



AMBS

explore ~ prepare ~ serve

# mission and evangelism fact sheet

## ■ overview

The most salient feature of the early church was its participation in God's errand to the world, following the example of Jesus and leading of the Spirit. Accordingly, AMBS is committed to developing leaders who can help the church be the missional community God intends it to be. We offer a 90-hour Master of Divinity (MDiv) with a Mission and Evangelism concentration.

Another resource, the Mission Studies Center, is an effort to work with Mennonite Central Committee, Mennonite Mission Network (Mennonite Church USA) and Christian Witness (Mennonite Church Canada) in support of the mission studies and theological education for students from global mission partners. The Mission Studies Center works to coordinate the educational efforts of these three agencies with AMBS.

## ■ programs of study

The MDiv with a Mission and Evangelism concentration can be completed in three years. Building on a foundation of biblical, theological, historical, ethical and ministerial studies, students take courses in missiology, holistic mission, evangelization, church growth, church planting, religious studies (world religions, primal and folk religions, and new religious movements) and cultural anthropology for witness. Elective courses, a weekly mission colloquium, and a suitable field placement round out the program. The recent reclamation of emphasis on the missionary nature of the church and growing interest of pastors in the apostolic dimension of their role make the Mission and Evangelism concentration an important option.

## ■ key resources

- **Mission Studies Center:** This cooperative program prepares workers for specific mission and service assignments. Each student's program takes into account background and experience and the nature of the assignment. It may include AMBS courses, study in other schools and universities, and special intensive seminars or courses.
- **Faculty:** Besides excellence in scholarship, AMBS professors have experience as church planters, pastors, urban overseers, evangelists, missionaries and mission administrators. They have in-depth, personal knowledge of a spectrum of international cultures and settings.
- **Missional church focus:** A missional emphasis pervades the entire

Master of Divinity, Mission and Evangelism concentration  
(90 credit hours)

## faculty

**Lois Y. Barrett, Ph.D.**

Associate Professor of Theology and Anabaptist Studies

*Treasure in Clay Jars: Patterns in Missional Faithfulness* (Eerdmans, 2004), co-author

**Alan Kreider, Ph.D.**

Associate Professor of Church History and Mission (retired, sessional instructor)

"Beyond Bosch: The Early Church and the Christendom Shift" in *International Bulletin for Missionary Research* (April 2005)

**David B. Miller, D.Min.**

Associate Professor of Missional Leadership Development

"The Missional Church and the end of Christian social ethics: Reassessing, Remembering, and Rehearsing," doctoral project, 2006

**Walter W. Sawatsky, Ph.D.**

Professor of Church History and Mission Director, Mission Studies Center

*Mission in the Former Soviet Union* (Neufeld Verlag, 2005), co-editor

**Mary H. Schertz, Ph.D.**

Professor of New Testament

"Partners in God's Passion" in *At Peace and Unafraid: Public Order, Security and the Wisdom of the Cross* (Herald, 2005)

**Allan Rudy-Froese, M.Div., Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor in Christian Proclamation

**Jon Hoover, Ph.D., and Jacqueline Hoover, M.A.**

Sessional instructors in Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations

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curriculum at AMBS. Specific courses such as *Missional Church: Theology and Practice*, *Mission and Peace*, and *Turnaround Strategies for Local Churches* deal directly with the concept of the missional church.

- **Summer intensives:** Our summer school, which features special courses taught by guest professors, provides an opportunity to take courses in a concentrated format. For example, *Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations* and *Christianity in China* are opportunities to learn from people who are directly involved in mission efforts in different parts of the world.
- **Situated learning:** Field learning experiences are required. For example, the two classes—*Global Faiths and Christian Witness* and *Primal and Folk Religion and New Religious Movements*—visit places of worship for Hindu, Buddhist, Muslim, and Jewish faiths, as well as others. Students in *Mission and Peace: The Church’s Ministry in the World* visit churches that represent holistic approaches to mission. January courses that take students to the Anabaptist seminary in Guatemala give a close-up view of mission in a Latin American context.
- **Seminary Consortium for Urban Pastoral Education (SCUPE):** Through SCUPE, the city of Chicago becomes a laboratory for developing the cognizance and competencies needed for urban missional leadership. Students take these courses for AMBS credit, either in intensive summer sessions or on weekends through a semester.

## additional information

- **AMBS web site:** [www.ambs.edu](http://www.ambs.edu)  
Select *Academics*, then *Degree programs*, then *Master of Divinity*.
- **Seminary Consortium for Urban Pastoral Education (SCUPE) web site:** [www.scupe.org](http://www.scupe.org)
- **AMBS Admissions Office**  
[admissions@ambs.edu](mailto:admissions@ambs.edu) or 800.964.2627
- **AMBS Catalog**  
Request from Admissions Office or consult online at [www.ambs.edu/student-resources/catalog](http://www.ambs.edu/student-resources/catalog)

**James Krabill, Ph.D.**

Sessional instructor; Senior executive for global ministries, Mennonite Mission Network

## ministry options

The MDiv with a Mission and Evangelism concentration prepares people to serve in formal ministry settings, either as pastors or as leaders in organizations associated with the mission of the local church.