## STMM 503 THEOLOGY IN AN ECUMENICAL CONTEXT

### Course Information

Instructors: Mary Rose Bumpus, R.S.M., Ph.D. Leticia Guardiola-Sáenz, Ph.D.

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Course Number: STMM 503 Course Units: 3 Credits

Auditors: Auditors must commit to doing all the assigned reading for the course. Thanks.

Prerequisites: STMM 500 Christian Anthropology and STMM 553 Pastoral Care Skills

## Time and Place

Day and Time: Wednesday, 9:00 - 11:50 a.m.

Place: Hunthausen 100
First Day of Class: September 21, 2011
Thanksgiving Holiday: November 23, 2011
Last Day of Class: November 30, 2011

#### This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructors.

## Course Description

This course invites students to approach theology from an ecumenical perspective. It includes an overview of the major ecclesial communities within Christianity and an introduction to interfaith dialogue. The course explores the work of the modern ecumenical movement to overcome divisions among and within the churches and to make more visible the God-given unity of the Church through dialogue, advocacy, and action for the common good. Students learn through readings, lectures, discussion, papers, presentations, and interactions with one another, faculty, and guests from various ecclesial communities.

#### Learning Outcomes and Objectives

- An ability to reflect theologically on the basic themes of the Christian tradition. Participants in this course deepen their understanding and critical appreciation of:
  - their own faith tradition/ecclesial community by reading, giving presentations, and writing about the general characteristics and significant theological perspectives of this community.

- the faith traditions/ecclesial communities of others by hearing presentations and writing about/dialoguing with the general characteristics and significant theological perspectives of other ecclesial communities.
- ♣ Knowledge of the interaction of religious/spiritual experience and culture in their ecumenical and multicultural dimensions.
  - Through the critical reading of texts and dialogue with others, participants are encouraged to manifest a more intentional ecumenical consciousness.
  - Through lecture and class discussion, participants gain some familiarity with the history and goals of the modern ecumenical movement as well as an understanding of the divisions that threaten Christian unity today.
  - Through guest presentations and critical reading of texts, participants grow in awareness of ecumenism in practice locally and globally.
  - Through critical reading of texts, participants gain awareness of ecumenism as it is fostered and supported in multicultural settings.
- ♣ Ability to be a responsive, discerning listener who can enter another's worldview.
  - Through the praxis of dialogical conversation, participants develop an increased openness for receiving the gifts of other ecclesial communities, model the skills of ecumenical conversation and dialogue in class interactions, and celebrate the diversity within the Christian tradition today.

#### Special Needs

If you have or think you may have a disability (including an "invisible disability" such as a learning disability, a chronic health problem, or a mental health condition) that interferes with your performance as a student in this class, you are encouraged to discuss your needs and arrange support services and/or accommodations through Disabilities Services staff in the Learning Center, Loyola 100, 206-296-5740.

### Class Procedures

Class procedures will vary. In general, class sessions will contain lectures or presentations, discussion of assigned readings, and small group exercises that promote ecumenical dialogue. Depending on the structure of a given class session, there will be one longer or two shorter breaks during the three hours. Typically, in each class session, one of three "strands" of the course will be predominant: 1) Encountering Christian Identity and Diversity; 2) Discovering Christian Ecumenism; 3) Developing Skills, Foundations, and Resources for Ecumenical Dialogue.

## Course Requirements

- 1. <u>Attendance</u> at all classes and <u>participation</u> in small and large group discussions and exercises.
- 2. <u>Critical</u> and <u>engaged</u> reading of books and articles.
- 3. Group Presentation on one's own ecclesial community (see below).
- 4. Paper on one's own ecclesial community (see below on paper #1).
- 5. <u>Synthesis Paper</u> (see below on paper #2).

**Due:** Class Session Ten, 9:00 a.m.

Theology in an Ecumenical Context Sáenz Syllabus

Fall 2011

### **Group Presentation**

**Due**: Date Scheduled on Syllabus for Ecclesial Community

With group members from the same or similar ecclesial communities, participants will give a 30 minute class presentation about their ecclesial community that includes the following:

- The distinctive characteristics, spirit, or ethos of your ecclesial community
- Significant theological perspectives or tenets of your ecclesial community
- Your ecclesial community's understanding of its relationship with the world
- Ways you or others in your ecclesial community have actually experienced the divine in and through your community (spirituality).

For this presentation, use the bibliographical references provided by instructors. In addition, you might like to interview scholars, priests/pastors/ministers, or STM formation coordinators/liturgical coordinators from your various ecclesial communities to get their views on these topics. You might also like to refer to assigned course readings.

