

Course Syllabus
TS 690 - THEOLOGIES FROM THE GLOBAL SOUTH
Conrad Grebel University College
Spring 2017

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Office Hours: I will be available for 30 minutes after class; and by appointment

Course Number: TS 690
Course Name: Theologies from the Global South
Course Location: Room 4224
Class Times: Thursdays 9:00-11:50am

Course Description

Exploration of the richly diverse theologies emerging in the global South (Asia, Latin America, and Africa) and from among subaltern communities in the global North. Special attention is given to central historical events, key figures, and important themes. The focus of this course is to gain insight into the main ideas, specific methodologies, and key authors involved in the development and proliferation of these diverse currents, and their relevance for the task of theology.

Course Resources

Required Course Texts / Books

(copies of these books have been placed on short term loan at the Milton Good Library)

- Ateek, Naim Stifan. *A Palestinian Christian Cry for Reconciliation*. Maryknoll, Orbis Books, 2008. ISBN-13: 978-1570757846
- Cone, James. *The Cross and the Lynching Tree*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 2011. ISBN-13: 9781626980051
- Gebara, Ivone. *Longing for Running Water*. Nashville, TN: Fortress Press, 1999. ISBN-13: 978-0800631833.
- Medina, Néstor, *Mestizaje: (Re)Mapping "Race, Culture, and Faith in Latina/o Catholicism*. New York: Orbis Books, 2009. ISBN-13: 978-1570758348.

Required Course Text / Articles:

(Most articles are available through ATLA; I will put copies of them on LEARN)

- Chiappari, Christopher L. "Toward a Maya Theology of Liberation: The Reformation of a 'Traditional' Religion in the Global Context. *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 41 No. 1 (2002): 47-67.

- Choi, Hee Ann. "Transforming Power In the Lives of Women as Surrogates: The Dialogue between African American and Korean Christian Women." *Union Theological Seminary Quarterly Review* (2004): 140-155.
- Fernández Albán, Ary, "Rethinking Theology In Revolution: A Critical Retrieval of Sergio Arce's Theological Work, Its Legacy and Relevance for Re-articulating Liberation Theologies in Cuba, Latin America, and the Caribbean. Ph.D. Dissertation. Toronto, 2015. Pages 90-129
- Medina, Néstor. "The Future of Liberation Theologies: Rumours of Their Demise Have Been Greatly Exaggerated." *Toronto Journal of Theology* 23, no. 1 (2007): 21–31.
- Phan, Peter. "Method in Liberation Theologies." *Theological Studies* 61 (2000): 40-63.
- Quijano, Anibal. "Coloniality of Power, Eurocentrism, and Latin America." *Nepantla: Views from the Margins* 1, no. 3 (2000): 533–80.
- Schaab, Gloria. "Feminist Theological Methodology: Toward a Kaleidoscopic Model." *Theological Studies* 62 (2001): 341-365
- Smith, Andrea. "Decolonizing Theology." *Union Seminary Quarterly Review* 59, no. 1–2 (November 2005): 63–78.
- Stucky, Peter Stucky. "Liberation and Anabaptist Theologies Meet: The Colombian Mennonite Church - A Case Study." *Conrad Grebel Review* 15 (Winter-Spring 1997): 56–61.
- Yoder, John Howard. "Exodus and Exile: The Two Faces of Liberation." *Cross Currents* 23 (Fall 1973): 297–309.
- Warrior, Robert Allen. "Canaanites, Cowboys, and Indians." *Union Seminary Quarterly Review* 59, no. 1–2 (2005): 1–8.

ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDED READINGS

(copies of these books have been placed on short term loan at the Milton Good Library)

- Boesak, Allan and Curtis Paul DeYoung. *Radical Reconciliation: Beyond Political Pietism and Christian Quietism*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 2012: ISBN 13: 978-1570759765
- Ellis, Marc H. *Toward a Jewish Theology of Liberation*. London: SCM, 2002. ISBN-13: 978-1932792003
- hooks, bell. *Feminism is for everybody: Passionate Politics*. Cambridge, Ma: South End Press, 2000. ISBN 0-89608-628-3
- Hayes, Diana. *Standing in the Shows My Mother Made: A Womanist Theology*. Nashville, TN: Fortress Press, 2012. ISBN-13: 978-0800697570
- Segundo, Juan Luis *Liberation of Theology*. Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock, 2002. ISBN 1592440967, 9781592440962
- Orosco, Cynthia E. *No Mexicans, Women, or Dogs Allowed: The rise of the Mexican American Civil rights Movement*. University of Texas Press, 2009. ISBN-13: 978-0292721326.
- Orevillo-Montenegro, Muriel. *The Jesus of Asian Women*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 2007. ISBN-13: 978-1570755330.

Course Learning Objectives

Students successfully completing this course will be able to demonstrate the following learning outcomes.

In respect of general academic skills

- Demonstrate crucial and constructive skills in reading, writing and research skills in oral in-class presentation and written assignments

In respect of the understanding of the content of one or more theological disciplines

- Recall, name, describe, analyze and evaluate key theological thinkers and features while discussing aspects of the relationship between the sociopolitical context, theological task and the pastoral dimension, with special attention to the conditioning role of culture in the theological task.

In respect of personal and spiritual formation

- Develop and employ inter-cultural competency in personal practices and spirituality in the engagement of theological ideas from other cultural backgrounds

In respect of ministerial and public leadership

- Practice and apply inter-cultural skills and sensibilities in the reading, learning from and critically interacting with and reflecting upon the theologies from the Global South in oral and written forms.

Religious Faith and Heritage

- Identify and respect the diversity of theological viewpoints and practices within the richly diverse Christian tradition, with particular attention to context and cultural dimension.

Culture and Context

- Identify and employ diverse methods of contextual analysis in theological reflection, including liberative, gender and cultural perspectives.
- Give evidence of critical self-awareness with regard to their own cultural tradition and social location and that of others in relation to faith perspectives and practices.

Spiritual / Vocational Formation

- Display capacity for self-reflexive and spiritual practices within the richly ethnoculturally diverse communities of faith.

Ministerial and Public Leadership

- Show ability to integrate theory and practice in conversation with multiple cultural contexts and theological traditions.

Evaluation

Requirements

The final grade for the course will be based on evaluations in the following areas.

(1) Preparation, Participation and Reading 5%

All students are expected to participate in the discussions in class of the issues and themes that emerge from the required readings and lectures.

(2) In-Class Presentation 15%

Students must choose a date when you will present / introduce the class to the reading of the day. Each class, one person will take 10-15 minutes to initiate discussion both by broadly discussing the main themes that emerge from the required reading and providing a couple of leading questions to facilitate group discussion. Please feel free to go outside of the required reading for this assignment, but make sure you remain within the boundaries of the issues discussed.

(3) Book Reviews 2 X 20% = 40 %

Each student will write two book reviews of 5-7 pages (double space, 12 pt. font Times New Roman). It should aim at critically engaging the author's central concerns, highlighting the main argument put forth by the author, as well as pointing to particular strengths and weaknesses in his/her argument. The book reviews should not aim at merely summarizing the content of the book but to engage its proposal critically for its implications to the task of theology. See list of potential books for review below.

Due Dates: Book review # 1 due September 21; Book review # 2 due October 12

Final Paper 40%

A substantial scholarly paper (15-20 pages in length, double space, 12 pt. font, Times New Roman) critically exploring a specific theological theme as discussed by the theologians in the global South. Choose a theological topic arising from the lectures or the assigned reading, and identify one or two related contemporary issues. You are expected to elaborate your response and reflections in writing. As you prepare to write this paper, keep in mind the following:

- (a) identify the main theological issue you wish to engage;
- (b) discuss what are some of the connections you see between the theological issue and the contemporary questions you choose to discuss;
- (c) Discuss systematically how you connect theological issues with contemporary reality, and some of the pastoral recommendations you see appropriate.

Due Date: November 30

Grading System

90-100% A+	85-89% A	80-84% A-
77-79% B+	73-76% B	70-72% B-
67-69% C+	63-66% C	60-62% C-
0-59% F		

Numeric grades on a scale from 0 - 100 are used. There is no official scale that correlates a numeric grade with a letter grade. However, the system in use prior to 2001 is referred to as a [guide](#). See the University of Waterloo grading guidelines [here](#).

A grade less than 70% for graduate studies indicates work that is unsatisfactory. A grade of 90% or higher signifies exceptional achievement. In the MTS program students must achieve an average of 75% to graduate.

Late Work

Students are expected to hand in assignments by the date given in the course outline. A penalty of 5 points of the assignment per day will apply to all written assignments. This penalty is not applied to students with medical or compassionate difficulties; students facing such difficulties please contact the course instructor. If a student has not completed work but has not been granted an extension, a final mark will be submitted calculating a zero for work not submitted.

