Course Profile

Course # and Title: RHTH 407 Narratives of Resistance

Instructor: José D. Rodríguez

Semester/Year: Fall 2020

Course Rationale and Description:
(Why do we offer this course? Which of LSTC’s degree program learning outcomes does it address?)

This course introduces participants to an analysis and constructive exploration of some basic teachings of the Christian Faith. Given the focus of our new curriculum in the formation of church leaders for the “public” church, we will explore narratives of resistance to empire in the historical development of the Christian faith. The course aims at stimulating participants in developing a critical approach in their understanding and appropriation of these teachings with a respectful attitude to the different perspectives explored.

Course Learning Outcomes (Learners will be able to):
(What difference will this course make to students’ knowledge, skills, attitudes, and practices?)

The course is designed to meet the outcomes of the M.Div., M.A.M., and M.A.T.S. programs of studies. Candidates for the degree in these three programs of studies are expected to:
1) interpret responsibly the classic sources and traditions of the faith (the Bible, Church history, doctrine);
2) think contextually, be culturally sensitive and creatively engage a pluralistic world;
3) articulate their personal understanding of the Christian faith in relation to the world in which they live;
4) communicate the diversity of the Christian heritage that is faithful to Scripture, ecumenically sensitive, and intellectually defensible;

Strategies for Learning:
(How shall we go about achieving these outcomes?)

Readings will be assigned to prepare for class and group discussion on the topics explored. The Instructor or an invited guest will provide a critical summary of the significance of the doctrine to be discussed to stimulate the participation of the students in considering the relevance and basic elements of these Christian teachings. Active participation in class discussion will be expected to serve as an important resource for participants in meeting the requirements established for the course.

Assessment:
(How shall we know if we—students and instructors—have been successful in achieving the outcomes?)

Expectations from participants:
- Regular attendance in class.
- Weekly readings of the assigned material.
- Active class participation (10% of final grade).
- Each participant will be assigned one session to lead the presentation of a topic to be analyzed in class (20% of final grade).
- Write two short reflection essays. Each essay 20% of final grade.
- Students are expected to participate in a final colloquy with the instructor (30% of final grade).
- The oral and written work required for the course needs to comply with LSTC’s “Academic Honor System” policy.
- Complete the mandatory course evaluation.

Expectations from Instructor:
- Provide participants with a full syllabus for the course; clarify expected objectives and outcomes for the course and any other matter related to the course description.
- Inform participants of times, locations, and ways (telephone number or email address) where he can be reached after class, for questions or further conversation.
- Monitor that the course meets its goals and objectives.
- After the completion of the course send to the Registrar’s office of LSTC a final grade indicating the performance of each participant registered for the course in meeting the goals set for it.

Bibliography:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Text Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>ISBN# (Required)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christ &amp; Empire</td>
<td>Joerg Rieger</td>
<td>978-0-8006-2038-7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Evangelicals and Empire Beyond the Spirit of Empire</td>
<td>Benson and Heltzel, Míguez, Rieger and Sung</td>
<td>978-1-58743-235-4, 978-0-334-04322-5</td>
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Additional information: