Course Profile

Course # and Title  __CC 301: Public Church I__
Instructor:  Linda Thomas/ Marvin Wickware  Semester/Year: Spring 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 students to processes of formation for leaders of a public church that is impelled by its sense of vocation in the world. Public church leans more toward being a movement of discipleship than a static organizational structure. The course will involve students in active participation in the surrounding neighborhoods of LSTC through practices of gathering information about and building relationships in the seminary and surrounding neighborhood, learning to take risks in engaging people in conversations about faith and life in the world, and experimenting with creative ways of communicating the gospel.

This course meets the curriculum outcomes in the following areas:
Personal and Spiritual Formation (#1), Religious Heritage (History & Theology) (#2B), and Cultural Context (#4)

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

Students will be able to:
1. Obtain and analyze in-depth knowledge of a neighborhood;
2. Initiate conversations and build relationships with individuals and organizations in the local contexts in which LSTC is situated;
3. Demonstrate an ability to listen and accurately communicate an understanding of people’s stories;
4. Demonstrate an ability to discern the values and self-interests of our neighbors;
5. Articulate and/or develop a pastoral/theological vocation as a public theologian/leader through the use of theological resources of the Christian and Lutheran traditions;
6. Develop and deepen one’s cultural competency.

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

- Read all assigned readings and come to every class prepared to learn with and from the learning community
- Practice and reflect on one-on-ones with people from LSTC and the surrounding neighborhood, including some people from a different cultural background
- Take the Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI) and develop a personal plan for increasing one’s cultural competency
- Learn approaches to interviewing and developing appropriate questions
- Provide spiritual leadership by conducting devotions using a variety of multicultural resources representing the multicultural nature of the world
• Participate in a small group/reflecting team
• Participate in at least four field experiences
• Complete all course assignments.

Assessment:
(How shall we know if we—students and instructors—have been successful in achieving the outcomes?)
• Complete all written work
• Demonstrate ability to use various methods for “reading” a neighborhood
• Demonstrated ability to use theological resources of the Christian tradition and the Lutheran tradition
• Articulate one’s theological understanding of being a public theologian/leader with self-awareness regarding resources which contribute to one’s spiritual formation
• Work collaboratively in small groups/reflecting team
• Participate in an Intercultural Development Inventory orientation and debriefing
• Write an integrated final paper (which includes the methods, readings, discussions, lectures) articulating one’s emerging theology for public leadership in a public church
• Participate in a small group/reflecting team
• Complete five (5) field experiences and debriefing exercises
• Observe style guidelines for academic writing and LSTC’s plagiarism policy (see the Student Handbook)

Bibliography:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Text Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>ISBN# (Required)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Between the World and Me</td>
<td>Coates, Ta-Nehisi</td>
<td>0812993543</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stand Your Ground</td>
<td>Douglas, Kelly Brown</td>
<td>1626981094</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strength for the Struggle: Insights from the Civil Rights Movement and Urban Ministry</td>
<td>Ellwanger, Joseph</td>
<td>1595982965</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Faith in Action: How to Think Carefully, Engage Wisely, and Vote with Integrity</td>
<td>Volf, Miroslav and Ryan McAnnally-Linz</td>
<td>1587433842</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additional information: