

## SYLLABUS

### Course Instructor

Dr. Rich Brown is a licensed and ordained official worker in the Christian and Missionary Alliance. He served in CMA church ministry for 24 years in Minnesota, Michigan, Wisconsin, Virginia and Florida before joining the faculty at Simpson University in 1993. In 2000, Rich stepped into the role of part-time interim Senior Pastor at Neighborhood Church of Redding. Currently, he is the Vice President for Student Development at Simpson. Rich is a graduate of Crown College (B.A. in History and Bible, 1969), and Bethel Seminary- St. Paul Minnesota (M.A.C.E, 1973, M.Div., 1976, D.Min., 1986). He is the author of the book Restoring the Vow of Stability: Keys to Pastoral Longevity, the husband of Kathy (since 1970), the father of four, grandfather of four.

### Course Description

An introductory survey and analysis of the Christian and Missionary Alliance from the standpoints of its history, theological confession, and contemporary operational functions and vision. The intention of the course is to provide a specific foundation upon which each ordinand may cultivate a career-long appreciation and awareness of the Alliance heritage.

### Course Objectives

This course of study is designed to lead each ordinand toward a degree of achievement in each of the following areas, both during and beyond the course.

1. Ability to identify each of the four major crises in the life of A.B. Simpson, in terms of their respective influences on the profile of the movement he founded, known as the Christian and Missionary Alliance.
2. Ability to express the eleven articles of the Alliance Statement of Faith as they have come down to us historically and as we value and implement them today, with special focus on the Fourfold Gospel.
3. Ability to outline the current administrative structure of the Alliance constitutionally and to identify the chief elected officers of the CMA
4. Ability to identify and describe briefly selected major facets of the Alliance's global ministry impact historically and currently.
5. Ability to articulate a personal rationale for choosing the Alliance as the setting in which the candidate can best fulfill his or her calling to full-time ministry.

## Textbooks and Materials

### Required Reading

1. Edited, A Movement for God, National Church Ministries, The Christian and Missionary Alliance, Colorado Springs, CO., 1999 (Available on CD the CMA Service Center 1-877-284-3262 for \$10)
2. Manual of the Christian and Missionary Alliance (2002). Available from the CMA website:  
<http://www.cmalliance.org/resources/books/manual/manual.htm>
3. Simpson, Albert B., The Fourfold Gospel, Christian Publications

## Course Requirements

### 1. Pre-Seminar assignments:

- a. Please come to the seminar prepared to briefly share how you became associated with the Christian and Missionary Alliance.
- b. Read A Movement for God. Hand in a written note certifying that you have completed the reading of this text prior to the beginning of the seminar.
  - i. As you read about the life and ministry of A.B. Simpson (chapter one) note the lessons from and your impressions of A.B. Simpson's life and ministry.
  - ii. As you read about the history and development of the Christian and Missionary Alliance in A Movement for God, note the events and/or developments in the history of the CMA that you consider helpful in understanding and/or appreciating the "DNA" of the CMA.
- c. Read The Fourfold Gospel. Hand in a written note certifying that you have completed the reading of this text prior to the beginning of the seminar.
  - i. As you read The Fourfold Gospel, think about how you would explain the fourfold gospel to a member of your church.

### 2. During the Seminar assignments

- a. Attend and participate in all the sessions of the seminar beginning Tuesday evening and concluding Wednesday afternoon.
- b. Bring the textbooks and your written or mental notes on the assigned reading.

### 3. Post-seminar assignment

- a. Read the Manual of the Christian and Missionary Alliance. Certify to the Instructor (via e-mail) that you have completed the reading.
- b. Write an essay, between 2,000 and 3,000 words, identifying and discussing at least four, but no more than six specific reasons why you believe that the Christian and Missionary Alliance provides the setting where you most effectively can carry out your career in full-time ministry. Rank your reasons in order of importance, the first being the top priority.
  - i. In order to ensure specificity, number each priority, followed by an underscored or italicized descriptor of that particular priority – no more than a single sentence.

- ii. By July 28, 2008, e-mail your paper to the Instructor and to the District Office, which will make it a part of your permanent district file. Your paper will also be sent to your respective ordination mentor.

### Course Grading

Successful completion of the course is required by the Christian and Missionary Alliance and the South Pacific District as part of the Ordination process. "Successful completion" includes completing all of the assignments by the July 28, 2008 deadline, attendance at all sessions of the class, and participation in class discussions.

### Course Schedule

#### Tuesday, May 27 (6:00pm – 9:00pm)

Getting acquainted  
What? Another Denomination?  
The DNA of the CMA

#### Wednesday, May 28 (8:00am - 4:00 pm)

The local church: Key to the CMA Mission  
CMA Missions: Key to the CMA Focus  
The Fourfold Gospel: Beliefs that birthed a movement  
The CMA Statement of Faith: The essential minimums  
CMA Government: Limited guidelines for kingdom service