

# LIDLAW COLLEGE

*Te Wananga Amorangi*

## 612.715 Majority World Theology Course Assessment and Delivery Outline

Campus/Delivery Mode: Distance Learning

Semester 1, 2015  
NQF Level: 7, 15 credits

### CONTENT OVERVIEW

Topics will include:

1. Contextual theology
2. Latin American theology
3. African theology
4. Black theology
5. Asian theology
6. Palestinian theology
7. South Pacific theology
8. Majority World Feminist theology

### ASSESSMENT TASKS AND DUE DATES

#### 1. Online Discussion Forum

<i>Learning Outcomes</i>	3, 4, 5
<i>Due Dates</i>	Midnight Sunday, end of semester weeks 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 & 12
<i>Percentage Weighting</i>	20%
<i>Length</i>	As specified below

Throughout the semester you will be required to write seven postings for the online forums in the Moodle course area. These postings will be in response to given questions which you will find in the course materials. Each posting is to be about 200 words. In addition to your initial posting, you will be required to make at least one further posting of at least 50 words, which interacts with what other students have said. The second posting for each assessment exercise must be within 7 calendar days of the due date for the initial posting.

#### 2. Critical Review

<i>Learning Outcomes</i>	1, 2, 5, 6
<i>Due Dates</i>	Midnight Sunday, end of semester week 9
<i>Percentage Weighting</i>	35%
<i>Length</i>	2500 words

Select two theologies from the Majority World. One of these should be the theology from the Majority World that you intend to research for your essay (see next assessment, Research Essay for details). For each of these theologies, choose one piece of writing from each of two key theologians who write in that field (four writings in total). Start by checking the bibliography at the end of the relevant lesson. Articles or chapters from books would be ideal. Reflect on the writings in light of the following questions:

- What is the key issue each theologian is addressing?
- What is your assessment of this theology? What basis do you use to make this assessment?
- In what ways is this different from a Western theology?

- How does this theology compare to the other theology you have chosen?

The two theologies you select may be any two distinct theologies, for example, African and Latin American. It is expected that you will need to draw on more sources than the four writings being critiqued in order to do a fair critique. Feel free to discuss your choice of theologies, theologians, or their writings with your tutor if you are uncertain.

### 3. Research Essay

<i>Learning Outcomes</i>	2, 3, 4, 5, 7
<i>Due Dates</i>	Midnight Sunday, end of study week (1)
<i>Percentage Weighting</i>	45%
<i>Length</i>	3000 words

Select a theology from the Majority World. In an essay, describe briefly how this theology has developed, taking into account its historical development, any significant political, cultural, economic and external influences, as well as the backgrounds of the leading theologians. Identify and discuss a range of key issues and significant themes addressed by theologians in the context you have chosen. Discuss and critique what influence Western theology has had on this theology. Explain how this Majority World theology shapes the life and mission outreach of the church in its own context and beyond. Evaluate this theology, identifying perceived weaknesses and commenting on its strengths and contributions to theology in general.

## CRITERIA FOR ASSESSMENT

### Online Discussion Forum

Before beginning your first online discussion, please see the grading grid (rubric) on the “online discussion grading guide and indicative mid-semester feedback” for further details on how these criteria will be applied.

- Engagement with material
- Constructive engagement with others
- Structure and presentation
- Timeliness

### Critical Review

- Writings appropriately selected
- Characteristic concerns of each theology is discussed
- The theologies are compared constructively with Western theology and with each other
- Critical evaluation of the four pieces of writing
- Communication and Presentation: Clarity, format, spelling, grammar; Annotation and bibliography.

### Research Essay

- Clearly identifies a Majority World Theology, briefly describing its development:
  - historical development;
  - political, cultural and economic contexts;
  - background of theologians;
  - external influences on the theology
- Identifies and discusses a range of key issues and significant themes addressed by theologians in the chosen context
- Discusses how this Majority World Theology shapes the life and mission outreach of the church in its context
- Critically evaluates this theology, identifying any perceived weaknesses and commenting on strengths, and contributions to theology in general

- Communication and Presentation: Clarity, format, spelling, grammar; Annotation and bibliography.

## LEARNING HOURS

Lessons & Reading	60 hours
Online Forum	15 hours
Critical Review	30 hours
Research Essay	45 hours
<b>Total</b>	<b>150 hours</b>

## TEXTBOOKS

The required text for this course is:

Tennent, Timothy C. *Theology in the Context of World Christianity*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2007.

Recommended text is:

Dyrness, W A (ed). *Emerging Voices in Global Christian Theology*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1994.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

- A Reading Guide is provided with the course materials. Remember that sources for local theology can vary and are not necessarily available in a systematic form.
- There are optional / suggested readings given at the end of each chapter in the learning guide.
- Consult the WWW and online journals - and share discoveries! A list of helpful websites will be given on Moodle.

Please particularly see the following readings available on the Moodle course course area:

Yung, Hwa. "Introduction." In *Mangoes or Bananas: The Quest for an Authentic Asian Christian Theology* Oxford: Regnum Books, 1997. (1-26 and footnotes, 27-29.)

Tennent, Timothy C. "Preface" and "The Emergence of a Global Theological Discourse." In *Theology in the Context of World Christianity.* Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2007. (xvii-xxi., 1-19 (top).)

Bevans, Stephen. "Contextual Theology as a Theological Imperative" and "Issues in Contextual Theology." In *Models of Contextual Theology*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 2002. (3-27.)

Flemming, Dean. "Contextualization in Acts: Bridging Cultural Boundaries." In *Contextualization in the New Testament*. Leicester: InterVarsity Press, 2005. (25-55.)