## Paper # 1: Your Own Ecclesial Community **Due:** Class Session Five, 9:00 a.m.

Through reading substantive texts, interviewing scholars and knowledgeable people from your ecclesial community, utilizing your own experience, and based on your group presentation, write an 8-10 page paper describing your current ecclesial community. Minimally include the follow aspects:

- The distinctive characteristics, spirit, or ethos of your ecclesial community
- Significant theological perspectives or tenets of your ecclesial community
- Your ecclesial community's understanding of its relationship with the world
- Ways you or others in your ecclesial community have actually experienced the divine in and through your community (spirituality).

#### I. Paper # 2: Synthesis Paper

In this paper, participants will enter into further ecumenical dialogue by writing about their encounter with another ecclesial community and revisiting their own ecclesial community. Through reading of course texts, careful listening and dialoguing with presenters and readings from ecclesial communities other than your own, and purposeful engagement of the study you have done of your own ecclesial community, write a 12 page paper that includes the following:

- Describe another ecclesial community, minimally its distinctive characteristics, spirit, or ethos; its significant theological perspectives or tenets; how it understands its relationship to the world; and ways people in that ecclesial community have actually experienced the divine in and through their community (6 pages).
- Discuss what you have learned to appreciate most about the other ecclesial community upon which you have focused (2 pages).

- Discuss how this encounter with another Christian ecclesial community has enabled you to understand your own ecclesial community more clearly and how it has required you to understand your own community differently (2 pages).
- Discuss how this course has assisted you in developing a more intentional ecumenical consciousness and what difference this consciousness might make to your life (for example, your spiritual formation, and/or your ministry, and/or your engagement with the world around you 2 pages).

### Guidelines for Papers

At the outset, a paper identifies a topic sentence or advances a thesis statement that is identifiable, plausible, compelling, and insightful. A paper displays a structure or organization of material that is solid, understandable, and appropriate to the thesis. Authors make use of appropriate resources to support their points and reflect sound thinking in the construction and flow of the paper. Finally, papers demonstrate good mechanics – sentence structure, grammar, punctuation, spelling and so forth. Papers should be typed in 12 pt. type, double-spaced, and submitted electronically to both professors.

Students in the Pastoral Counseling degree submit papers with citations in APA (American Psychological Association) format delineated by the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*. All other students submit papers with citations in CMS (Chicago Manual of Style) format delineated by *The Chicago Manual of Style: The Essential Guide for Writers, Editors, and Publishers*. The basic rules for these style formats may be found at the following websites:

**APA:** <a href="http://bcs.bedfordstmartins.com/resdoc5e/">http://bcs.bedfordstmartins.com/resdoc5e/</a> (Diana Hacker website/social sciences) **CMS** <a href="http://bcs.bedfordstmartins.com/resdoc5e/">http://bcs.bedfordstmartins.com/resdoc5e/</a> (Diana Hacker website/history)

or <a href="http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools\_citationguide.html">http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools\_citationguide.html</a> (CMS website)

At times students need assistance with the writing process itself. In addition to face-to-face assistance offered by Seattle University's Writing Center (McGoldrick Learning Commons 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor), two websites offer online assistance with writing.

Seattle University Writing Center: <a href="http://www.seattleu.edu/writingcenter/">http://www.seattleu.edu/writingcenter/</a> (Resources)

Purdue Writing Center: <a href="http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/">http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/</a>

#### **Academic Honesty**

The School of Theology and Ministry strictly adheres to the Academic Policy concerning Academic Honesty as published in the Seattle University Student Handbook (see the Seattle University website).

#### Grading

Class Attendance, Preparation, Participation, and Class Presentation: 1/3 of grade Paper #1: 1/3 of grade Paper #2: 1/3 of grade

Theology in an Ecumenical Context Sáenz Syllabus

abus Fall 2011

## Schedule of Class Sessions and Assignments

## Class Session 1: September 21, 2011

Orientation to Theology in an Ecumenical Context

Terms; Introductions; Course Organization; Rules for the Dialogue; Worship Space Exercise

**Student Presentation Groups Form** 

## Class Session 2: September 28, 2011

Vision and History of the Modern Ecumenical Movement

What Is Theology? History of Modern Ecumenical Movement; Kinnamon's Vision of Ecumenism I
Student Presentation Groups Meet

Read and be prepared to discuss:

Kinnamon, *The Vision of the Ecumenical Movement*, pp. 1-74, 123-126 Marlin Van Elderen and Martin Conway (Course Reader)

## Class Session 3: October 5, 2011

**Christian Unity through Prayer and Worship** 

Kinnamon's Vision of Ecumenism II; Ecumenism: Audible and Visible; Reflections on agreements around Baptism, Eucharist, and Ministry Student Presentation Groups Meet

Read and be prepared to discuss:

