CS 636 Hispanic Theology and Social Ethics

Hugo Magallanes

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ASBURY THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY-FLORIDA
FALL 2001
CS 636: HISPANIC THEOLOGY AND SOCIAL ETHICS

3 HRS. CREDIT TUESDAYS 9:00-11:40 A.M.

Professor Hugo Magallanes
Assistant Professor Church in Society
Office Phone: 482-7655
Office 144 E-mail: hugo_magallanes@asburyseminary.edu
Office Hours: Thursday Mornings

PURPOSE:
To provide an introduction to the history, culture, economics, and politics of the Hispanic/Latino(a) presence in the U.S. To study and analyze the main Hispanic/Latino(a), key themes, and methods of this recent theological articulation that emerges from the religious life, shared experiences, and struggles of Latinos and Latinas in the U.S. To assist students in developing practical applications and tentative responses in welcoming and reaching out to Hispanics in the U.S. in their places of ministry.

OBJECTIVES:
Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:
- present an sociological overview of Hispanics in the U.S.
- articulate key themes and methodology used in Hispanic theology.
- identify and explain leading Hispanic/Latino theologians and their writings.
- apply and include elements of Hispanic theology in particular ministry settings.
- assist in developing relevant programs of inclusion for Hispanics in the U.S.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

EVALUATION:
25% History and Culture Paper: 5-6 pages limit (without counting page(s) for endnotes).
35% Research Paper: 7-8 pages limit (without counting page(s) for endnotes).
40% Final Examination (Take Home Exam)
Debit: For inadequate participation and/or late participation.
Grade Range: Work for this class will be evaluated according to ATS standards (see catalog).

A  = 4.00 Exceptional Work: outstanding or surpassing achievement of course.
A- = 3.70
B+= 3.30
B  = 3.00 Good : substantial achievement of course objectives.
B- = 2.70
C+= 2.30
C  = 2.00 Acceptable work: essential achievement of course objectives.
C- = 1.70
D+= 1.30
D  = 1.00 Marginal work: minimal or inadequate achievement of course objectives.
D- = 0.70
F = 0.00 Unacceptable work: failure of course objective

Requirements:

History and Culture Paper: In this paper the student is asked to present a general description of the history and culture of a particular Hispanic group in the U.S. This description should consider immigration patterns, relationship between country of origin and its relationship to the U.S., presence and influence in U.S. economy and politics, social dynamics between the group selected and other Hispanic groups, and participation and presence in religious institutions.
Due Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Research Paper: Based on the required readings the student will chose a particular theme or theologian to present a constructive approach to Christian ministry in developing a Hispanic ministry in his/her setting. The student will integrate key themes in Hispanic theology and the social context of particular Hispanic group to propose a “welcoming” ministry for Hispanics in his/her area of ministry. Due Tuesday, November 27, 2001

Final Examination: The Final Exam will be a 48 hr. take-home exam. On the date of the final exam, each student will receive 7 questions and will be required to answer 5 of them. In each answer the student is expected to write a “short essay” response in which he/she will integrate and articulate the material discussed in class as well as other relevant sources. Each “short essay” should be between 3 to 5 pages (without including endnotes).

Participation: Students are required to complete all assigned readings. Reading records will be collected on the last day of the class. Failure to complete readings on time may result in lowering of the final grade, as will poor attendance for class. Attendance will be taken. The deduction for low participation and/or late or incomplete reading of assigned material will be up to 10% against the final grade (full letter grade reduction).

Written Work: ALL written work must be typed with 12 point type, one inch margins on all four sides, and true double spacing. Please follow page limit requirements. There will be a penalty for late papers commensurate with degree of lateness and the adequacy of the excuse. Papers are due in class on assigned date. ALL written work MUST use inclusive language when reference is made to human beings (female and male). This provides for both greater inclusion and greater precision. For more information on this topic see “Suggestions for Using Inclusive Language” available at the Dean’s office. For style and form of BOTH written papers AND final exam use and follow:
Session 1 (9/4) Introductions, Expectations, Requirements, and other Details.

Session 2 (9/11) Hispanics in the USA, Who are they?
Required Readings:
Novas, Everything you need to know. . . Entire text.

Session 3 (9/18) A Hispanic Interpretation of The Scriptures.
Required Reading:
Gonález, Santa Biblia: The Bible Through Hispanic Eyes. The entire text

Required Readings:
González, Mañana . . . Chapters 1-5

Session 5 (10/2). Hispanics and Foundations for Christian Theology and Ethics (Cont.).
Required Readings:
González, Mañana . . . Chapters 6-11

Session 6 (10/9) Christian Social Ethics from a Hispanic Perspective.
Required Readings:
García, Dignidad: . . . Chapter 1.

Session 7 (10/16) Christian Social Ethics from a Hispanic Perspective (Cont.).
Required Readings:
García, Dignidad. Chapters 2-4

Historical Paper is due Today!

Session 8 (10/23) Efforts to Develop Hispanic Social Ethics and Theology.
Required Readings:
Bañuelas, Mestizo Christianity. Chapters 1-8.

Session 9 (10/30) Efforts to Develop Hispanic Social Ethics and Theology (Cont.).
Required Readings:
Bañuelas, Mestizo Christianity. 9-14

Session 10 (11/6) Points of Connection and Departure: Hispanic Theology and Ethics.
Required Readings:
Isasi-Díaz and Segovia, Hispanic/Latino Theology. Chapters 1-6.

Session 11 (11/13) Points of Connection and Departure: Hispanic Theology and Ethics
(Cont.).
Required Readings:
Isasi-Diaz and Segovia, Hispanic/Latino Theology. 6-12..

Session 12 (11/20)  Fall Reading Week / Thanksgiving Break

Session 13 (11/27) Points of Connection and Departure: Hispanic Theology and Ethics (Cont.)
Required Readings:

Session 14 (12/4)  Conclusions, Implications, and Applications
Required Readings:
Articles to be distributed in class.

Session 15 (12/11) Tentative Date for the Take-Home Final Exam