IST 1024 1 **PROPHETIC MINISTRIES: IMMIGRATION, REFUGEES & DISPLACEMENT (Update)**

Fall 2020 (Online)

Zoom Classes: 9:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m., Wednesdays of Weeks 1, 3, 7, & 9.

lliff School of Theology



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## COURSE DESCRIPTION

This four-credit interdisciplinary seminar is the foundational course for Masters’ students, honing critical writing skills. The course surveys the theological meaning of prophetic ministry and invites students to probe how to practice it in relation to the issues of immigration, refugees, and displacement in various ministerial settings. The basic pedagogical approach for this course is interdisciplinary—the relational and dialogical process of teaching and learning across boundaries of theology, ethics, homiletics, and other disciplines such as history, sociology, politics, philosophy, and literary scholarship.

## COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course, students will:

1. Learn about the social realities and environmental impacts of immigration, refugees & displacement through reading, class discussion, field trip, and interviews.
2. Creatively engage and participate in social justice thought and praxis by exploring immigration, refugees & displacement as contextualized challenges that intersect with history, social analysis, sacred texts, ethics, and religious practice.
3. Develop critical thinking, reading, and writing skills. Specifically, students will learn how to identify (in the writing of others) and articulate (in their own writing) a thesis, methodological approaches, context, argument contours, and the broader implications of the scholarship.
4. Gain library and online research skills in order to address a particular subject. Specifically, students will learn how to curate and discern resources that are helpful and appropriate to given genres and how to engage in constructive academic dialogue through interdisciplinary studies.

DEGREE LEARNING GOALS

**First Year Interdisciplinary Course (4 credits):**This course is team-taught and will introduce students to terminology, reading of primary texts and how to write academic papers as well as expose them to the complexity and significance of theological reflection. The course must be taken within the student's first 40 credit hours.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. **Class Participation**:The completion of weekly reading assignments and active participation in Zoom classes and online discussions is required. You cannot pass the course if you are absent from more than two weeks. If you cannot attend the Zoom classes, you are required to watch the class videos and provide written comments on the discussions and the other students’ assignments. All the assignments will be posted on the Discussions page, so that you may learn from the classmates’ postings by reading and replying to them. When providing written replies, you are free to reply in one word or one sentence. But, you are required to respond to **at least three classmates’ posts** with your profound comments in **no fewer than 100 words**. Please make sure that all students have replies before commenting on the posts that already had replies. You do not have to reply to late posts. The instructors will provide their comments on the students’ assignments by replying to the posts on the Discussions page within a week, and you are supposed to read their replies to other students’ posts, as well as your own, as learning opportunities.
2. **One-page Essay** (single-spaced, or 400-450 words, **Due Week 2**):
3. Write an essay focusing on the following question: “What is your definition of prophetic ministry in relation to your particular ministerial context?”
4. Post your essay in Canvas by Friday (09/25), 11:59 p.m. (MT).
5. Read other classmates’ posts and prepare to give feedback at the Zoom meeting on the following Wednesday.
6. **Microblog Review** (5-7 pages, double-spaced, or 1250-1750 words, 1-inch margins, standard font, **Due Week 4**): Microblogs such as Twitter, Tumblr, Jiku, Hictu, and certain features of Facebook (i.e., a brief text/image/video updating and publishing form of blogging; usually less than 200 characters) are an important contemporary form of communication and organization.
7. Identify one microblog forum through which to trace the contemporary treatment of immigration, refugees, and displacement.
8. Identify a central trend of the microblog’s treatment of the immigration, refugees and/or displacement.
9. Specify a timeframe that will constrain your review of this microblog.
10. Construct a thesis and build an argument around this trend that specifics: why you do or do not agree with the perspective expressed in the central trend and the merits and/or lmitations of that trend with respect to both theory and praxis. Identify, cite, and utilize at least two books not included in the syllabus and at least two additional sources of different types (i.e., web press, audiovisual material, and/or microblog resources) that support your thesis.
11. Post it in Canvas by Wednesday (10/07), 11:59 p.m. (MT).
12. Reply to at least three classmates’ posts (no fewer than 100 words) by Friday (10/09), 11:59 p.m. (MT).
13. **Report on a Field Trip and Interviews** (5-7 pages, double-spaced, or 1250-1750 words, 1-inch margins, standard font, **Due Week 6**):
14. Visit an immigration, refugee center, or a sanctuary church (in person, online, or on the phone) and interview an agent(s) about its mission, vision, challenges, and problems.
15. Interview one or two recent immigrants or refugees and listen to their past and present stories and future hopes. Your interview can be done in person, video, or phone.
16. Write your report that includes: (a) the summary of your field trip and interview processes, b) what the most profound learning points from those activities and what you heard that you did not expect, (c) the challenges and problems embedded in the issues of immigration, refugees & displacement.
17. Post your report in Canvas by Wednesday (10/21), 11:59 p.m. (MT).
18. Reply to at least three classmates’ posts (no fewer than 100 Words) by Friday (10/23), 11:59 p.m. (MT).
19. **Final Paper** (**Due Week 8 & Week 10**): A summative project will help you craft a prophetic ministry intervention that responds creatively and transformatively to the issues of immigration, refugees & displacement.
20. Critically reflect on what we have discussed in class, and analyze the problematic dimensions of the issues of immigration, refugees & displacement.
21. Focus on a special challenge or problem that needs a prophetic ministry intervention.
22. Think theologically by probing that special topic and construct your thesis.
23. Build an argument to support your theological and ethical position.
24. In addition to the class readings, refer to and cite at least two books and at least two additional sources of different types (i.e., book, web press, audiovisual material, and/or microblog resources) that support your thesis.
25. Fill out the “**Outline Form**” of the final paper (Requirement #5/A, **Due Week 8**) located on the Home page of Canvas, and post it in Canvas by Wednesday (11/04), 11:59 p.m. (MT).
26. Develop your outline into a full-blown **academic paper** (Requirement #5/B: **14-16 pages, double-spaced, or 3,500-4,000 words,** 1-inch margins, standard font, **Due Week 10**), and post it in Canvas by Wednesday (11/18), 11:59 p.m. (MT).
27. Reply to at least three classmates’ posts with constructive comments (no fewer than 100 Words) by Friday (11/20), 11:59 p.m. (MT).

