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CS 700 Servant as Liberator

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ASBURY THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY-FLORIDA
SPRING 2000
CS 700-A: SERVANT AS LIBERATOR
THURSDAY 9:00 AM - 11:40 AM

Professor Hugo Magallanes
Assistant Professor Church in Society

Office Phone: 407-482-7655
Office Hours: T & Th. 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
& by appointment

Purpose:

To prepare students for ministry by training them to analyze and address social problems from a Christian perspective. To develop ministers who are responsive to the needs, contexts, and insights of various marginalized groups in society and church. To enable ministers to equip their congregations for understanding moral responsibility and for practicing social ministry. To assist in training ministers who will draw all persons, including those who are excluded by society, into the care and guidance of the community of faith under the Lordship of Christ.

Objectives:

To provide a Biblical basis for social concern, care and responsibility.
To introduce various historical and contemporary Christian interpretations of social issues.
To teach the vocabulary of ethical analysis.
To introduce approaches to social analysis.
To examine mechanism for responding to social concerns at local, national, and international levels as an individual and as a Christian community.
To consider how responses to social problems shape congregational life.

Required Texts:

Dayton, Donald *W. Discovering an Evangelical Heritage*. Peabody: Hendrickson, 1988.
Marquardt, Manfred, *John Wesley's Social Ethics: Praxis and Principles*. Trans. John F. Steely and Stephen Gunter. Nashville: Abingdon, 1992.
CS 700 Servant as Liberator Reading Packet (*Readings are NOT in order in packet*).
See next page for recommended books.

Evaluation:

20% Historical Paper: 4-5 limit (without counting page(s) for endnotes).
50% Research Paper: 12-15 page limit (without counting page(s) for endnotes).
30% Final Examination
Debit: For inadequate class participation and/or late or incomplete reading.

Grade Range: Work for CS 700 will be evaluated at a graduate/professional school level.

<i>A = Unusually high quality, exceptional work</i>	<i>D+ = Minimal work</i>
<i>A- = Far above average, fine work</i>	<i>D = Minimal work, barely acceptable</i>
<i>B+ = Above average for graduate work</i>	<i>D- = for specific assignment</i>
<i>B = Very good, but average for graduate work</i>	<i>F = Failure; Unacceptable work</i>
<i>B- = Slightly below average for graduate work</i>	
<i>C+ = Meets requirements, but noticeable inadequacies for graduate work</i>	
<i>C = Meets requirements, but with significant gaps for graduate work</i>	
<i>C- = Meets requirements, but serious gaps</i>	

Requirements:

Historical Paper: Wesley's theological commitments shaped his understanding of social service and action. Consider social reform in light of Wesleyan **ecclesiology** and understanding of sanctification; discuss why these doctrines, in particular, were important. Show how they would help to shape an adequate Christian response to a contemporary social problem. **Due 3/2**

Research Paper: Students may chose a specific area to study in greater depth. Possible topic areas include: poverty, child or spouse abuse, AIDS, abortion, homelessness, mental retardation, welfare reform, illegal immigration, discrimination, environmental issues, public education. Topics should be chosen early in the semester so that students can conduct research and **reflect** upon interweaving themes. The paper must reflect an approach to the problem that includes a specifically church-centered response. The body or notes of the paper reflect a working knowledge of resources currently available in the community and church, as well as alternatives and improvements you might prefer. Consult with the professor in choosing your topic. **Due 4/20**

Final Examination: The one-hour exam will be oriented toward objective knowledge.
Thursday 5/18 from 9:00 am to 10:00 a.m.

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, use and follow:

*Ballou, Stephen Vaughan, William Giles Campbell, and Carol Slade. *Form and Style: Research Papers, Reports, Theses*. 9^{hed}. [or newer] Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1994.

(Use Chicago Style, if this source is selected) OR

*Turabian, Kate L. A *Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*. Obed. [or newer] Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1996.

Strongly recommended as a tool for research:

*Badke, William B. *The Survivor's Guide to Library Research*. Grad Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1990.

*Recommended Texts

Required and Recommended texts will be on reserve at the library

Introduction: Biblical and Historical Foundations of Christian Social Ethics

Week 1 (2/10) **Introductions, expectations, and interests. Introduction to terms, Biblical themes, and tools of social analysis.**

Week 2 (2/17) **Continue "terms, themes and tools"**

Required Readings: Assigned Scriptures

[Platinga](#), Cornelius "Spiritual Hygiene and Corruption" *Not the Way It's Supposed To Be*
Wheeler, Sondra Ely "A Constructive Proposal" *Wealth as Peril and Obligation*

Week 3 (2/24) **Historical foundations for contemporary Christian social ethics**

Required Readings: Marquardt, entire text.

[Heitzenrater](#), Richard P. "The *Imitatio Christi* and the Great Commandment: Virtue and Obligation in Wesley's Ministry with the Poor. in *The Portion of the Poor*. Nashville: [Kingswood Books](#), 1995).

Week 4 (3/2) **Historical Paper Due at 9:00 am. Thursday March 2.**

Week 5 (3/9) **Conclusion "historical foundations"**

Required Reading: Dayton, entire text.

The Church as a Moral Community

Week 6 (3/16) **The Church as a Community of Reconciliation**

Required Readings: Gustavo [Gutiérrez](#). "Introduction to Rev. Ed., *A Theology of Liberation* (rev). [Maryknoll: Orbis](#), 1988.

Russell, [Letty M.](#) "Human Liberation and Human Theology" *Human Liberation in a Feminist Perspective*. Philadelphia: Westminster, 1974.

