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CTM 623: CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ETHICS

Evangelical Advocacy: A Response to Global Poverty

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CTM 623: CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ETHICS
INTENSIVE / JUNE 13-17, 2011; 8:30-4:30 PM

Instructor's name: Tokunbo A. Adelekan
Phone number: 484-384-2969 Email address: jovibes202@yahoo.com
Brief description of availability (office hours)
Course days & times Monday thru Friday 8:30 am to 4:30pm.
By appointment

I. Description of the course

In this course we will examine selected theological, ethical and missional commitments of the Church of Jesus Christ in our contemporary world. Our chief purpose will be to explore the myriad of ways in which church groups, thinkers, writers and spokespersons have envisaged, understood and interpreted the connection between Christ and culture. These includes the relationship between the "Christ and Caesar", the word and the world, the interface between Ethics and economics. Topics to be explored include the intersection between race, class and gender, the subject of the various roles of the church under conditions of "postmodernism," "globalization" and empire. During the semester you will demonstrate your own learning and the immediate relevance of these commitments by connecting them to your practice and context of ministry and to your own development as a Christian thinker and leader.

All courses offered by the Department of Christian Thought and Mission seek to develop the resources necessary for effective leadership in Christian ministry.

II. Desired learning outcomes

By the end of the course the students will be able to:

1. Identify, manipulate and implement the basic modes of moral discourse in various modes of communication related to ministry. These modes of discourse are:
 - a. Historical Analysis: taking account of the forces that have contributed to (or shaped) the present problem, issue, debate or debacle. Asking the question "Where did that come from" John 9.
 - b. Ethological Analysis: Exegesis of the cultural and social context of the problem. Giving a description of the fitting structures of an ethos that sustain and form its "theatre of values." H.Richard Niebuhr's tadpole. Marvin Gaye's "What's Going On?" Luke 3:1-12 "In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberias Caesar."
 - c. Deontology: Identifying and elaborating upon the universal principles of right and wrong that govern all contexts. The Decalogue: Luke "Thou shall love thy God with all they mind, strength and soul."
 - d. Teleology: clarifying the good ends, the vision of the just society, and the best means toward which we should act: "Thy Kingdom Come."
2. Analyze and evaluate various ways in which modern theologians/ethicists as contemporary representatives of the church have developed language to address the various publics that constitute civil society.

3. Identify and analyze various different Christian church traditions' public theologies based on their Biblical hermeneutic.
4. Reflect biblically upon social forces and cultural dramas that drive and are driven by globalism

Note: While these four sub-disciplines are all necessary, and each has its special importance, none is sufficient alone. Each needs theological support, finding support in a *Convenantal-Trinitarian Theology of Grace*.

III. Teaching and Learning Strategies

The Professor will facilitate through diverse means the student's accomplishment of the course objectives. Methods of instruction will integrate lectures, discussions and exercises designed to stimulate interest and to clarify understanding. Evaluation will be based on completion of the class requirements, with special attention to personal, theological and/or pastoral reflection on the topics at hand, accuracy of content, clarity of expression and style of presentations

I V. REQUIRED TEXTS

Stanley Hauerwas,

The Peaceable Kingdom

Max Stackhouse, et al,

Christian Social Ethics in a

Global Era

Tracie West

Disruptive, Christian Ethics

Martin Luther King, Jr.,

Strength to Love

Miguel de la Torre,

Doing Ethics From the Margins

V. Recommended Texts:

Katie G. Cannon

Black Womanist Ethics

Tom Sine

*Mustard Seed vs. McWorld:
Reinventing Life and Faith for the Future*

Walter Wink

*Naming the Powers:
The Language of Power in the New Testament
(The Powers: Volume One)*

VII. Course Assignments GRID

Pre Residency Work – Item(s)	Due Date	% of Grade or Points
<p>Compare Stanley Hauerwas’s <i>Peaceable Kingdom</i> and Max Stackhouse et al., <i>Christian Social Ethics in a Global Era</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write a comparative analysis of both books. Length of paper 5-6 pages. This essay is due on Monday Morning, June 13, 2011 at 8:30 am. Students should use 12 pt font, double-spaced. Please consult the <i>Chicago Manual of Style</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25 %
<p>During Residency Work – Item(s)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class Participation • Read required texts (see class schedule below) • Residency Reflection/Precept Papers 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Read King’s <i>Strength To Love</i> 2. Read de la Torre’s, <i>Doing Christian Ethics from the Margins</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classroom Participation 15% • <u>King</u> Precept paper 10% • <u>Torre’s</u> Precept paper 10%
<p>Post Residency Work – Item(s)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Book Review • Final Research Paper 	<p>Critical Review <i>Disruptive Christian Ethics</i> By Traci West. Provide a critical Book Review. <u>Due two weeks</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Book review 10 % • Final