## EVALUATION

# You will be graded according to Iliff standards on a letter grading scale. For more information see *The Mater’s Student Handbook*: <https://www.iliff.edu/masters-student-handbook/>

A : 4.00 (100 – 96%)

A-: 3.75 (95 – 91%)

B+: 3.25 (90 – 86%)

B : 3.00 (85 – 81%)

B-: 2.75 (80 − 76%)

C+: 2.25 (75 – 71%)

C : 2.00 (70 – 66%)

* + Your grade will be determined in this way:
    1. Zoom Classes: 20% (4 x 5%)
    2. Requirement #2 (“One-page Essay”): 10%
    3. Requirement #3 (“Microblog Review”): 20%
    4. Requirement #4 (“Report on Field Trip and Interviews”): 20%
    5. Requirement #5/A (“Outline of the Final Project”): 5%
    6. Requirement #5/B (“Final Project”): 25%
  + Both unexcused or excuses late submissions will lower your grade (-5/each), except the case that you get approval from your advisor and the academic dean. Late submissions may not receive written comments from the instructors.
  + The deadline for late submissions is **November 23 (Mon.)**. All the assignments submitted late may be reviewed by the instructors after this date.
  + You are required to reply to at least three classmates’ posts. No replies will lower your grade (-0.5/each).

## OTHER IMPORTANT MATTERS

* **DO NOT plagiarize!** If you have any questions about whether or not what you are doing is plagiarism, go to [www.iliff.edu.](http://www.iliff.edu/) If you are still unsure, ask before submitting your work.
* All the written assignments should include appropriate footnotes or the list of works cited with page numbers.
* If you are unable to complete the assignments due to physical or mental health reasons, please notify the instructors.
* If you choose not to follow Chicago MLA citation format, indicate which form you will use and why.
* In case of necessary absences, please notify the instructors in advance.
* The use of inclusive language is strongly urged in all discussions and writings.

