

Undergraduate Council
 New Course Course Change
 Core Category: Humanities Effective Fall 2012
Core Code 40

or

Graduate/Professional Studies Council
 New Course Course Change
 Effective Fall 2011

APPROVED DEC 7 2011

1. Department: AAS College: CLASS
 2. Faculty Contact Person: Conyers, James L. Telephone: 3-2811 Email: jconyers@uh.edu

3. Course Information on New/Revised course:
 • Instructional Area / Course Number / Long Course Title:
AAS / 2330 / Black Liberation Theology
 • Instructional Area / Course Number / Short Course Title (30 characters max.)
AAS / 2330 / BLACK LIBERATION THEOLOGY
 • SCH: 3.00 Level: SO CIP Code: 05020100 Lect Hrs: 3.0 Lab Hrs: 0

RECEIVED OCT 14 2011

4. Justification for adding/changing course: Successfully taught as a selected topics course
 5. Was the proposed/revised course previously offered as a special topics course? Yes No
 If Yes, please complete:

• Instructional Area / Course Number / Long Course Title:
AAS / 3394 / Special Topics: Black Liberation Theology
 • Course ID: 9889 Effective Date (currently active row): 20103

6. Authorized Degree Program(s): BA, BS AAS minor
 • Does this course affect major/minor requirements in the College/Department? Yes No
 • Does this course affect major/minor requirements in other Colleges/Departments? Yes No
 • Can the course be repeated for credit? Yes No (if yes, include in course description)

7. Grade Option: Letter (A, B, C ...) Instruction Type: lecture ONLY (Note: Lect/Lab info. must match item 3, above.)

8. If this form involves a change to an existing course, please obtain the following information from the course inventory: Instructional Area / Course Number / Long Course Title
 ____ / ____ / ____
 • Course ID: ____ Effective Date (currently active row): ____

9. Proposed Catalog Description: (If there are no prerequisites, type in "none".)
 Cr: 3. (3-0). Prerequisites: ENGL 1304. Description (30 words max.): This course will examine, compare and contrast the theologies and resulting programmatic actions taken by persons espousing Black Liberation Theology.

10. Dean's Signature: [Signature] Date: 10/13/11

Print/Type Name: Dr. Sarah Fishman

U N I V E R S I T Y *of* H O U S T O N
CORE CURRICULUM REQUEST FOR COURSES NEW TO THE CORE

Originating Department/College: African American Studies/CLASS

Person making request: Conyers, James L., Jr. Telephone: 3-2813

E-mail: jconyers@uh.edu

Dean's signature: _____ Date: 10/13/11

I. General Information:

Course number and title: AAS 2330: Black Liberation Theology

Catalog description must be included on completed CBM 003 form and attached to this document.

Category of Core for which course is being proposed (mark only one):

- Communication
- Mathematics
- Mathematics/Reasoning (IDO)
- American History
- Government
- Humanities
- Visual/Performing Arts Critical
- Visual/Performing Arts Experiential
- Natural Sciences
- Social/Behavioral Sciences
- Writing in the Disciplines (IDO)

II. Objectives and Evaluation (respond on one or more separate sheets):

Call ext. 3-0919 for a copy of "Guidelines for Requesting and Evaluating Core Courses" or visit the website at www.uh.edu/academics/corecurriculum

- A. How does the proposed course meet the appropriate Exemplary Educational Objectives (see **Guidelines**). Attach a syllabus and supporting materials for the objectives the syllabus does not make clear.
- B. Specify the processes and procedures for evaluating course effectiveness in regard to its goals.
- C. Delineate how these evaluation results will be used to improve the course.

SVP. Effective 8/23/10. Replaces all previous forms, which may no longer be used.

Objectives and Evaluation
AAS 2330: Black Liberation Theology

- A. This course will examine, compare and contrast the theologies and resulting programmatic actions taken by persons espousing Black Liberation Theology. Though the field of Black Liberation Theology received its name in the 1960s, the course will broaden the definition of its practitioners to include Pan Africanists from earlier eras who used the teachings of Christianity and/or the vehicle of the Black Church as foundational to their efforts for securing a self-determining existence for Africans at home and/or abroad. This allows students to gain an awareness of the similarities and differences that concern Black Liberation Theology and other global theologies of liberation.

