

# APPL/THEO 549: Into Africa – Exploring Theology & Ministry in Nairobi, Kenya

Diane Stinton with guest lecturers

June 29 – July 12

3 graduate credit hours; or 2 audit hours

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

With the dramatic shift in the center of world Christianity from the West to the Majority World, Africa is now a vital center of global Christianity. This course will explore aspects of African Christianity, both intellectually and experientially, through intensive exposure to theology and ministry in Nairobi, Kenya.

## SPECIAL NOTES

This course has a special registration process via paper only and special payment and refund deadlines. Also please note: This course is offered off-campus at the Africa International University in Nairobi, Kenya. Contact Diane Stinton ([goglobal@regent-college.edu](mailto:goglobal@regent-college.edu)) regarding registration details, additional course fees, flights, accommodations, and other matters. This course requires extensive reading prior to the course. Students should arrive to the first lecture with the course reading completed and their reading report drafted.

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

**Upon the successful completion of this course, students should be able to demonstrate:**

1. Basic understanding of the historical, social, political, religious, and cultural contexts that have prompted and shaped current trends in African theology and ministry;
2. Discernment regarding how these contexts influence various African theologians' and practitioners' approaches to contemporary issues within African Christianity;
3. Ability to identify and explain major theological trends in African Christianity;
4. Competence in critically engaging with particular African theologies in light of biblical revelation and Christian tradition;
5. Enhanced experiential understanding of these contemporary issues in theology and ministry through selected site visits and limited engagement in a local ministry within Nairobi;
6. Personal reflection on the selected African theologies and ministries in relation to one's own life of faith and ministry;
7. The significance of these trends in theology and ministry for African and world Christianity.

## COURSE OUTLINE (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

**Day 1** Orientation; African Christianity: A Preliminary Introduction; The Emergence of African Christian Theology: Antecedents and 20th Cent. Developments

**Day 2** Kingdom of God in Africa: Reflections on the Historical & Theological Context of Contemporary African Christianity

**Day 3** Contextual Theological Methods in Africa; Inculturation/Incarnation Theologies; Narrative Theologies

**Day 4** The Church in the World; Contextual Church Ministry in Nairobi and Beyond

**Day 5** Overview of African Liberation, Reconstruction and Political Theologies; Reconstruction and Social Transformation Theologies; Political Theologies

**Day 6** African Women's Theologies; Pentecostal, Charismatic, and Neo-Pentecostal Theologies

**Day 7** Marketplace Theology & Ministry in Kenya

**Day 8** African Instituted Churches

**Day 9** Significance of the Selected Theologies for African and World Christianity

## REQUIRED TEXTS

Stinton, Diane B., ed. African Theology on the Way: Current Conversations. London: SPCK, 2010. ISBN: 028106251X

Please note that the Regent College Bookstore offers a 20% discount on regularly priced books (some exceptions may apply).

Please Note: This Course Information Sheet is meant to assist in selecting courses. The official syllabus should be consulted for more detailed information. A full syllabus with drop deadlines, policies, and course assignment details is available on Moodle for registered students: [moodle.regent-college.edu/login](http://moodle.regent-college.edu/login)

