

GRADUATE THEOLOGICAL UNION – JSTB

Spring Semester 2007

RSFT3179 Interreligious Dialogue

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Ofc. Hrs: Tu. 1-3 & by appt.

This course will involve both study and immersion: study of the history and theology of dialogue chiefly but not exclusively in Catholic Christian circles; immersion by writing and by regular involvement with local temples, mosques, synagogues, meditation centers, etc. Lecture with discussion and meditation. Reflection and research papers, focusing on one's own interior dialogue as well as exterior dialogue.

Fulfills the JSTB M.Div. interreligious dialogue/ecumenism requirement.

Required Reading:

In the Paradise of Krishna (= Hindu and Christian in Vrindaban), by Klaus Klostermaier. Available used via Amazon, etc.

Vatican II's *Nostra Aetate*, Pope John Paul II's *Redemptoris Missio* (#55-57), and Jesuit General Congregation 34's Decree #5, "Our Mission and Interreligious Dialogue," all easily downloadable.

The Intrareligious Dialogue, by Raimon Panikkar. **Revised** edition. Paulist PB.

Toward a Christian Theology of Religious Pluralism, by Jacques Dupuis. Orbis Books PB.

The CDF Declaration *Dominus Iesus* (from Google, www.vatican.va, etc.).

The Missionary and the Diviner, by Michael Kirwen. Orbis Books PB.

Guidelines for Dialogue between Muslims and Christians, by Maurice Borrmans. Paulist Press PB.

Living Zen, Loving God, by Ruben Habito. Wisdom Publications PB.

Course Requirements:

Feb. 12 Due date for a 3-4 page report-with-reflection paper (= Paperette) on Klostermaier's book.

- Mar. 12 Paperette based on Vatican documents, Panikkar and Dupuis so far.
- Apr. 12/16 Enhanced paperette (8-9 pp.) on one's dialogue immersion in a local temple, mosque, synagogue, meditation center, etc. (as explained by Prof.).
- May 17 Due date for a 12 page final paper on a topic, person, question, etc., connected with interreligious dialogue. Bibliographical help available, but one's own research encouraged.
- Grading: 15%, 15%, 20% for first three; 25% final paper; 25% class participation and discussion, including attendance.

Class Meetings and Reading Assignments:

- Jan. 29-Feb. 1 Introduction, meditations, Vatican II and John Paul II. Klostermaier 1-74, *NA, RM*.
- Feb. 5-8 Deeper on Vatican Documents and Klostermaier. Klostermaier 75-118; Jesuit Dialogue Decree.
- Feb. 12-15 Paperette on Klostermaier due on 12. Classes on Jesuit decree, then Panikkar. Panikkar xv-xx, 1-22; Dupuis 1-52.
- Feb. 22 Panikkar's 'Attitudes and Models'. Panikkar 23-40; Dupuis 53-109.
- Feb. 26-Mar. 1 Panikkar on Dialogue. Panikkar 41-59; Dupuis 110-70.
- Mar. 5-8 Panikkar on Faith and Beliefs. Panikkar 61-71; Dupuis 170-234.
- Mar. 12-15 Paperette due Mar. 12. Dupuis, for a change. Panikkar 73-83; Dupuis 235-304.
- Mar. 19-22 More Dupuis; and Bede Griffiths. Panikkar 103-117; Dupuis 305-390.
- Apr. 2-5 Concluding Dupuis and Panikkar; beginning *Dominus Iesus*. *Dominus Iesus*; Kirwen vii-xxv.
- Apr. 9 *Dominus Iesus*; then: Dialogue with African Religions. Kirwen 1-77.
- Apr. 12 No class meeting. Vaishnava-Christian Dialogue in Wash., D.C.

- Apr. 16-19 Enhanced paperette due Apr. 12 or 16. Dialogue in Africa. Kirwen 77-131; Borrmans 1-3, 9-27.
- Apr. 23-26 From Africa to Islam. Borrmans 28-87.
- Apr. 30-May 3 Dialogue with Islam. Borrmans 88-114; Habito ix-xvi, 1-25.
- May 7-10 Dialogue with Buddhism. Habito 27-101.
- May 14 Final Class. Dialogue Present and Future. Habito 103-114.
- May 17 Due date for final paper.