Kinnamon, *The Vision of the Ecumenical Movement*, pp. 75-119 *Baptism, Eucharist, and Ministry* -- All Gláucia Vasconcelos Wilkey (Course Reader)

## Class Session 4: October 12, 2011

Rooted (in one's own identity) and Adaptive (in relation to others)

Christian Family Tree; Vatican II on Ecumenism; Women in the Church; Principles of Ecumenical and Interreligious Dialogue

Read and be prepared to discuss:

Boys, Jewish-Christian Dialogue, pp. 1-60

"The Decree of Ecumenism of the Second Vatican Council, in Kinnamon, The Vision of the Ecumenical Movement, pp. 159-168

"Ten Affirmations" and "Called to be One Church" (Course Reader) Sandra Beardsall (Course Reader) Theology in an Ecumenical Context Sáenz Syllabus

Fall 2011

## Class Session 5: October 19, 2011 Our Common Spiritual Heritage in the "Early Church" – East & West

Guest Presentation: Eastern Orthodox Christianity; Patristic Heritage and Spirituality

Student Presentation Groups Meet

Read and be prepared to discuss:

Boniface Ramsey; Gabriel O'Donnell in Maas and O'Donnell, *Spiritual Traditions for the Contemporary Church*, pp. 25-54

\*\*\*\*\*Paper #1 Due Today at 9:00 a.m. \*\*\*\*\*

## Class Session 6: October 26, 2011 Roman Catholic Spiritualities and Ecumenical Dialogue

Student Presentations on Roman Catholicism; Ignatian Spirituality; Teresian Spirituality; Spirituality of John of the Cross

Read and be prepared to discuss:

Barbara Bedolla and Dominic Tortaro; John P. McIntyre; Steven Payne; Robin Mass in Maas and O'Donnell, *Spiritual Traditions for the Contemporary Church*, pp. 171-188, 189-201; 235-258, 259-268 Stephen Sundborg (Course Reader)

# Class Session 7: November 2, 2011 Anglican Spirituality, Lutheran Spirituality, and Ecumenical Dialogue

Student Presentation on Episcopal Ecclesial Community; Student Presentation on Lutheran Ecclesial Community; Lutheran-Roman Catholic Joint Declaration; Episcopal and Lutheran Spirituality

Read and be prepared to discuss:

John N. Wall; Gabriel O'Donnell; Robin Mass in Maas and O'Donnell, *Spiritual Traditions for the Contemporary Church*, pp. 269-286, 287-302; 162-170

Marc Lienhard (Course Reader)

Lutheran-Roman Catholic Joint Declaration (Course Reader)

Phyllis Anderson (Course Reader)

Theology in an Ecumenical Context Sáenz Syllabus

Fall 2011

## Class Session 8: November 9, 2011

## Reformed Spirituality, Wesleyan Spirituality, and Ecumenical Dialogue Student Presentation on Reformed Ecclesial Communities; Student Presentation on Methodist Ecclesial Community; Presbyterian and Weslyan Spirituality

Read and be prepared to discuss:

Maas and O'Donnell, *Spiritual Traditions for the Contemporary Church*, pp. 202-221, 222-234; 303-319, 320-331 John Thomas (Course Reader) Douglas Jacobsen (Course Reader)

### Class Session 9: November 16, 2011

## Black Spirituality, Additional Spiritualities, and Ecumenical Dialogue

Student Presentations on Baptist and American Baptist Ecclesial Communities; Student Presentations on other ecclesial communities or religious traditions; Black Spirituality; Oduyoye and Images of the Church; Chung and Ecumenism

Read and be prepared to discuss:

Maas and O'Donnell, *Spiritual Traditions for the Contemporary Church*, pp. 332-351, 352-361 Mercy Oduyoye (Course Reader) Chung Hyun Kyung (Course Reader)

## November 23: Thanksgiving Holiday

## Class Session 10: November 30, 2011

**Manifesting an Ecumenical Consciousness** 

Class discussion of student papers; Looking back at what we've missed; the nature of the ecumenical dialogue; course evaluations

## \*\*\*\*\*Paper # 2 Due Today at 9:00 a.m.\*\*\*\*

## **Readings**

## Required Books

World Council of Churches. *Baptism, Eucharist, and Ministry*. Faith and Order Paper No. 111. Geneva: World Council of Churches Publications, 1982.

Boys, Mary C. *Jewish-Christian Dialogue: One Woman's Experience*. New York/Mahwah, NJ: Paulist Press, 1997.

Kinnamon, Michael. The Vision of the Ecumenical Movement and How It Has Been

Impoverished by Its Friends. St. Louis, MO: Chalice Press, 2003.

Maas, Robin and Gabriel O'Donnell, O.P., eds. *Spiritual Traditions for the Contemporary Church*. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 1990.

\*\*\*Other reading will be required specific to your ecclesial community\*\*\*

## Required Course Reader (available from SUper Copy on campus)

Dionysius of Alexandria. "Prayer for Church Unity."

- English Language Liturgical Consultation. "The Lord's Prayer" (Ecumenical Version). In *Praying Together*. The English Language Liturgical Consultation, 1988. This work is no longer in print, but a pdf version may be found at: http://www.englishtexts.org/praying.pdf.
- Ralph, Margie. "Rules for the Dialogue." In *Introduction to Ecumenism*, by Jeffrey Gros, Eamon McManus, and Ann Riggs, 117. New York: Paulist Press, 1998.
- World Council of Churches. "Called to Be the One Church." WCC Ninth Assembly, Porto Alegre, Brazil. Geneva: World Council of Churches, 2006.

  This statement of the Assembly may be found at the World Council of Churches website:

  <a href="http://www.oikoumene.org/en/resources/documents/assembly/porto-alegre-2006/1-statements-documents-adopted/christian-unity-and-message-to-the-churches/called-to-be-the-one-church-as-adopted.html">http://www.oikoumene.org/en/resources/documents/assembly/porto-alegre-2006/1-statements-documents-adopted/christian-unity-and-message-to-the-churches/called-to-be-the-one-church-as-adopted.html</a>.
- Beardsall, Sandra. "Talking to Strangers: Dilemma and Promise for Women in Ecumenism." *Seattle Theology and Ministry Review* 7 (2003), 83-92.
- VanElderen, Marlin and Martin Conway. "The Ecumenical Movement." Chap. 2 in *Introducing the World Council of Churches*. Rev. English ed. Risk Book Series. Geneva: World Council of Churches Publications, 2001.
- Thomas, John H. "Contemporary Commitment and Catholic Substance." Adaptation of paper presented to the Executive Council of the United Church of Christ, October 28, 1997. This paper may be found at the following UCC resource website: <a href="http://www.ucc.org/education/polity/pdf-folder/thomas-contemp-commitment-cath-substance.pdf">http://www.ucc.org/education/polity/pdf-folder/thomas-contemp-commitment-cath-substance.pdf</a>.
- Jacobsen, Douglas. "Pietism and the Postmodern Context of Ecumenical Dialogue." *Ecumenical Trends* 29, no. 2 (February 2000), 1-10.

- The Lutheran World Federation and the Catholic Church. "Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification." [Augsburg, Germany, October 31, 1999.] The Joint Declaration may be found at the Lutheran World website or the Vatican website at the following addresses:
  - http://www.lutheranworld.org/Special\_Events/EN/jd97e.pdf. http://www.vatican.va/roman\_curia/pontifical\_councils/chrstuni/documents/rc\_pc\_chrstuni\_doc\_31101999\_cath-luth-joint-declaration\_en.html.
- Kyung, Chung Hyun. "Come, Holy Spirit—Renew the Whole Creation." In *The Ecumenical Movement: An Anthology of Key Texts and Voices*, edited by Michael Kinnamon and Brian Cope, 231-37. Geneva: World Council of Churches Publications, 1997. [WCC Seventh Assembly, Canberra Australia, 1991].
- Oduyoye, Mercy Amba. "The African Family as a Symbol of Ecumenism, 1988." In *The Ecumenical Movement: An Anthology of Key Texts and Voices*, edited by Michael Kinnamon and Brian Cope, 456-60. Geneva: World Council of Churches Publications, 1997.
- World Council of Churches. "Ten Affirmations on Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation." In *The Ecumenical Movement: An Anthology of Key Texts and Voices*, edited by Michael Kinnamon and Brian Cope, 317-24. Geneva: World Council of Churches Publications, 1997. [WCC World Convocation on Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation, Seoul, Korea, 1990].
- Anderson, Phyllis. "Formation of an Ecumenical Conscience." *Seattle Theology and Ministry Review* 4 (2004), 4-12.
- Sundborg, Stephen V. "The Institute for Ecumenical Theological Studies and the Mission of Seattle University." Address given by the President of Seattle University at the Founding of the Institute for Ecumenical Theological Studies. Seattle, WA, July 11, 1997.
- Vasconcelos-Wilkey, Gláucia. "Where Life Unites: *Ecumenismo Primo*, Audibly and Visibly." Presentation to the *Association for Reformed and Liturgical Worship*, School of Theology and Ministry Summer Institute for Liturgy and Worship, Seattle University, July 13, 2006.
- Lienhard, Marc. "Luther and the Beginnings of the Reformation." In *Christian Spirituality: High Middle Ages and Reformation*, Volume 17 of *World Spirituality: An Encyclopedic History of the Religious Quest*, 268-299. New York: Crossroad Publishing, 1998.