	<p>after class July 1, 2011. (Midnight)</p>	<p>Research Paper 30%</p>
	<p><u>3 pages</u> Due July 1st, 2011</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final paper • Due <u>August 12, 2011</u> <u>– 8 weeks after last</u> day of residency 	

VIII. Detailed Assignment Description for work

A. Pre-Residency Work:

Comparative Analysis paper. [Outcomes 1 & 3]

Write a comparative analysis of Stanley Hauerwas’s *Peaceable Kingdom* and Max Stackhouse et al., *Christian Social Ethics in a Global Era* **both books. Length of paper 5-6 pages. This essay is due on Monday Morning, June 13, 2011 at 8:30 am. Students should use 12 pt font, double-spaced. Please consult the *Chicago Manual of Style***

Read both books. Write a critical review of this book. For excellent samples of critical reviews please consult the following: The Princeton Seminary Journal, Theology Today or the Union Seminary Quarterly. The aim of this assignment is for you to interact with the content of both authors. Attempt to, plumb the fundamental assumptions/presuppositions of their projects? What is the main problem they are trying to address? What is the main contribution of the author to theological reflection, moral living or Christian mission? Who is the author’s primary audience? Analyze, synthesize and evaluate/respond to the content on the basis of your theological understanding. You must include the rationale for your perspective. See “Reflection Papers - Integrated Writing Rubric” at the end of Syllabus for the way these papers will be evaluate Briefly summarize the key points of the concepts selected. Then analyze, synthesize and evaluate/respond to the content on the basis of your theological understanding. You must include the rationale for your perspective. See “Reflection Papers - Integrated Writing Rubric” at the end of Syllabus for the way these papers will be evaluated.

B. During Residency

Please follow the schedule for the one page reflection papers

1. **King's Strength to Love Due on or before Wed, June 15, 2011 8:30am**
2. **De La Torre's. *Doing Ethics From the Margins* or on another topic discussed in class Due on or before Friday June 17, 2011 8:30am** [Outcomes 2 & 3]

Note: Please be present at all classes. Punctuality and presence are key ingredients a healthy course.

C. Post-Residency Work

FINAL PAPER- GUIDELINES

[All Outcomes]

1. The paper should be about 12-15 (double spaced) pages in length. Please use Chicago Style Format
2. The paper should reflect responsible research and careful reasoning. A good paper represents an ability to engage in critical dialogue with others. It should reflect critical interaction and regard for what others have said.
3. Proper style and format is required.
4. The paper must treat with integrity one of the major themes or topics discussed this semester.
5. Identify clearly and boldly what you intend to do in the beginning of your work
6. Students should consult notes, class textbooks and other theological material (Journal essays and articles, speeches, sermons etc.) in grounding their paper. Also, take hints from comments written in the margins of the smaller papers.
7. Paper should reflect sound biblical interpretation.

IX. Faculty Expectations: guidelines or procedures

Attendance & lateness policy: **Please be specific as to your requirements & consequences**

If non-required elective (may it be taken for Credit/No Credit)

Penalty for late work: Assignments will be considered late after designated day and time. For each day late, the grade earned in the paper will be decreased 1 level.

Use of standard editorial symbols of correction (as an Appendix to Syllabus)

Submission & return papers and projects at the end of course:

X. Seminary Policy & Expectations:

Consult your Student Handbook and the current Seminary Catalog for information about the following:

- *policy regarding us of Chicago Manual style in all written work*
- *availability of writing tutors*

X. Seminary Policy & Expectations: (continued)

- *policy on plagiarism*
- *policy on use of inclusive language for human beings*
- *policy on extensions for late work*

- *policy regarding computer-generated papers*
- *grading guidelines*
- *point value of final grades*