Policies

Academic Integrity: In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility.

Arts: [Academic Integrity website](#) University of Waterloo: [Academic Integrity Office](#)

Discipline: A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about “rules” for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or the Undergraduate Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under Policy 71 – Student Discipline. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy 71 - Student Discipline.

Grievance: A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read Policy 70 - [Student Petitions and Grievances](#), Section 4.

Appeals: A student may appeal the finding and/or penalty in a decision made under Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances (other than regarding a petition) or Policy 71 - Student Discipline if a ground for an appeal can be established. Read Policy 72 - Student Appeals.

Academic Integrity [website](#)
Academic Integrity Office [website](#)

Plagiarism Software (Turnitin)

Turnitin.com: In exceptional cases, Plagiarism detection software (Turnitin) may be used to screen assignments in this course. This is being done to verify that use of all material and sources in assignments is documented. In the first week of the term, details will be provided about the arrangements for the use of Turnitin in this course.

Access Ability Services - Accommodation for Students with Disabilities

The University of Waterloo and Grebel share a commitment to support the participation and access to university programs, services, and facilities by persons with disabilities. For more information, please visit their [website](#).

For students with disabilities

Contact the Office of Accessibility Services at 519-888-4567 ext. 35082 or visit Needles Hall 1132. Book an appointment to meet with an advisor to discuss the available services and supports. The Office collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the Office at the beginning of each academic term.

Accommodation Due to Illness

From time to time students become ill or have ongoing medical conditions that prevent them from meeting academic obligations. The University is committed to assisting students who are ill and has established the following policy.

Documentation

Students in on-campus course who are ill and unable to meet assignment due dates or write a term test or final examination should seek medical treatment and provide confirmation of the illness to the instructor(s) within 48 hours by submitting a completed UWaterloo Verification of Illness Form to support requests for accommodation due to illness. Students in Online Learning courses must also provide confirmation of the illness but submit it to the Centre for Extended Learning Office. The UWaterloo Verification of Illness Form is normally the only acceptable medical documentation and is available on line at:

http://www.healthservices.UWaterloo.ca/Health_Services/verification.html

Students who consult their physician or use the services of an off-campus walk-in clinic must provide this form to the attending physician for completion. Doctor's notes and forms created by the physician or clinic are normally not acceptable. Although not compelled to do so, instructors may accept medical documentation that contains the same information specified on the UWaterloo Verification of Illness Form. Health Services charges a \$10 fee for completing the University of Waterloo Verification of Illness Form, which is not covered by OHIP/UHIP. Fees for this service levied by off-campus practitioners are the student's responsibility.

Obligation to check email. At times, the course instructor may decide to send out important course information by email. To that end, all students are required to have a valid UWaterloo email address. *Students should check your UWaterloo email regularly* for messages about the course. **Forwarding** your email to a Hotmail, Gmail, Yahoo or other type of email account is not advisable. In some cases, messages from UWaterloo addresses sent to Hotmail, Gmail or Yahoo accounts may be filtered as junk mail, which means that emails from your course instructor may end up in your spam or junk mail folder.

Email communication with the course instructor. The instructor aims to respond to email communications from students in a timely manner, in no more than 48 hours. All email communications from students should be sent from a valid UWaterloo email address. Email communications from other email addresses are not secure, and also the instructor cannot readily identify them as being legitimate emails from students. The instructor is not obliged to respond to email from non-UWaterloo addresses.

Course Schedule & Content

○ *The following schedule may change from time-to-time to reflect the pace of the course and to better refine the course schedule. Changes to this schedule will be announced in class and by announcement on Waterloo LEARN.*

Part I: The Changing Tides of History

September 7

Objectives: provide an overview of multiple historical social, political, economic, and religious changes, conditions, and factors that contributed to the emergence of the theologies of the South

Theme: The peoples of the world recover their voice and reclaim their cultural traditions: WWII, The emergence of a “New Empire,” Independence in Africa, Cultural and Sociopolitical Revolutions (Cuba, China, and Nicaragua), Vatican II, WCC, EATWOT, World Theological Forum

September 14: The Hermeneutical Privilege of the Poor: Latin American Liberation Theology

Theme: From Economic to Theological Liberation

Read: Nestor Medina, “The Future of Liberation Theologies;” Phan, Peter. “Method in Liberation Theologies.”

