BIBL 520: SOLIDARITY, RESISTANCE, AND LIBERATION

Dr. Dave Diewert
June 25-July 6, 2012
1:30-4:00 pm
2 or 3 graduate credit hours
Maximum Enrollment: 25 students

Please Note: The Course Information Sheet is meant to assist in selecting courses. The official syllabus should be consulted for more detailed information. Syllabi are available to Regent students at http://www2.regent-college.edu/courses/login

NOTE: This course will be held off-campus, in several locations in Vancouver’s Downtown Eastside. On the first day of class, students are to meet at the Regent Bookstore at 12:30 p.m. and then travel together to the class location.

Course Description
The themes of solidarity (being with), resistance (being against), and liberation (being for) constitute major trajectories of divine action throughout the biblical texts. The Torah accounts of exodus, the prophetic calls to justice, the gospels’ announcement of the Kingdom of God, and Paul's letters to the early Christian communities bear witness to these ways of being. This course will explore these themes in light of the social, political, and economic realities of our own world, and we will wrestle together with how we might seek to embody solidarity, resistance, and liberation here and now.

Class Outline
June 25  Introduction: Our Ideological Captivity
June 26  Solidarity: Exodus
June 27  Solidarity: Prophets
June 28  Solidarity: Gospels
June 29  Resistance: Prophets

July 2   Resistance: Gospels
July 3   Resistance: Paul
July 4   Liberation: Torah & Prophets
July 5   Liberation: Gospels
July 6   Closing Reflections: The Need for Praxis
Assignments

1. Reading
   The reading for the course (500 pages total for 2 credits; 900 pages total for 3 credits) will include two of the three “required reading” books and a number of other articles and smaller pieces. The remaining pages of reading should be comprised of works that contribute to the book reviews or course paper.

2. Book Reviews
   All students are to do two book reviews (750 words each), one review to be of one of the required textbooks, the other review to be selected from the course bibliography, or determined in consultation with the professor. Students enrolled for 3 credit hours are to write a third review (750 words), as selected by the student in consultation with the professor.
   
   Due: (postmarked by) Monday, August 20, 2012

3. Course Paper
   The major paper for the course (2500 words for 2 credits; 3750 words for 3 credits) will be an integrative project, which brings together (a) a study of a particular topic (e.g., poverty, war, etc.) or situation (e.g., homelessness in a particular city; indigenous struggles for self-determination, etc.) within contemporary social, political, economic life; (b) thoughtful interactions with a biblical text or texts; and (c) a discussion of what a response of solidarity, resistance and liberation might entail in this situation.
   
   Due: (postmarked by) Monday, August 20, 2012

4. Research Paper
   All students will write a paper on a theological theme, a prominent theologian, or a theological school of thought as it relates to the course. Students must sign up for their topic on the third class. For 2 credits, this paper should be 1250 words; for 3 credits, it should be 2000 words.

   Due: (postmarked by) Monday, August 20, 2012

Evaluation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Book Reviews</td>
<td>35 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course Paper</td>
<td>65 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Required Reading


Deadline for dropping the course with a 100% refund is 4:30 pm on June 18, 2012. Payment deadline for all course tuition and fees is June 25, 2012. The deadline for dropping the course with a 75% refund is 4:30 pm on June 28, 2012. There are no refunds after June 28, but the course may be dropped without audit until July 6, 2012.