[Hauerwas](#), Stanley. "The Servant Community: Christian Social Ethics" *The Peaceable Kingdom*.

[Volf, Miroslav](#). "Exclusion and Embrace: Theological Reflection in the Wake of 'Ethnic Cleansing'" in [Dymess](#), William A. *Emerging Voices in Global Christian Theology*.

Callahan, Sidney, "To Bear Wrongs Patiently" *With All Our Heart and Mind*. New York: Crossroads, 1988.

[Barmen Declaration](#)

Week 7 (3/23) **Reconciliation: Gender Relations**

Required Readings: Koch, Margaret & Van [Leeuwen](#), Mary Stewart. "Feminism and Christian Vision" *After Eden*. Grand Rapids: [Eerdmans & Carlisle: The Paternoster Press](#), 1993.

Gilligan, Carol. "Moral Orientation and Moral Development" *Women and Moral Theory*. Savage: Rowan & Littlefield, 1987.

Week 8 (3/30) Reconciliation: Race Relations

Required Readings: Wesley, John. "Thoughts Upon Slavery" *The Works of the Rev. John Wesley* ed. Thomas Jackson, London: John Mason, 1830.

Douglass, Frederick "Appendix" *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*.

Wallis, Jim. "America's Original Sin: The Legacy of White Racism" *America's Original Sin: A Study on White Racism*. Washington: Sojourners Resource Center, 1992.

Perkins, Spencer and Chris Rice. "More than Skin Deep" & "Kingdom Choices" *More Than Equals*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1993.

Week 9 (4/6) No Class! Reading Week.

Christian Participation in the Spheres of the Social Life

Week 10 (4/13) Christians and the Church in the Political Sphere

Required Readings: Calvin, John. "Civil Government" *The Institutes of Christian Religion*. Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1960.

"Schleitheim Confession" in *The Reformation: A Narrative History*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1982.

Allen, Joseph. "Moral Conflicts IV: Wrongdoers & the Wronged" *Love and Conflict: A Covenantal Model of Christian Ethics*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1984.

King, Martin Luther, "Letter From Birmingham Jail" *Why We Can't Wait*. New York: Harper and Row, 1963.

Week 11 (4/20) Christians and the Church in the Economic Sphere

Required Readings: Augustine of Hippo. "Sermon XXXVI" *A Select Library of the Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers of the Christian Church* ed. Philip Schaff, Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1980

Calvin, John. "On Usury" *Calvin's Ecclesiastical Advice*. Trans. Mary Beaty & Benjamin Farley. Philadelphia: Westminster & John Knox Press, 1991.

Wesley, John. "The Danger of Riches" *The Works of John Wesley* ed. John Emory New York: Eaton & Mains, 1833.

_____. "Thoughts on the Scarcity of Provisions" *The Works of John Wesley* ed. Thomas Jackson London: John Mason, 1830.

Arnold, Henri. "Community of Goods--Is It Biblical?" *The Plough* March 1984.

Stott, John. "Work and Unemployment" *Decisive Issues Facing Christians Today* Grand Rapids: Fleming Revell Co., 1984, 1990.

National Conference of Catholic Bishops. "A Pastoral Message: Economic Justice for All" & "Church and Future of U.S. Economy" *Economic Justice for All: Pastoral Letter on Catholic Social Teaching and the US. Economy*. Washington: U.S. Catholic Conference, 1986.

Week 12 (4/27) **Christians and the Church in the Familial Sphere**

Required Readings: Meilander, Gilbert. "A Christian View of the Family" *Rebuilding the Nest: A New Commitment to the American Family* eds. David Blankenhorn, Steve Bayne and Jean Bethke Elshtain, Milwaukee: Family Service America, 1990

Meilander, Gilbert. "The Eclipse of Fatherhood" *First Things* June/July 1995.

Pipher, Mary. "Protecting Families--House With Walls" *The Shelter of Each Other*.

Gorman, Michael. "The Relevance of the Early Church for Today" *Abortion and the Early Church*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1982.

Matthews-Green, Frederica. "Subversive Civility" *Park Ridge Center Bulletin* May/June 1999.

Research Paper Due In Class Thursday, April 27.

Week 13 (5/4) **Christians and the Church in the Cultural (Popular) Sphere.**

Required Readings: Taylor, Daniel "Deconstructing The Gospel of Tolerance" *Christianity Today* January 11, 1999.

Mouw, Richard "Defending Christian Civility" & "What's Good About Pluralism" *Uncommon Decency: Christian Civility in an Uncivil World*. Downers Grove InterVarsity Press, 1992.

Hays, Richard "Homosexuality" *The Moral Vision of the New Testament* "An Evangelical Declaration on the Care of Creation"

Bratton, Susan Power. "Christian Care for Creation: Across Continents, Through Centuries" *Green Cross* (1:2, Winter 1995) (not in packet).

Week 14 (5/11) **Health Care: The Confusion of Overlapping Spheres**

Required Readings: Engelhardt, H. Tristram. "The Social Meaning of Illness" *Second Opinion* Vol 1, 1986.

Reichel, William & Dick, Arthur. "Euthanasia: A Contemporary Moral Quandary" *The Lancet* (Dec. 2, 1989).

Pellegrino, Edmund. "Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide" *Dignity and Dying: A Christian Appraisal* ed. Kilner, Miller and Pellegrino Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1996.

Week 15 (5/18) **Final Exam Thursday, May 18 from 9:00 am to 10:00 am.**

Reading Record Due at 9:00 Today!