- B. The following processes and procedures will be applied to evaluate the effectiveness of the course with respect to its goals and objectives.
 - a. The course monitors student attendance and participation regularly to evaluate student discussions and comprehension of the core principles, proponents, and theoretical models that encompass Black Liberation Theology. This includes an assessment of student responses to observing Black Liberation Theology in practice.
 - b. The course requires students to complete three content-specific reflective papers on various topics of consideration in Black Liberation Theology using a cross-comparative approach to its historical concerns based on regional and theoretical variation. In total, the papers require students to complete more than 15 pages (3,750 words) of outside writing assignments. The course evaluates these assignments based on grammar, style, logic and content among other things.
 - c. The course requires students to complete three in-class oral presentations that address Black Liberation Theology as a mode of human inquiry and discuss Black Liberation Theology within the context of the 21st century. These assignments allow the course to evaluate student awareness of the scope and influence Black liberation theologians have had upon the Black Church and society in general.
 - d. The course assigns both a mid-term and final examination to track student performance, reading comprehension and intellectual competency.
 - e. The course provides students with faculty course evaluation forms at the end of the semester to evaluate faculty performance. These evaluations measure instructor clarity, organization, preparation, grading practices, availability and receptiveness to student questions.

- C. Review of student attendance, participation, papers, examinations, oral presentations and faculty course evaluations will provide a continual means to adjust and revise student assignments to meet the course expectations outline in the learning outcomes and objectives sections of the syllabus. Revisions will be made to the course teaching methodology on a semester by semester basis to improve the effectiveness and overall content of the course.

COURSE SYLLABUS

BLACK LIBERATION THEOLOGY

Spring 2009 ♦ TTH, 5:30-7p

Course: AAS 3394
Section#: 30311
Place: M 113 (McElhinney)
Instructor: Aswad Walker
Office: 634 Agnes Arnold Hall
Email: aswad60@hotmail.com or walkeraa@tsu.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will examine, compare and contrast the theologies and resulting programmatic actions taken by persons espousing Black Liberation Theology. Though the field of Black Liberation Theology received its name in the 1960s, the course will broaden the definition of its practitioners to include Pan Africanists from earlier eras who used the teachings of Christianity and/or the vehicle of the Black Church as foundational to their efforts for securing a self-determining existence for Africans at home and/or abroad. Individuals and movements to be discussed include: Denmark Vesey, David Walker, Henry McNeal Turner, Nat Turner, Richard Allen (AME Church), Edward Wilmont Blyden, J.E. Casely Hayford, Paul Cuffe, Sojourner Truth, the Maroons, Marcus Garvey (UNIA), Bis. George Alexander McGuire (African Orthodox Church), Elijah Muhammad (NOI), Rev. Albert B. Cleage Jr. (PAOCC), James Cone, and others.

OBJECTIVES

In this course, we seek to:

- ♦ Unearth the origins and meaning of the term "Black Liberation Theology"
- ♦ Chronicle proponents of Black Liberation Theology past and present
- ♦ Compare churches, organizations and movements founded upon the beliefs espoused by Black Liberation Theologians
- ♦ Examine Black Liberation Theology in Practice
- ♦ Discuss Womanist Theology and Black Liberation Theology
- ♦ Compare other global theologies of liberation with Black Liberation Theology
- ♦ Discuss Black Liberation Theology in the context of 21st century challenges

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- ♦ Students will attain an appreciation for the history and theological development of the Black Liberation Theology.
- ♦ Students will develop an awareness of the mission and purpose of churches and movements espousing Black Liberation Theology.
- ♦ Students will develop an awareness of the scope of the influence Black Liberation Theologians have had upon the Black Church and society in general.

TEXTBOOKS

David Walker's Appeal by David Walker

Black Christian Nationalism: New Directions for the Black Church by Rev. Albert B. Cleage, Jr.

Black Religion and Black Radicalism by Gayraud S. Wilmore

Living Stones in the Household of God edited by Linda E. Thomas

Black Theology: A Documentary History: Volume Two: 1980-1992 by James Cone and Gayraud S. Wilmore

*Plus supplemental readings

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

The teaching methodology for this course will include lectures, video-tapes, small group exercises, field study/observation, guest lectures, and instructor-student classroom discussion.

