Course Syllabus
EMT 3681HS THEOLOGIES FROM THE GLOBAL SOUTH
Emmanuel College
Toronto School of Theology
Spring 2017

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Office Hours: TBA

Course Number: EMT 3681HS
Course Name: Theologies from the Global South
Course Location: EM Room 205
Class Times: Tuesdays 6:30-8:30 pm
Prerequisites: Basic 1000 level theology course

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.

* This course meets the culture and context requirements for the Basic degree program

Course Resources
Required Course Texts / Books
(copies of these books have been placed on short term loan at the Emmanuel College library)


Required Course Text / Articles:


**ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDED READINGS**


Course Website(s)

- Blackboard [https://weblogin.utoronto.ca/](https://weblogin.utoronto.ca/)

This course uses Blackboard for its course website. To access it, go to the UofT portal login page at [http://portal.utoronto.ca](http://portal.utoronto.ca) and login using your UTORid and password. Once you have logged in to the portal using your UTORid and password, look for the **My Courses** module, where you’ll find the link to the website for all your Blackboard-based courses. (Your course registration with ROSI gives you access to the course website at Blackboard.) Note also the information at [http://www.portalinfo.utoronto.ca/content/information-students](http://www.portalinfo.utoronto.ca/content/information-students). Students who have trouble accessing Blackboard should ask [xxx] for further help.

Personal Website [http://individual.utoronto.ca/jsmith](http://individual.utoronto.ca/jsmith)

Course Learning Objectives

**Basic Degree Level**

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.

**Emmanuel College Learning Outcomes**

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

**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 three 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. Some important things you need to keep in mind as you prepare for this assignment.

(3) Book Reviews 2 X 20% = 40%
Each student will write two book reviews of 5-7 pages (double space, 12 pt font New times 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: TBA
Final Paper 40%
A substantial scholarly paper (25 pages in length, double space, 12 pt. font, Times New Roman) critically exploring a specific theological theme as discussed by the theologies 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: TBA

Grading System
A+ (90-100)
A (85-89)
A- (80-84)
B+ (77-79)
B (73-76)
B- (70-72)
Failure

Please see the appropriate handbook for more details about the grading scale and non-numerical grades (e.g. SDF, INC, etc).

Late work (BD). Basic Degree students are expected to hand in assignments by the date given in the course outline. [The instructor should stipulate the penalty for late work.] This penalty is not applied to students with medical or compassionate difficulties; students facing such difficulties are kindly requested to consult with their faculty adviser or basic degree director, who should make a recommendation on the matter to the instructor. The absolute deadline for the course is the examination day scheduled for the course. Students who for exceptional reasons (e.g., a death in the family or a serious illness) are unable to complete work by this date may request an extension (SDF = “standing deferred”) beyond the term. An SDF must be requested from the registrar’s office in the student’s college of registration no later than the last day of classes in which the course is taken. The SDF, when approved, will have a mutually agreed upon deadline that does not extend beyond the conclusion of the following term. If a student has not completed work but has not been granted an SDF, a final mark will be submitted calculating a zero for work not submitted.

Course grades. Consistently with the policy of the University of Toronto, course grades submitted by an instructor are reviewed by a committee of the instructor’s college before being posted. Course grades may be adjusted where they do not comply with University grading policy
(http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/grading.htm) or college grading policy.

**Policies**

**Accessibility.** Students with a disability or health consideration are entitled to accommodation. Students must register at the University of Toronto’s Accessibility Services offices; information is available at [http://www.accessibility.utoronto.ca/](http://www.accessibility.utoronto.ca/). The sooner a student seeks accommodation, the quicker we can assist.

**Plagiarism.** Students submitting written material in courses are expected to provide full documentation for sources of both words and ideas in footnotes or endnotes. Direct quotations should be placed within quotation marks. (If small changes are made in the quotation, they should be indicated by appropriate punctuation such as brackets and ellipses, but the quotation still counts as a direct quotation.) Failure to document borrowed material constitutes plagiarism, which is a serious breach of academic, professional, and Christian ethics. An instructor who discovers evidence of student plagiarism is not permitted to deal with the situation individually but is required to report it to his or her head of college or delegate according to the TST Basic Degree Handbook (linked from [http://www.tst.edu/content/handbooks](http://www.tst.edu/content/handbooks)) and the University of Toronto Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters [http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/AssetFactory.aspx?did=4871](http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/AssetFactory.aspx?did=4871). A student who plagiarizes in this course. Students will be assumed to have read the document “Avoidance of plagiarism in theological writing” published by the Graham Library of Trinity and Wycliffe Colleges [http://www.trinity.utoronto.ca/Library_Archives/Theological_Resources/Tools/Guides/plag.htm](http://www.trinity.utoronto.ca/Library_Archives/Theological_Resources/Tools/Guides/plag.htm).

**Other academic offences.** TST students come under the jurisdiction of the University of Toronto Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters [http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm](http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm).

**Back-up copies.** Please make back-up copies of essays before handing them in.

**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 utoronto email address. Students must have set up a utoronto email address which is entered in the ROSI system. Information is available at [www.utorid.utoronto.ca](http://www.utorid.utoronto.ca). The course instructor will not be able to help you with this. 416-978-HELP and the Help Desk at the Information Commons can answer questions you may have about your UTORid and password. Students should check utoronto email regularly for messages about the course. **Forwarding** your utoronto.ca email to a Hotmail, Gmail, Yahoo or other type of email account is not advisable. In some cases, messages from utoronto.ca addresses sent to Hotmail, Gmail or Yahoo accounts are 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. **All email communications from students**
should be sent from an utoronto 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-utoronto addresses.

Course Schedule & Content

Part I: The Changing Tides of History
Week 1:
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

Week 2: The Hermeneutical Privilege of the Poor: Latin American Liberation Theology
Theme: From Economic to Theological Liberation

Week 3: 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.
Book review # 1

Week 4: Feminist Theologies, Women’s Discrimination and Liberation
Theme: Women as Producers of Theological Knowledge
Read: Schaab, Gloria. “Feminist Theological Methodology”

Part II: Proliferation of Liberation Theologies
Week 5: September
Critiques to White Anglo North American Liberation Theologies:
Theme: Not All Women are Created Equal: Womanist, Asian women, Latinas, and Mujeres Latinoamericanas.

Week 6:
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.
Book Review # 2

Week 7&8: Liberation Theology, the Exodus Story, and the Indigenous Peoples of the Americas
Theme: First Nations, Native Americans, and Teología India

Week 9:
Theme: Liberation Seen from the Underside
Read: Naim Stifan Ateek, *A Palestinian Christian Cry for Reconciliation*.

Week 10
Theme: Cuba, the Communist Revolution, and Theology
Read: Ary Fernández Albán, “Rethinking Theology in Revolution”

Week 11
Theme: Global Warming, The peoples of the global South, and Theology

Week 12:
Theme: Toward an Indecent Theology

Week 13
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