**Incomplete Policy:** Students are responsible for following the procedures outlined in the *Master’s Student Handbook.*

**ADA Policy:** Iliff engages in a collaborative effort with students with disabilities to reasonably accommodate student needs. Students are encouraged to contact their assigned advisor to initiate the process of requesting accommodations. The Advising Center can be contacted at advising@iliff.edu or by phone at 303.765.1146.

REQUIRED COURSE READINGS

**Books** (Although some chapters are required, reading the entire books is encouraged.)**:**

1. Barber, William J. & Jonathan W. Hartgrove, *The Third Reconstruction,* Chs. 1, 5, 6, 9.
2. Bauman, Stephan, et al., *Seeking Refuge: On the Shores of the Global Refugee Crisis*, Chs. 6. 9, 10.
3. Bauman, Zegmunt, *Strangers at the Door.*
4. Brueggemann, Walter, *Prophetic Imagination* (2nd edition), Preface to the Revised Edition, Chs. 1, 2, 5, 6*.*
5. De la Torre, Miguel, *The U.S. Immigration Crisis*, Introduction, Chs. 3, 4, 6.
6. Hill, Johnny Bernard Hill, *Prophetic Rage: A Postcolonial Theology of Liberation*, Introduction, Chs. 1, 2, 4.
7. Stone, Howard & James Duke, *How To Think Theologically*,” Introduction & Chapters 2, 3, 4, 6.

**Articles:**

1. Duchesne, Suzanne, “A Voice Cries Out: The Role of Listening for Cultural Narratives and Unmasking Whiteness in the Pulpit,” Paper Presented at the Academy of Homiletics, New Brunswick, NJ, Dec. 2019. (Available in Canvas).
2. Heyer, Kristin, “Internalized Borders: Immigration Ethics in the Age of Trump,” *Theological Studies* (2018), Vol. 79 (1): 146-164. (Available in Canvas).
3. Park, Sangyil (Sam), “Speaking of Hope: Prophetic Preaching,” *Review and Expositor*, 109, Summer 2012: 413-428. (Available in Canvas).
4. Taylor, Mark L., “Theological Resistance to U.S. Christian Nationalism,” in *Doing Theology in the Age of Trump*, 60-73. (Available in Canvas).
5. Yee, Gale A., “She Stood in Tears amid the Alien Corn”: Ruth, the Perpetual Foreigner and Model Minority,” in *Off the Menu: Asian and Asian North American Women’s Religion & Theology*, eds. Rita Nakashima Brock, et al., Ch. 3. (Available in Canvas).

**DVD:**

1. De la Torre, Miguel, “Trails of Hope and Terror.”

**COURSE SCHEDULE**

**Week 1 (09/14 - 09/19): Zoom Class (Wednesday, 9:00 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.)**

* Readings: Stone & Grove, Introduction & Chapters 2, 3, 4, 6; de la Torre, Introduction; Brueggemann, Preface.
* Meditation: Dr. Kim
* Introducing one another (your program, denomination, ministerial setting, future plan after graduation, why taking seminary education and why at Iliff, why taking this course, etc.). Since we may not have enough time to get acquainted one another at the Zoom meeting, you are required to post your introduction video in Canvas by Monday (9/14), 11:59 p.m.
* Discussion Topics: After completing this week’s readings, reflect on the following questions and post your answers (200-250 words/each question) in Canvas by Monday (9/14), 11:59 p.m. In addition, be prepared to discuss them in the Zoom class:
* Why are interdisciplinary studies necessary in theological education?
* What would be the challenges to using the methodology of “liberative ethics” as it relates to the issue of immigration?
* What does it mean to “think theologically”?
* What is the role of imagination in theological reflection?
* If you cannot attend the Zoom class, you are required to watch the class video and provide your written comments by Friday (9/19), 11:59 p.m.

