for cultivating renewed and transformative ministry contexts.
4. Construct a biblically, theologically, and contextually coherent expression of Christian pastoral identity and practice in life and ministry.
5. Apply key practices for personal, communal, and ministerial flourishing and compose a coherent plan for life and ministry.

The course **Moodle page** will provide the information and assignments you need to begin working on the course. This course is **six weeks long**: 2 weeks of pre-load assignments, 2 weeks of residential classes, and 2 weeks for the post-load assignment. There is an additional course fee of \$25 for a class day-retreat at Shalom Spiritual Center, August 12. This fee will be charged to your students accounts and includes lunch that day. If you have a medical food allergy, please email [sforshey@dbq.edu](mailto:sforshey@dbq.edu).

Pre-load begins Monday, July 22 and is the **required preparation** for our gathering in August. It is not possible to do the pre-load work during the on-campus portion of the course. Please carve out time July 22-August 3 to read, reflect, and complete the assignments by their due dates, before you come to campus.

Once you have ordered your books, we invite you introduce yourself in the Moodle forum and share a little about your life and your ministry, and one hope, one joy, and one prayer request. Photos are welcome!

If you have any questions, please email [sforshey@dbq.edu](mailto:sforshey@dbq.edu).

#### **Required Texts**

1. Eric D. Barreto and Michael J. Chan, *Exploring the Bible* (Fortress, 2016). ISBN: 978-1506401041
2. Aundi Kolber, *Try Softer* (Tyndale Momentum, 2020). ISBN: 978-1496439659
3. Eugene Peterson, *Answering God*. ISBN: 978-0060665128
4. Howard Stone and James Duke, *How to Think Theologically*, 3rd edition (Augsburg Fortress, 2013). ISBN: 978-0800699321
5. Randy S. Woodley, *Shalom and the Community of Creation: An Indigenous Vision* (Eerdmans, 2012). ISBN: 978-0802866783