UNDERGRADUATE COURSE DESCRIPTION

Term: Spring 2015
Instructor: Rev. James Bretzke, S.J.
Course #: THEO 4405/5405
Section: 101
Course Title: Christian Theology in Global Contexts

Description:

This course will consider several models and contextual issues of fundamental Christian ethics in various parts of the world in order to map how cultures and their respective ethoses intersect in the construction of ethical paradigms which in turn can both foster and hinder cross-cultural respect and collaboration. Two historical novels set respectively in Africa (Achebe) and Asia (Endo) will be read, along with works on cultural anthropology (Douglas), fundamental moral theology (Bretzke), a methodological reflection on the American ethical cultural tradition (Betsworth) and a work on theological inculturation in the African context (Orobator). The 1986 movie Mission will be viewed and discussed in the context of Latin America liberation theology. Additionally each student will be asked to read one (1) of the “Recommended Readings” (Kristof & WuDunn, Magesa, Moser & Leers, Schreiter, or Song) to discuss with other students who have chosen the same book, and to bring this discussion into the final oral exam.