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IS 501 Christian Formation: Kingdom, Church and World

Hugo Magallanes

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Syllabus

Course: IS501 O1 (SP 2009)

Title: Christian Formation: Kingdom, Church and World

Hours: 3.00

Published: Yes, on 11/04/2008

Prerequisites:

None

Department: Integrative Studies

Faculty: Dr. Hugo Magallanes-Tejeda



Email: hugo.magallanes@asburyseminary.edu

Office: FC

SPO:

Meetings:

On Friday, 02/20/2009 from 8:30a to 5:00p in EXLEXL.

On Saturday, 02/21/2009 from 8:00a to 12:00p in EXLEXL.

On Friday, 03/20/2009 from 8:30a to 6:00p in EXLEXL.

On Saturday, 03/21/2009 from 9:00a to 4:00p in EXLEXL.

On Friday, 05/01/2009 from 8:00a to 5:30p in EXLEXL.

Maximum Registration: 30

Catalog Description: What is the mission of the church? Behind this question is a cluster of related questions, the most important focused on the nature of God's creative and redemptive purpose (as this is expressed in the biblical story), its ongoing expression in the world, and its consummation in the eschaton. Participants in this course will explore how the church might discern, embrace, and participate in God's own mission.

Objectives:

Warning! Preliminary Syllabus

Books and dates will be as stated: Other Elements are Subject to Change

Asbury Theological Seminary-Orlando Campus

IS501 Christian Formation: Kingdom, Church, and World

Spring 2009

Dates for IS501 Spring 2009 are as follows:

Friday; 2/20 - 8:30am - 5:00pm and Saturday; 2/21- 8:00am - 12:00noon

Friday; 3/20- 8:30am - 6pm and Saturday; 3/21- 9:00am - 4:00pm

Friday; 5/1- 8:00am - 5:30pm

Instructor:

Hugo Magallanes, Ph.D.

Associate Professor Christianity and Cultures

Perkins School of Theology - SMU

E-mail: hugo.magallanes@asburyseminary.edu

(Please do not use my smu e-mail for matters related to this class)

Course Description/Content

What is the mission of the church? Behind this question is a cluster of related questions, the most important focused on the nature of God's creative and redemptive purpose, its ongoing expression in the world, and its consummation in the eschaton. Participants in this course will explore how the church might discern, embrace, and participate in God's own mission.

Course Objectives

Having successfully completed this course, students should be able to:

1. Articulate their understanding of the biblical metanarrative that comes to focus for us best in Jesus' proclamation of the kingdom of God;
2. Identify the particular contribution of the Wesleyan tradition to our understanding of this metanarrative;
3. Draw out major theological, moral, and philosophical implications of this metanarrative, especially as these are related to the nature and mission of the people of God;
4. Evaluate cultural products (e.g., literature, television, movies, advertisements, print media, music) in light of major theological, moral, and philosophical implications of this metanarrative;
5. Exercise criticism with respect to one's own cultural context and discernment with respect to the context of others vis-à-vis major theological, moral, and philosophical implications of this metanarrative;
6. Articulate the ecclesial and missional implications of this metanarrative – specifically for one's own context and generally for our shared global context; and
7. Exhibit a heightened sense of commitment to serving the kingdom of God in mission in the world.

Required Reading:

Clapp, Rodney. *A Peculiar People*. InterVarsity Press, 1996.
 Hauerwas, Stanley and William Willimon. *Resident Aliens*. Abingdon, 1989.
 McClaren, Brian D. *A New Kind of Christian*. Jossey-Bass, 2001.
 Snyder, Howard. *A Kingdom Manifesto*. Wipf and Stock, 1997
 Wright, Tom. *The Challenge of Jesus*. InterVarsity, 1999.
 A Weekly Guide for Small Groups (packet will be distributed before class begins)

Recommended Reading:

Clapp, Rodney. *Border Crossings*. Brazos Press
 Hauerwas, Stanley. *A Community of Character*. University of Notre Dame
 Newbigin, Leslie. *The Open Secret: An Introduction to the Theology of Mission*.
 Eerdmans
 Stackhouse, Max. *The Church in a Global Era*. Eerdmans

Evaluation:

- Active and Substantive Participation in Small Groups. (15 %)

The small group will meet regularly (1 hr per 2hrs of face-to-face contact with professor) to reflect, discuss, and fulfill assignments given in class. Each person in the group is expected to lead the group's work at least once during the semester.
- Kingdom Project (a small group project) and Presentation (20%)

Each student in each group is required to spend 12 hours of personal work/involvement in a "Kingdom Project." This is a group project every member is expected to actively participate in the group's choice, however due to the nature of this class each member may participate (12 hrs) at a different time and date than the rest of the group. After completion of Kingdom Project, each group will share its experience with the class on **May 1**. Thus the Kingdom Project, group and individual participation, should be completed beforehand.
- Personal reflection (written): Kingdom Project (5%)

Each member of each group will write a personal reflection of his/her experience in the project in the light of class readings and lectures. The goal of this paper is to integrate your experience of doing the kingdom project with the theological reading and work done in class. Please write no less than 3 (three) and no more than 5 (five) pages and the reflection must be typed or printed with 12 point type, one inch margins on all four sides, and true double spacing.
Students are required to save this paper and include it in their Christian Formation Portfolio and use it when meeting with their Faculty Guide.
- Mid-Term: Take-home, open-book exam; Students will receive it on **March 20 and must be submitted on March 30, 2009 no later than 12 noon EST**. (30%)
- Final-Exam: In class exam including objective and short-essay questions (30 %)

