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CL 610 Theology of Servant Leadership

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So Jesus called them and said to them, "You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many." Mark 10.42-45

CL610: THEOLOGY OF SERVANT LEADERSHIP
Three Hours Credit
J-Term 06 Meeting at Bethel Agricultural Fellowship
In South India
Class Limited To Pre-Registered Students Only

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WELCOME

Welcome to CL610 "Theology of Servant Leadership" J-Term 06. In that we are meeting half way around the world from the United States, and in that our class will actually be going to practice ***Servant Leadership***, our time together should prove to be one of the more unique and formative experiences of your entire seminary experience. It will certainly be different from other classes you have taken!

In this unique CL610 class I want you to dig into the foundational readings, serve together as team, have an amazing cross-cultural experience, and then integrate it all into an integrative reflection paper.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

With the end in view of living as a Christian servant leader, students in CL610 J-Term 06 will enter into a highly unique situation for a seminary class:

1. Students will first go through the process of preparing for an overseas, third world trip (securing passport & Indian Visa permit; receiving necessary vaccinations; and raising the funds necessary for travel and tuition).
2. Before departing for India, students will be formed into various ministry teams. Each team will be expected to coordinate with one another (as much as possible) in order to plan their areas of service at Bethel Agricultural Fellowship.
3. Before departing for India, students will view the DVD provided to them by the professor and they will read *The Art of Crossing Culture* by Craig Storti and *A Feast for the Soul* by Bishop Robert Solomon as well as all other printed material handed to them by the professor.
4. Each student will be expected to bring one suitcase to India for their own personal needs and then one suitcase filled with group project materials and/or medical equipment.
5. While in India, learning and spiritual growth will take place through team meetings; through times of service to the Bethel community; through one on one relationships with those whom we are going to serve; and through interviews with Indian Christian leaders.
6. After returning from India, students will then compose a final integrative reflection paper in which they articulate their biblical, theological, and experiential understanding of ***Servant Leadership***.

COMPETENCIES TO BE DEVELOPED BY THE STUDENT

Specific Goals for CL610:

1. Acquire a deep appreciation for and understanding of cross-cultural ministry as well as a respectful and appropriate social presence among the Indian population that we will serve.
2. Develop a biblically based, Wesleyan theological understanding of servant leadership.
3. Demonstrate discernment as to the various leadership styles and practices at play in the church today and how these styles can be evaluated by biblical and theological understandings of servant leadership.

4. Articulate the specific servant leadership directives of Jesus.
5. Grow in the actual experience of participating in a team-based servant leadership group in which leadership is shared, encouragement given, accountability experienced, and grace is extended to all.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

Getz, Gene A. *Elders and Leaders: God's Plan for Leading the Church*. Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2003. (362 pages)

Greenleaf, Robert. *The Power of Servant Leadership*. San Francisco: Berrett-Koehler Publishers, 1998. (313 pages)
[Especially note these pages: Introduction, pp 1-15; Ch. 1, pp. 17-59; Ch. 5, pp. 111-167]

Nouwen, Henri J.M. *In the Name of Jesus: Reflections on Christian Leadership*. New York: Crossroad, 1989. (81 pages)

Solomon, Robert M. *A Feast for the Soul: Growing In Holiness*. Singapore: Armour Publishing, 2005. (250 pages)

Storti, Craig. *The Art of Crossing Cultures (2nd Edition)*. Boston: Nicholas Brealey Publishing, 2001. (153 pages)

Stott, John. *Basic Christian Leadership: Biblical Models of Church, Gospel and Ministry*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2002. (127 pages)

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

In that CL610 J-Term 06 is a unique travel class to India, the entire nature of the class—including assignments—will be somewhat different from normal “on-campus” classes.

Before Departure:

- Immunizations

Please complete all required immunizations and shots two weeks prior to departure. You will receive pills for malaria before we take off from Newark or when we all meet in London.

Readings

Please read *The Art of Crossing Cultures* by Craig Storti. This is a very readable little text that will help give you a handle on cross-cultural ministry.

Please read *A Feast for the Soul: Growing In Holiness* by Bishop Robert Solomon. This is another very readable small text. The whole reason I assigned this text is for you to see how a leader can serve in powerful ways through tightly constructed devotional thoughts that are set to print. I think you will be blessed as you read how this episcopal leader moves the people called Methodist forward in Singapore through these brief, yet very inspiring articles.

As time allows after the fall semester concludes and before we take off on December 30, please read all that you are able to of the other required texts. Yes! I will count on you reading the required texts! If not before we depart then after we return home in January.

DVD

Please carefully view and then review the DVD that you received in the mail. Pay close attention to the issues of specific cultural differences that will be very important for us to live by while we are serving at Bethel.

PACKING

Pay special attention to the lists that are included in the packet containing your DVD. One of those items will be a packing list. You need to know that there will be no corner stores to run down to once we are in Bethel. If you are going to need something there you will have to pack it with you.

Also, please plan on taking along a large empty suitcase in which we will pack either medical supplies or group project supplies for the children.

Teams

Everyone must coordinate with their teams ahead of time as to who is doing what and who is responsible for differing elements. Team coordination must also include working closely together to bring over and pack ahead of time necessary supplies. This entire course will center on servant leadership in the context of team ministry. Love your team. Pray for your team. Serve well with your team.

While In India

While in India I will count on you always staying together with another person and NEVER going out alone. I will count on you not drinking anything but purified water and not eating anything other than what has been well cooked or that you can peel yourself.

During our stay at Bethel Agricultural Fellowship I will count on you to:

- Show up every morning for chapel (6:30 am).
- Participate in the morning team meeting (7:00 am)
- Fully contribute with a servant's heart to the ministry at hand
- Be joyful in all things
- Carefully observe cultural rules discussed on the DVD
- NEVER** complain about the food at Bethel
- Let your team leader or myself know if you are ill

Post Trip

Upon returning from India please the following two assignments:

- Reading Report

Please hand in to me by January 27, 2006 a written account of the reading that you accomplished for the trip. On this account please give yourself a grade according the actual amount of material that you read from the assigned readings. If, for instance, you read 75% of the assigned readings then give yourself a grade of 75.

☐ Integration Paper

Please compose a 10-page integrative reflection paper in which you reflect upon the impact of the readings for the course as intersecting with your actual experience of serving in India.

This integrative, reflection paper shall be written in first person and shall adhere to guidelines as found in *Form and Style (12th Ed.)* by Carol Slade, Wilmington, MA. Houghton Mifflin Trade. Please use 12-point font and 1 inch margins all around. This paper should be 8 to 10 pages in length.

Please include in your integration paper these subheadings:

- Biblical and Theological Foundations of Christian Servant Leadership (this should be a substantial section)
- What I Learned About My Own Life While Serving In India (Share from your heart about what the Holy Spirit showed you while you were in India or while you were preparing for the trip. Make sure that your personal sharing has significant interaction with the assigned texts.)
- How the Lord is Seeking to Stretch Me As A Servant Leader (Be specific about what you sense the Lord is saying to you as to areas where you need to experience specific reformation and/or transformation.)
- How I Am Being Called to Apply Servant Leadership to My Anticipated Ministry Future (Apply your major insights to that place in the future where you anticipate the Lord placing you.)

The Integration Paper is Due on or before Friday, January 27, 2006.

ASSIGNMENT DUE DATES

Read *The Art of Crossing Cultures* and *A Feast For the Soul* before Friday, December 30, 2005.

Read as much of the other assigned texts before Friday, December 30, 2005; and then complete assigned texts after returning from India.

Reading report and self-assigned grade due on or before Friday, January 27, 2006.

Integration paper due on or before Friday, January 27, 2006.

GRADES

Grading is based upon the criteria found in the current ATS catalog. Grade increments (+/-) fall within the standards below.

A = Exceptional work: surpassing, markedly outstanding achievement of course objectives.

B = Good work: strong, significant achievement of course objectives.

C = Acceptable work: basic, essential achievement of course objectives.

D = Marginal work: inadequate, minimal achievement of course objectives.

F = Unacceptable work: failure to achieve course objectives.

Grading in CL613 will be based on a simple 100-point scale.

Team Participation:	50 points
Reading Report:	20 points
Integration Paper	30 points