EVALUATION

1. Attendance & Participation (10%)
 - ◆ Engaged Class Discussion
 - ◆ Field Trip attendance
2. Three Papers [see guidelines] (30%)
 - ◆ Origins of Black Liberation Theology
 - ◆ Womanist Theology
 - ◆ Liberation Theologies from Around the Globe
3. Three In-class Oral Presentations (30%)
 - ◆ Black Liberation Theologian of your choice
 - ◆ Movement or organization based upon Black Liberation Theology
 - ◆ Black Liberation Theology for the 21st Century
4. Mid-Term Exam (15%)
5. Final Exam (15%)

GRADING POLICY

A = 90 – 100

B = 80 – 89

C = 70 – 79

D = 60 – 69

F = 59 and below

ASSIGNMENTS AND READINGS

Tuesday, January 20

Topic: Course Introduction

Thursday, January 22

Topic: Defining Black Liberation Theology

Preparation: *Black Theology*, pp. 1-75

Tuesday, January 27

Topic: Proponents of Black Liberation Theology – David Walker
Preparation: *David Walker's Appeal*

Thursday, January 29

Topic: Proponents of Black Liberation Theology – Nat Turner, Denmark Vesey and Gabriel Prosser
Preparation: *Black Rebellion: Five Slave Revolts*, pp. 73-214

Tuesday, February 3

Topic: Proponents of Black Liberation Theology – Henry McNeal Turner, Richard Allen, Edward Wilmont Blyden, and others (Martin Delany, Henry Highland Garnet, etc)

Preparation: Supplemental readings

Paper #1 Due: Origins of Black Liberation Theology

Thursday, February 5

Topic 1: Proponents of Black Liberation Theology – Marcus Garvey & Bis. George Alexander McGuire

Preparation: Supplemental readings by Aswad Walker

Topic 2: Proponents of Black Liberation Theology – Elijah Muhammad & Malcolm X

Preparation: *Black Christian Nationalism*, Chs 6-7; supplemental readings

Tuesday, February 10

Topic: Proponents of Black Liberation Theology – Rev. Albert B. Cleage Jr. and James Cone

Preparation: *Black Christian Nationalism*, Chs 8-14; supplemental readings by James Cone

Thursday, February 12

Class Presentation #1: Proponents of Black Liberation Theology

Tuesday, February 17

Topic: Movements Based Upon Black Liberation Theology – The Jerusalem Church

Preparation: Supplemental readings

Thursday, February 19

Topic: Movements Based Upon Black Liberation Theology – The Maroons

Preparation: *Black Rebellion: Five Slave Revolts*, pp. 4-72

Tuesday, February 24

Topic: Movements Based Upon Black Liberation Theology – The UNIA & the African Orthodox Church

Preparation: Supplemental readings by Aswad Walker

Thursday, February 26

Topic: Movements Based Upon Black Liberation Theology – The Pan African Orthodox Christian Church, Trinity United Church of Christ, and others

Preparation: *Black Christian Nationalism*, Ch. 15; supplemental readings

Tuesday, March 3

Topic: Movements Based Upon Black Liberation Theology – The Nation of Islam

Preparation: Supplemental readings

Thursday, March 5

Topic: Modern-day proponents of Black Liberation Theology – Black Intellectuals

Preparation: Selected readings from *Living Stones in the Household of God*

Tuesday, March 10

Topic: Modern-day proponents of Black Liberation Theology – Hip Hop Prophets

Preparation: Supplemental recordings & readings

Thursday, March 12

Mid-Term Exam

SPRING BREAK

Tuesday, March 24

Class Presentation #2: Movements / Black Liberation Theology

Thursday, March 26

Topic: Black Liberation Theology – From Idea to Action

Preparation: *Black Theology*, pp. 79-173

Tuesday, March 31

Topic: Liberating the Scriptures

Preparation: *Black Theology*, pp. 177-253

Thursday, April 2

Topic: Womanist Theology

Preparation: *Black Theology*, pp. 257-305

Tuesday, April 7

Topic: Womanist Theology

Preparation: *Black Theology*, pp. 309-350; Selected readings from *Living Stones in the Household of God*

Thursday, April 9

Topic: Global Theologies of Liberation – Latin America

Preparation: *Black Theology*, pp. 371-387; selected readings from *Living Stones in the Household of God*

Tuesday, April 14

Topic: Global Theologies of Liberation – Minjung Theology

Preparation: *Black Theology*, pp. 358-370 & 405-409; selected readings from *Living Stones in the Household of God*

Paper #2 Due: Womanist Theology

Thursday, April 16

Topic: Black Liberation Theology's Critique of Capitalism

Preparation: *Black Theology*, pp. 410-424; selected readings from *Living Stones in the Household of God*

Tuesday, April 21

Topic: Black Liberation Theology's Response to Globalization

Preparation: *Black Theology*, pp. 410-424; selected readings from *Living Stones in the Household of God*

Thursday, April 23

Paper #3 or Class Presentation #3: 21st Century Black Liberation Theology

Tuesday, April 28

All-Church Pot-Luck & Study Session

Thursday, April 30

Final Exam, 5:30-7p