

TESP 46: Faith, Justice, and Poverty
Summer 2009 Session I
No. 48094 4 units
MTR 10:20 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Kenna 304

Professor Janet Giddings	Office: Kenna 317
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Course Catalog Description

TESP 46 examines biblical theologies of social responsibility, major theologians on poverty, and current appropriation of these traditions. [This course] Fulfills Religious Studies (intermediate) Core requirement. Prerequisite: Introductory level course.

Welcome to this course,

This course is about faith and global citizenship addressing issues of justice and poverty. We will study secular ways of addressing poverty and then using a Catholic moral framework we will apply ethics to examine how we can address the whole person when we help provide justice or work to mitigate poverty. How is Catholic theology relevant in a world that is embracing the “theology of capitalism?” Is it better to teach a starving child to fish or to bring the fish, cook it, and help feed her? We will work together to find an optimal way of acknowledging human dignity, human rights, and human suffering while we examine our duty, our obligation, our care, as faithful global citizens.

Required Texts

The Bible. Preferably Oxford Annotated.

Day, Dorothy. *Selected Writings*. Robert Ellsberg, Ed. New York: Orbis Books, 2007.

Yunus, Muhammad. *Creating a World Without Poverty*. New York: Public Affairs, 2007.

On ANGEL:

Justice, Peace and Human Development: The Seven Themes of Catholic Social Teaching.
 <<http://www.succeb.org/sdwp/catholicteachingprinciples.shtml>>.

There are other reading and support materials on ANGEL. See LESSONS or LINKS.

Learning Objectives (Core)

1. Students will be able to **analyze** complex and diverse religious phenomena.
2. Students will be able to **integrate** and **compare** several different disciplinary approaches to a coherent set of religious phenomena.
3. Students will be able to **clarify** and **express** beliefs in light of their critical inquiry into the religious dimensions of human existence.

Attendance

Summer session entails accelerated study and you will be expected to attend all class sessions, read all assigned material, participate in class discussion, and fulfill the off-campus volunteer requirement. Attending class is essential to the learning experience. See instructor early/prior for special direction if you feel you need to miss class.

Academic Integrity

As scholars you are expected to share and challenge the ideas of others and your own. When you write papers either independently or in collaboration you are expected to cite all borrowed ideas/materials according to the required format stated in the syllabus. Students who represent the ideas and works of others as their own will be subject to the policy of the University on such matters.

The University policy states, "Both the University Bulletin and the Student Handbook outline the University's expectations that all members of the University community are expected to be honest in their academic endeavors".

Please visit the Academic Integrity Policy at
<<http://www.scu.edu/academics/bulletins/undergraduate/Academic-Integrity.cfm>>

Disability Accommodation Policy

To request academic accommodation for a disability, students must contact Disabilities Resource Center located on the second floor of Benson. Phone numbers are (408) 554-4111; TTY (408) 554-5445. Students must register and provide documentation of a disability to DR prior to receiving academic accommodation.

Classroom Decorum

My teaching style is informal, respectful, and I hope fun. I enjoy teaching and interacting with student-scholars. Since discussion is essential to this course I want to make certain everyone understands the parameters: respect for each participant in the classroom. We each bring our unique perspective to the learning experience; we each speak in our own way and the style in which we learn is our own. Let us learn with and from each other.

Schedule of Assignments (This schedule will be adjusted for the Volunteer day)

Homework will be due each class time unless otherwise noted. Please see ANGEL for homework assignment directives.

Thursday, June 18th	Introduction; opening discussion of Faith; Poverty in America
Monday, June 22	Faith: CST* and Biblical selections see assignment on ANGEL
Tuesday, June 23	Faith: Biblical selections see ANGEL
Thursday, June 25	Faith: Gospel of Prosperity ANGEL Homework: one page response
Monday, June 29	Local: Justice & Poverty: USA Dorothy Day: Preface, Introduction [Paper due: 10 pts]
Tuesday, June 30	Day: The Long Way Home, Day after Day, Works of Mercy Homework: 1 page reflection
Thursday, July 2	Day: see ANGEL for assignment (Research paper topic due)
Monday, July 6	Day: see ANGEL for assignment
Tuesday, July 7	Presentations: Food Bank experience 2 page paper; 10 pts.
Thursday, July 9	Test: CST; Bible; Day; ANGEL selections; Films 20 pts.
Monday, July 13	Global: Poverty & Politics Yunus: Part I Homework: one page reflection
Tuesday, July 14	Yunus Part II Homework: one page reflection
Thursday, July 16	Yunus Part III Homework: one page reflection Faith & Justice? Film: Lima, Peru
Monday, July 20	Review: Local & Global Justice
Tuesday, July 21 LAST CLASS	Presentations & Research Papers 40 pts.
Thursday, July 23 FINAL DUE	Email Final as attachment 20 pts.

*CST = Catholic Social Teaching (see Link on ANGEL)