**Course Profile**

**Course # and Title:** RHTH 500 Level. Theology of the Cross

**Instructor:** Eliseo Pérez-Álvarez

**Semester/Year:** Spring, 2021

**Short Description (1-2 Sentences):**
This course will address Jesus Christ’s Cross event as the hermeneutical key to revisit the whole theological body. Class will critically reflect on the theologians of glory versus the theologians of the cross. The former blesses the powers that be, which keeps crucifying people, continents, cultures, and the Mother Land, whereas the latter “calls the thing what it actually is.”

**Delivery Mode:**
This is a hybrid course that requires attendance in synchronous face-to-face Zoom meetings and participation in online activities. In-person options may be available.

**Course Rationale and Description**
(Why do we offer this course? Which of LSTC’s degree program learning outcomes does it address?):
This course will revolve around Luther’s dictum *Crux sola est nostra theologia*, the Cross alone is our theology. This means that we not only will address Luther’s theological ideas but also his way of theologizing, which is key for LSTC students who seek to make their ministries relevant.

This course is open to M.A.M., M.Div., M.A.T.S., Th.M., and Ph.D. seminarians.

**Course Learning Outcomes (Learners will be able to):**
(What difference will this course make to students' knowledge, skills, attitudes, and practices?)
- Describe this subject as a theological method which informs the entire LSTC curricula.
- Analyze the different types of suffering as they relate to Jesus of Nazareth and to the current global context.
- Discuss the theology of the cross from a global, historical perspective.
- Explain the re-contextualization of Jesus’s cross with up-to-date world events.
- Contrast two to three present-day theologians of the cross with theologians of glory.
- Re-contextualize Luther’s *Theologia Crucis* within their unique ministry.

**Assessment:**
(How shall we know if we—students and instructors—have been successful in achieving the outcomes?)
- Weekly feedback in a two-way bridge
- Collaborative theologizing
- Re-contextualization of one doctrine or ELCA declaration from the Lutheran perspective
- Theologize in triads (in togetherness)
• Zoom student presentations
• Provide weekly feedback to peers
• Highlight how doctrines function in the everydayness

Bibliography:

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Additional information:
Available online short weekly reading anthology of authors such as: Walter Altmann, James Cone, Nancy Eisland, Ivone Gebara, Margin Hengel, Kazoh Kitamori, Martin Luther, Elisabeth Motmann-Wendel, Eliseo Perez-Alvarez, Mary Solberg, Dorothee Sölle, Choang-Seng Song, Yacob Tesfai and Vitor Westhelle.