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CL 615 MS 653 Cross Cultural Leadership

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Cross Cultural Leadership
(3 hrs. credit)

CL615/MS653 Syllabus (Spring 2008 – February 11th to May 16th)
Christina T. Accornero, Ph.D.
Prerequisite: None

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Welcome:
It is my hope that you will find this course, its content and its structure, to be engaging. By that I mean, I want you to come in and chat with me and the others who will be online. I want the materials presented here to cause you to think critically and write creatively. It is my further hope that you will actually become a better leader in your current and future ministry context, having taken the time for self-assessment and reflection as the course progresses. This syllabus outlines the course structure and assignments, gives learning objectives, and details how you can receive a certain grade. Those details are important in order to create a learning environment that is consistent and gives equal opportunity for success to all learners. It is equally important to me, however, that we help each other learn--that is a core value of cross cultural leadership.

The course begins on Tuesday, February 11th

Course Description:
This course is designed to examine the role of culture and cultural dynamics in the selection/emergence and functioning of leadership. Primary attention will be given to leadership dynamics within the multicultural North American context. Consideration will also be given to American theories and models and their usefulness in other cultural contexts.

Learning Objectives for the Course:
This course is intentionally discussion/dialogue oriented, with an emphasis on the interactions between student, required readings, and professor. The content is designed around seven books, chapters from others, and some journal articles. Although one of many courses in the Masters of Christian Leadership degree program, this is the only one to focus on issues of diversity and the cultural variables that impact the practice of leadership in a variety of contexts. The course is designed, therefore:

1. To articulate an understanding of the basic disciplines for cross cultural Christian leadership development;
2. To identify the most effective means for the development of a personal servant-hood leadership style while examining key strategies for developing other servant leaders;
3. To practice the basic disciplines for personal leadership development while participating in cross-cultural ministry and service;
4. To articulate key strategies for developing cross-cultural leadership and the basic awareness of the cultural dimensions of effective ministry;
5. To demonstrate an understanding of the four classic organizational frames;
6. To recognize selected organizational change processes and how to resolve the inherent conflicts that accompany change;
7. To lead individual Christians and Christian communities in responding to the needs, contexts, and insights of various cultural groups and marginalized communities in society and in the church.

Course Assignments and Grading: Assignments will not be accepted for full credit after the due date unless prior arrangements are made with the professor. Points for late assignments will be deducted by 25% for each day late.

1. **Leadership in Changing Communities Paper.** Develop an integration paper of 20-25 pages in length. Visit, interview, or observe a ministry that is - VERY - different from your own. Demonstrate knowledge of the assigned readings and careful assessment of a congregation or ministry that represents a cross-cultural context that is not familiar to you. Further instructions on the format for the project will be given. This will constitute 50% of your grade—500 points total. An “A” paper will cite references, incorporate course readings, and draw insightful conclusions. Due date is in the Course Schedule.

2. **Chapter Essays.** Write a chapter essay for each chapter in books listed in the required reading section (excluding “Through the Eyes of Another”). For each chapter:
   - Identify the single most important concept from the chapter
   - Explain why it is important for you in your particular ministry context.
   - Give an example from your own life experience that illustrates the idea and establishes its importance in your life and ministry.

   The Chapter Essays will be 30% of your grade—75 points for each book (300 points total). An “A” review will follow the format above exactly and will demonstrate an insightful and critical review of the text. Due date is in the Course Schedule.

3. **Class Participation.** It is expected that each student will participate in and contribute to the Class Discussions. It is also expected that the contributions will be made out of an understanding of the readings and lectures. Course participation will be 20% of your grade—200 points total. An “A” for participation will be given for weekly dialogue and interaction with topics and questions. Your grade for this 20% will be solely at my discretion. You will receive “zero” or “0” points if you do not “show up” for at least 11 of the 13 weeks (2 excused max).
Required Reading:


Recommended Reading:
A list of recommended readings will be added as a separate document and can be found in the Course Center. It is expected that supplemental readings will be referenced in your major paper.

Course Assessment:
Student's fulfillment of the course requirements will contribute to their course grade in accord with the following percentages. Again, remember that assignments will not be accepted for full credit after the due date unless prior arrangements are made and points will be deducted by 25% for each day late.

1. Leadership in Changing Communities Paper – 500 pts. or 50% of the grade
2. Chapter Essays – 300 pts. or 30% of the grade
3. Participation in Discussions – 200 pts. or 20% of the grade.

Course Grading Criteria:
Asbury Seminary defines grades using the following criteria (see ATS 2005-06 Catalog):

- **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

A plus (+) or minus (−) indicates positions between categories (for example, B+ = very good; C− = slightly below acceptable, etc.).

Incomplete Work:
A grade of "I" denotes that the work of a course has not been completed due to an unavoidable emergency, which does not include delinquency or attending to church work or other employment. If the work of a course is incomplete at the end of a term without an emergency, a letter grade will be given based on the grades of work done, with incomplete work counted as "F."