

INDS/THEO 591: INDIGENOUS THEOLOGIES AND METHODS

Terry LeBlanc

July 13 – 17; 8:30 – 11:30 am

1 or 2 graduate credit hours; or 1 audit hour

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will examine Indigenous expressions of Christian faith and life. Compare and contrast Western and Indigenous theological methods with specific application to issues such as our understanding of the Creator God, the work of the Spirit, articulation of the gospel, and images of redemption. Critically examine the interaction of culture and the gospel, with particular emphasis on the implications of Indigenous language, voice, history, interpretation, and values.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon the successful completion of this course, students should have a clearer understanding of:

1. Have read all the material, attended all the classes, and participated in class discussions.
2. Articulate clearly an understanding of the basic similarities and differences between concepts forming theological doctrines within a Westernized Christian tradition and the formalized spiritual teachings of a variety of Indigenous wisdom traditions
3. Describe concisely and clearly their understanding of how Indigenous traditions can inform and nurture Indigenous Christian faith expressions
4. Demonstrate interpretative skills for relating Biblical narratives to Indigenous cultural contexts thereby creating a framework for understanding their theological contribution for Indigenous Christians.
5. Effectively dialogue about key issues in the intersection of Christian doctrines (systematics) to articulations of a more theological anthropological nature in Indigenous contexts.

COURSE OUTLINE

Day 1 Theological Anthropology, Indigenous narratives and frame for understanding

Day 2 Creating Understanding – Indigenous perspectives of the task of theology

Day 3 Creating Understanding – Indigenous shifts in doing theology

Day 4 Theology and Colonial Resistance; Postcolonial perspectives

Day 5 Creating Understanding – Other contexts

REQUIRED TEXTS

Sedmak, Clemens. *Doing Local Theology: A Guide for Artisans of a New Humanity*. Faith and Cultures Series. Maryknoll, N.Y.: Orbis Books, 2002. ISBN: 9781570754524 \$37.99

Woodley, R. *Shalom and the Community of Creation: An Indigenous Vision*. Grand Rapids, Mich., W.B. Eerdmans Pub. Co. 2012. ISBN: 9780802866783. \$35.99

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

