

**THEO 680 Doing Theology Interculturally: World Christianity as Context for  
Theological Reflection Today**

Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary

Fall 2022

**Instructor:**

Hendrik R. Pieterse, D.Phil.

Office: Stead Center, Room 202

Tel: 847-866-3892

Email: [hendrik.pieterse@garrett.edu](mailto:hendrik.pieterse@garrett.edu)

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

As a worldwide movement, Christianity is experienced, understood, lived, and propagated in thousands of cultures, myriad languages, and diverse socio-religious contexts today. This intercultural ecumenical context challenges theologians to critically examine customary Western approaches, actively engage emerging forms of theological reflection around the world, and embrace the necessity of doing theology interculturally today. Employing World Christianity studies, cultural studies, and intercultural theology as conceptual frame, this course (1) explores the hermeneutical, methodological, and theological demands of doing theology interculturally, (2) actively engages the diversity of ways of doing theology in the world church, and (3) cultivate and practice the virtues and skills of intercultural theological reflection in our own contexts.

**COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

At the end of the course, the student should:

1. Have a thorough understanding of the transformation of Christianity into a worldwide movement over the course of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.
2. Have a substantive grasp of the hermeneutical, methodological, and theological challenges involved in engaging theologially across cultures.
3. Be able to evaluate the contribution of intercultural theology as a theological approach well suited to doing theology in a diverse world church.
4. Have cultivated the orientation and basic skills of employing an intercultural approach to doing theology.
5. Have gained experience in practicing intercultural theology through a close dialogue with selected emerging theologies and theologians around the world.

**REQUIRED COURSE TEXTS:**

Wrogemann, Henning. *Intercultural Hermeneutics*. Intercultural Theology, vol. 1. Trans. Karl E. Böhmer. IVP Academic, 2016. ISBN: 978-0830850976. List price (Amazon): \$45.00

Frederiks, Martha and Dorrotya Nagy, eds. *World Christianity: Methodological Considerations*. Brill, 2020. ISBN: 978-9004441668. List price (Amazon): \$77.55. Available free of charge as an e-book through Styberg Library.

**Primary readings will be provided through Moodle.**