Grade Range: Work for IS501 will be evaluated at a graduate/professional school level.
A = 95-100% Unusually high quality, exceptional work **D+** = 67-69% Minimal work

A- = 90-94% <i>Far above average, fine work</i>	D = 63-66% <i>barely acceptable</i>
B+ = 87-89% <i>Above average for graduate work</i>	D- = 60-62% <i>for specific assignment</i>
B = 83-86% <i>Very good, average for graduate work</i>	F = 59% <i>or below Failure.</i>
B- = 80-82% <i>Slightly below average for graduate work</i>	
C+ = 77-79% <i>Meets requirements, but noticeable inadequacies for graduate work</i>	
C = 73-76% <i>Meets requirements, but with significant gaps for graduate work</i>	
C- = 70-72% <i>Meets requirements, but serious gaps</i>	

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 the 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.’ ” From ATS 2001-03 Catalog p. 29 (emphasis added)

Attendance Policy: One class may be missed without makeup. After this (one class missed), extra reading is required (50 pages per day missed: from the recommended reading list) and a one page single-spaced paper summarizing the extra reading. If three classes are missed—serious conversation between student and professors is needed and reduction of grade might be required.

Notes on Small Groups:

The first week of class you will be assigned to a small group of five/six persons. This group will be an essential part of the class. With these persons you will work on assigned material, process readings and class material and work together on a Kingdom project. A minimum of 50 minutes of each 2hr face-to-face sessions with the professor will be devoted to working with your small group. This same small group will also be responsible for organizing and completing together a Kingdom Project.

Small Group Guidelines

1. During the first week of class, you will be placed in a KCW Group of 5/6 persons. Because Christian living and witness are important aspects of this course, we have set aside class time for you to meet. We hope that your schedules may permit you to meet longer in order to facilitate group cohesion and trust. We have built this group experience into our class time so that no one has to juggle his or her schedule to find time for an additional meeting outside of class.
2. The purpose of this group is to meet together to share insights from the weekly disciplines, to hold each other accountable, and to encourage each other toward living faithfully as witnesses to the Kingdom and the lordship of Christ in our lives.
3. Each group will be student led and all group members will share leadership. Leaders will be selected for the all sessions during the first meeting of the group.
4. One student in each group will take attendance. Please note that if you miss more than three sessions (for whatever reasons), you will not receive credit for this component of the course.
5. Each group should covenant to keep group conversations confidential among group members.

Course Schedule:

Session 1 Feb. 20-21

Introductions and Organization of the Course

- Introductions and General Overview
- Course Objectives
- Course Procedures
- Small Groups: Selection, Process, Leadership, and Expectations
- Conferences: Selection, Process and Expectations

Module One: Kingdom – Living the Biblical Story

Module Objectives

Having completed this module, students should be able to:

1. Articulate the importance of “story;”
2. Discern how cultural products participate in inviting us into certain stories;
3. Articulate the basis for the unity of Scripture in the overarching plan of God, from Creation to New Creation;
4. Articulate the hermeneutical importance of the incarnation for understanding the biblical story;
5. Articulate how Wesley’s understanding of the soteriological journey serves as a hermeneutical compass for reading the biblical story;

Narrative, Post Modernism, and the Biblical Story

Required Readings: Clapp, pp. 9-75; Wright, pp. 13-33

Old Testament

Required Readings: Wright, pp. 34-73; Snyder, pp. 9-76

New Testament

Required Readings: Wright, pp. 74-149

Session 2 March 20-21**Thematic integration of Scripture and Wesley's Order of Salvation**

Required Readings: Wright, pp. 150-197; Clapp, pp. 76-93.

Who are the People of God?

Required Readings: McLaren, pp. 1-53; Clapp, pp. 94-125

Module Two: Kingdom and Church*Particular Objectives*

Having completed this module, students should be able to:

1. Enumerate significant ways in which the ongoing life of the people of God participates in and extends the biblical story;
2. Articulate how kingdom-living relates to a community of believers;
3. Articulate an ecclesiology oriented around participation in the kingdom;

Articulate basic forms of ecclesial practice (e.g., hospitality, mission) that are a necessary outgrowth of an ecclesial commitment to performing the kingdom.

The People of God Through History

Required Readings: McClaren, pp. 54-93; Clapp, pp. 140-157.

The People of God in Contemporary Context

Required Readings: Clapp 158-171; McLaren, pp. 94-165

Session 3 May 1**Module Three: Kingdom, Church, and World***Particular Objectives*

Having completed this module, students should be able to:

1. Articulate the significance of the kingdom in terms of its cosmological and eschatological significance (rather than in individual and subjective terms);
2. Demonstrate that they have begun the process of thinking theologically – i.e., situating life within the interpretive and critical horizons of a theological vision of the purpose of God for creation that comes into focus best in Jesus' proclamation of the kingdom;
3. Draw out inferences of this view of the kingdom with respect to a range of social-ethical issues (e.g., racial reconciliation, environmental ethics, gender issues);

Demonstrate the importance of understanding one's world in performing the kingdom;

Listening to the World

Required Readings: Clapp, pp. 172-212; Snyder, pp. 79-120

Acting in the World

Required Readings: Clapp, pp. 126-139; Hauerwas & Willimon, pp. 1-48

Speaking to the World:

Required Readings: Hauerwas & Willimon, pp. 49-111

Thy Kingdom Come: Kingdom Project Class Presentations

Required Readings: Hauerwas & Willimon, pp. 112-172

Final Exam

