

Western Jurisdiction Course of Study
COS 423: Mission
 Summer, 2026

Introduction and Pre-Class Assignments

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Course Description:

This course introduces the theology and scope of mission, and the pastor's role in leading congregations in their mission as agents of God's transforming redemption.

Learning Objectives:

Students will be able to:

- Articulate a biblical and theological framework for Christian mission.
- Explain the Wesleyan relationship of personal piety and social holiness.
- Examine and reflect on unjust social realities and the response of the church locally and globally.
- Analyze their ministry context and develop strategies for transforming mission.

Required Texts:

- Cardoza-Orlandi, Carlos. *Mission: An Essential Guide*.
- Johnson, Andy. *Holiness and the Missio Dei*.
- (Note: In addition to the texts listed here, other short readings and articles will be provided prior to and during our class session and will be part of the required reading in the class)

Pre-Class Assignment:

Prior to the beginning of our class, please complete the following reading and writing assignments. Note that the deadline for completing this assignment is Monday, August 3, 2026.

Assignment: Read/Write: Introduction and Starting Points in Mission

1. Read: Carlos Cardoza-Orlandi, *Mission: An Essential Guide*.
2. Write: "Introduction and Starting Points in Mission": Write a paper of 800-1250 words responding to the following prompts (a. and b. below):
 - a. Introduce yourself and including information about...
 - i. The name and location of your church or ministry context
 - ii. Your current role in that ministry
 - iii. What other profession you may be involved in outside of ministry
 - iv. Anything you want to share about your family

- v. One thing you are hoping to study or to learn in this class
- b. Considering Cardoza-Orlandi's *Mission: An Essential Introduction...*
 - i. Before reading this book, how did you define or understand the concept of "Mission"?
 - ii. As Cardoza-Orlandi defines it, how have you been a "recipient" or an "object" of mission? And how have you been a "subject" of mission?
 - iii. Drawing from Cardoza-Orlandi's book, explain the difference between "mission" and "missions."
 - iv. What did you find most interesting about this book?
 - v. What question are you continuing to wrestle with having read this book?

Formatting and Submission Information:

- Please write your responses using Microsoft Word, using Times New Roman font, size 12, with 1-inch margins.
- Please save your paper with a title using the following format: Your Last Name, Your First Name, Name of Assignment.doc or .docx. For example, "Conklin-Miller, Jeff, Introduction.docx".
- All papers must be submitted in electronic form (Microsoft Word .doc/.docx file) and sent via email to jconklin-miller@cst.edu.
- **These papers are due on or before Monday, August 3, 2026, 11:59pm, Pacific Time.**