DS9738W  Missional Spirituality (Online)

Offered: 2017: Semester 2
[Unit offered alternatively as DM9738W]

This unit explores models of spirituality and sustainability for Christian discipleship and mission in the context of postmodernity. It explores strategies to overcome the sacred/secular divide and discover the presence of God beyond the church. It explores the nature of discipleship as ‘following Jesus into the world’. It investigates spirituality of everyday life and in distinctively Australian contexts. Special topics include: attentiveness and discernment, the role of the Spirit in mission, approaches to sustainability, ‘inner’ contemplative and ‘outer’ engaged spiritual practices, the spirituality of activism, the relationship between worship and mission, and Christian responses to consumerism. It allows students to engage in and reflect on one spiritual practice in depth, encouraging ongoing sustainability in mission.

Upon successful completion of this unit, it is expected that students will be able to:

1. Articulate the place of spirituality in the church’s mission
2. Research a local cultural issue and its relevance to spirituality
3. Critically evaluate and apply practices for fostering missional spirituality
4. Set contemporary missional spiritual practices in historical context.
5. Critique models of spirituality outside the church in the wider Australian context.

Prerequisites: 15 points in Fields B, C or D

Class Time: Online

Assessment:
- Essay (3,000 words) (50%)
- Research project (1,500 words) (30%)
- Journal reflection (750 words) (10%)
- Online forum (or tutorial) participation (750 words) (10%)

Faculty: Darren Cronshaw

Recommended Reading:
* = set texts recommended for purchase