September 21: The Evil of Racism: Black Liberation Theology

Theme: Racism, Slavery, Segregation, and Social Marginalization: Racialization of Theology.

Read: James Cone. *The Cross and the Lynching Tree*.

September 28: Gender Construction and Women’s Discrimination

Theme: Women as Producers of Theological Knowledge

Read: Schaab, Gloria. “Feminist Theological Methodology”

Book review # 1

Part II: Proliferation of Liberation Theologies

October 5: Critiques to White Anglo North American Liberation Theologies:

Theme: Not All Women are Created Equal: Womanist, Asian women, Latinas, and *Mujeres Latinoamericanas*.

Read: Choi, Hee Ann. “Transforming Power in the Lives of Women as Surrogates”

October 12: No class: Partial Reading Week

October 19

Theme: From Preferential Option for the Poor to Preferential Option for Culture

Read: Néstor Medina, *Mestizaje: (Re)Mapping “Race, Culture, and Faith in Latina/o Catholicism*. Chapters 1-2, 4-5.

October 26: Liberation Theology, the Exodus Story, and the Indigenous Peoples of the Americas

Theme: First Nations, Native Americans, and *Teología India*

Read: John Howard Yoder, “Exodus and Exile: The Two Faces of Liberation.” Peter Stucky, “Liberation and Anabaptist Theologies Meet; Christopher L. Chiappari, “Toward a Maya Theology of Liberation”; Robert Warrior, “Canaanites, Cowboys, and Indians.”

Book Review # 2

November 2

Theme: Liberation Seen from the Underside

Read: Naim Stifan Ateek, *A Palestinian Christian Cry for Reconciliation*.

November 9

Theme: Cuba, the Communist Revolution, and Theology

Read: Ary Fernández Albán, “Rethinking Theology in Revolution” Pages 90-129

November 16

Theme: Global Warming, The peoples of the global South, and Theology

Read: Gebara, Ivone. *Longing for Running Water*. Chapters 1, 3, & 4.

November 23

Theme: Decolonizing theologies in Canada

Read: Andrea Smith, “Decolonizing Theology”; Quijano, Anibal. “Coloniality of Power,

November 30

Theme: Context and the Theological Task: Making the Connections

Final Paper due

Suggested Books for Review

For your book reviews, you can choose from the list below or find any other book of your interest with previous approval

Aquino, María Pilar. *Our Cry for Life: Feminist Theology from Latin America*. Translated by Dina Livingstone. Oregon: Wipf and Stock Publishers, 2000

Boff, Leonardo. *Jesus Christ Liberator: A Critical Christology for Our Time*. Translated by Patrick Hughes. New York: Orbis Books, 1984.

_____. *Cry of the Poor, Cry of the Earth*. New York: Orbis Books, 1997.

Boesak, Allan. *Black and Reformed: Apartheid, Liberation and the Calvinist Tradition*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1984.

Bujo, Bénédet. *African Theology in Its Social Context: Christian Leadership in Africa*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1992.

Gutiérrez, Gustavo, *The Power of the Poor in History*. Translated by Robert R. Barr. Maryknoll, New York: Orbis, 1983.

Isasi-Díaz, Ada María. *En la Lucha / In the Struggle: Elaborating A Mujerista Theology*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1993.

Koyama, Kosuke. *Water Buffalo Theology*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1999.

Lee, Jung Young. *Marginality: The Key to Multicultural Theology*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1995.

Mosala, Itumeleng J. *Biblical Hermeneutics and Biblical Theology in South Africa*. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1989.

Oduyoye, Merci Amba, and Musimbi R. A. Kanyoro, eds. *The Will to Rise: Women, Tradition, and the Church in Africa*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1992.

Orobator, Agbonkhanmeghe E. *Theology Brewed in an African Pot*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 2008.

Petrella, Ivan. *The Future of Liberation Theology: An Argument and Manifesto*. Burlington, Vermont: Ashgate Publishing Company, 2004.

Phan, Peter C. *Christianity with an Asian Face: Asian-American Theology in the Making*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 2003.

Sobrino, Jon, *Jesus the Liberator: A Historical-Theological Reading of Jesus of Nazareth*. Translated by Paul Burns and McDonough Francis. New York: Orbis Books, 1993.

Song, Choan-seng. *Third-Eye Theology: Theology in Formation in Asian Settings*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1979.

_____. *Theology from the Womb of Asia*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1993.