



SDW322

Theology of Mission as Holistic Encounter for Poverty Alleviation



THEOLOGY
TEOLOGIE
UFS·UV

Department

Missiology

Study year of students

Third year

Credits: 8

Module offered during

Second semester

Lecturer

Prof. Pieter Verster

Brief description

This is a practical course in missiology dealing with ways and means for the church to actively engage in the lives and environment of community members. The module deals with positive ways of spreading the gospel, alleviating poverty and cross-cultural engagement. The goal and purpose of mission as holistic encounter are studied.

Community partners

Community members over a large spectrum in the Mangaung area.

Service sector partners

- Mangaung–University of the Free State Community Partnership Programme (MUCPP).
- Towers of Hope

Service learning component

Students in their third year are involved in active projects of practical mission. They gain experience and knowledge in the steering of a congregation's involvement in poverty alleviation. This could include, among others, cross-cultural outreach programmes, the upliftment of street children, pastoral care for HIV/Aids patients and helping people who are living on the fringes of society. Students furthermore present a course (at NQF2 level) to community members on how to behave in a professional manner in a business environment.

Outcomes for students

Students are involved in projects of practical mission, poverty alleviation and cross-cultural outreach programmes. They work in multicultural and diverse groups, presenting training sessions to members of the community. The students' reflection includes group and individual portfolios, journals, diaries and peer evaluation.

Impact on community

Community members gain tangible benefits from this module with regard to their health and pastoral care. The community have the opportunity to share knowledge, build partnerships and be involved with student projects. Community members are able to apply the positive aspects of the presented course in their daily lives and are motivated to become self-employed. Courses already offered at MUCPP are therefore implemented with the course presented by the students. People who benefit from the programmes at MUCPP also benefit from this intervention.