**What Are Prophetic Ministries?**

**Week 2 (09/21 – 09/25)**

* Introductory Video: Dr. Kim
* Readings: Hill, Introduction, Chs. 1, 2, 4; Taylor; Brueggemann, Chs. 1, 2, 5, 6.
* Requirement #2 (“One-page Essay”):
* Reflect on this weeks’ readings and write your answer to the question, “What is your definition of prophetic ministry as it relates to the issues of immigration, refugees, and displacement in your particular ministerial context?” The essay should include appropriate footnotes or the list of works cited with page numbers.
* Post your essay in Canvas by Friday (09/25), 11:59 p.m. (MT).
* Read other classmates’ posts and prepare to give feedback in the Zoom class on the following Wednesday (9/30).
* If you cannot attend the Zoom class, you are required to reply to the other students’ posts by Tuesday (9/29), 11:59 p.m. in Canvas.

**Week 3 (09/28 – 10/02): Zoom Class (Wednesday, 9:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.)**

* Check-in: Dr. Kim
* Meditation: Dr. Leath
* Discussion Topics: Requirement #2 (“One-page Essay”)
* What is your social location?
* What is your understanding of prophetic ministry?
* Why is the prophetic ministry necessary in relation to the issues of immigration, refugees, and displacement? How can it be practiced in your particular ministerial context?
* If you cannot attend the Zoom class, you are required to watch the class video and provide your written comments by Friday (10/02), p.m.

**Immigration, Refugees, and Displacement**

**Week 4 (10/05 – 10/09):**

* Introductory Video: Dr. Leath
* Readings: Heyer; S. Bauman, et al., Chs. 6, 9, 10.
* Requirement #3 (“Microblog Review”):
* Post the assignment in Canvas by Wednesday (10/07), 11:59 p.m. (MT).
* Reply to at least three classmates’ posts with what you agree or disagree (no fewer than 100 Words) by Friday (10/09), 11:59 p.m. (MT).

**Week 5 (10/12 – 10/16): Reading Week:**

* Introductory Video: Dr. Kim
* Readings: Z. Baumann; Yee*.*

**Week 6 (10/19 – 10/23):**

* Introductory Video: Dr. Leath
* Readings: de la Torre, Chs. 3, 4, 6; “Trails of Hope and Terror” (live-stream).
* Requirement #4 (“A Report on a Field Trip and Interviews”):
* Post the assignment in Canvas by Wednesday (10/21), 11:59 p.m. (MT).
* Reply to at least three classmates’ posts by indicating what you learned from them (no fewer than 100 Words) by Friday (10/23), 11:59 p.m. (MT).

**Contextualized Responses**

**Week 7 (10/26 – 10/30): Zoom Class (Wednesday, 9:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.)**

* Readings: Park; Duchesne.
* Check-in: Dr. Leath
* Meditation: Student Volunteer
* Discussion Topics:
* Dr. Kim’s presentation (“Prophetic Preaching on the Issue of Immigration”) & discussion
* Q & A on the final project
* If you cannot attend the Zoom class, you are required to watch the class video and provide your written comments by Friday (10/30), 11:59 p.m.

**Week 8 (11/02 – 11/06): Research Week**

* Introductory Video: Dr. Kim
* Requirement #5/A (“Outline of the Final Project”):
* Fill out the “Outline Form” and post it in Canvas by Wednesday (11/04), 11:59 p.m. (MT).
* Feel free to offer suggestions or constructive comments on the other students’ outline forms.

**Week 9 (11:09 – 11/13): Zoom Class (Wednesday, 9:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.)**

* Readings: Barber & Hartgrove, Chs. 1, 5, 6, 9.
* Check-in: Dr. Kim
* Meditation: Student Volunteer
* Discussion Topics:
* Dr. Leath’s presentation & discussion
* Q & A on the final project
* If you cannot attend the Zoom class, you are required to watch the class video and provide your written comments by Friday (11/13), 11:59 p.m.

**Week 10 (11/16 – 11/20):**

* Introductory Video: Dr. Leath
* Requirement #5/B (“Final Paper”):
* Post your final project in Canvas by Wednesday (11/18), 11:59 p.m. (MT).
* Reply to at least three classmates’ posts with constructive comments (no fewer than 100 Words) by Friday (11/20), 11:59 p.m. (MT).