




BAKKE GRADUATE UNIVERSITY COURSE SYLLABUS

Bakke Graduate University of Ministry strengthens ministry leaders who steward resources with and for vulnerable people and places, by means of contextual, Christian-based education innovatively delivered throughout the urban world.

Course Number:	602CTM (Master's level)
Course Title:	The Scandal of God: Learning to love the least, last and lost
Credits:	3
Professor of Record:	Dr. Kris Roche
Class-Session Dates:	TBD
Course Schedule:	Course Information:
Course Location:	TBD
Due Dates:	<p>Journal: A guiding set of prompts will be distributed following the course for you to respond to in journal form. All journals must be completed and submitted no later than 30 days following the completion of the class session.</p> <p>Reading: All <i>required reading</i> book reviews must be completed and submitted no later than 60 days following the completion of the course.</p> <p>Project Papers and Reports: All projects and additional <i>recommended reading</i> book reviews must be completed and submitted within 90 days following the completion of the course.</p> <p><i>Please send all homework by email to krocke@ctmnet.org</i></p> <p><i>***NOTE: No class credit will be assigned until all assignments have been turned in.</i></p>
Contact Information:	<p>Center for Transforming Mission (CTM): Kris Roche, Executive Director 902 Market Ave. Tacoma, WA 98402 USA email: krocke@ctmnet.org</p>
<p>Professor of Record:</p> 	<p>Dr. Kris Roche Dr. Roche is the executive director of the Center for Transforming Mission (CTM), whose purpose is to equip the Church to serve high-risk youth and families in hard places by developing communities of incarnational leaders who are equipped to bear witness to the Kingdom of God. Prior to CTM Kris served on the Young Life urban staff from 1985 to 1994 and then moved to Philadelphia where he created the organization MUD Inc. (Making Urban Disciples). He is currently an adjunct professor at Bakke Graduate University, and teaches in a variety of other institutions. He received his masters of divinity from Eastern Baptist Seminary and his doctor of ministry from BGU.</p>
Course Description:	We consider ministry among those who have been crushed by life. We journey into suffering and explore the meaning of the Cross among the most vulnerable. We consider how to build ministries in which the least are greatest, the last are first and the lost are found.

Instructional Methodology:	Faculty and ministry practitioners will provide in-class lectures, direct peer-to-peer group discussions, assign book reviews, guide field experiences around this theme, and facilitate daily journaling.
Desired Outcomes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encounter the Scandalous nature of the Cross and its meaning for ministry. • Develop foundations of Discipleship among the Damned. • Explore the problem of pain and its relationship to mission in a global, urban and postmodern context. • Consider God’s ability to suffer and the implications for mission. • Explore the difference between Transactional theology and Transformational theology and its meaning for mission. • Explore Luther’s Theology of the Cross vs. theology of Glory • Consider the nature of power and it’s meaning for mission. • Develop practical tools of discipleship among and with the least.
COURSE ASSIGNMENTS:	
Journal (10 pages):	<p>A critically reflective journal of the course presentation and experience. This will require three levels of work: Description, analysis and application. You must find a way to document each session and presentation in the intensive.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First, Describe, narrate and summarize the essence of what you heard, saw and/or experienced. • Second, analyze what was said or not said, i.e. the theological assumptions of the presentations and how they address your own assumptions. • Third, apply your learning and the principles to your ministry context. <p>As part of your journal reserve at least one page to write an “open letter” to God, speaking directly to Him about some aspect of what you’ve learned, or what you would like to say or discuss with God as it relates to some aspect of the material. You might explore a question, or a feeling or struggle. Don’t preach to God, rather speak directly to God and engage God in a discussion.</p>
Readings (1200 pages Total/ 2 pages per review) : If the <i>required reading</i> does not add up to 1200 pages, please review one or more of the <i>recommended readings</i> to meet the total page requirement.	Each book review should be made up of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First, the thesis and argument of the author - not the chapter outlines. Why did the author write this book and what is its main point? • Second, how do the chapters present the argument of the author? If it were a Bible text or story, part one is describing the main point the Apostle or Jesus is making in the text chosen. In part two analyze the text and author’s argument. If you’ve described it well in part one, then you can take a couple paragraphs to delineate (briefly), the strengths and limits of this book, its thesis and argument. (To see how this is done, read NY Times book reviews or movie and book reviews in most newspapers.) • Third, in the final step, you take what you have learned practically in transferable principles and apply them concretely, not just generally, to your context.

Course Project (15 pages):	<p>Each student will be required to submit a project demonstrating his or her ability to apply the course material to their ministry summarizing what you did and what you learned. Be creative. Be practical and apply it to your ministry. Have fun. Write an evaluation paper that reflects what you have learned and whether it met what you anticipated from course learning outcomes (goals or objectives) as well as personal goals for the course. Assign yourself a grade. (3 pages)</p> <p><i>Note:</i> Students are encouraged to write the first three assignments to their local support group, meaning the genre and form will be contextualized and practical. Like Paul, who wrote <i>to</i> the Corinthians then, but <i>for</i> us today, it is proposed that you write your assignments to your leadership team or Personal Learning Community (PLC), but for your professors. This will shape the genre and vocabulary of your work. It also means you can get very creative and practical and be accountable for all aspects of your work in this leadership program.</p>
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COURSE GRADING:

Reading and Book Reviews	25%
Course Journal	25%
Course Project	25%
Course Engagement	25%

ASSIGNMENT FORMAT:

Use the following format for all reports and written projects. The body of your text should be in 12 pt Times New Roman and double-spaced. Your *project* should include a title page, table of contents and bibliography and be presented in Turabian format. All *books reports* should include the following elements: a) Thesis and argument of author; b) How the chapters present the argument of the author; and c) Transferable principles that can be applied concretely to my context.

Here is an example of how the title page of each book report should appear:

- Your name
- Course Title/Number
- Date of Class
- Book Title
- Author of Book
- Number of pages

(See *CTM Paper Template.doc* for additional information)

REQUIRED READING:

1. Green, Joel B & Baker, Mark D. *Rediscovering The Scandal of the Cross – Atonement In New Testament and Contemporary Contexts*. Inter Varsity Press. 2000. (221 pgs.)
2. Hall, Douglas John. *The Cross In Our Context – Jesus and the Suffering of the World*. Fortress Press. 2003. (274 pages)
3. Gutierrez, Gustavo. *On Job – God-Talk and the Suffering of the Innocent*. Orbis Books. 1987. (104 pgs)
4. O’Connor, Kathleen M. *Lamentations and The Tears of the World*. Orbis Books. 2002. (147 pgs)
5. O’Connor, Flannery. *Everything that Rises Must Converge - The Lame Shall Enter First*. Farrar, Straus and Giroux. 1956 (47 pgs)

RECOMMENDED READING:

1. Brueggemann, Walter. *Finally Comes The Poet – Daring Speech For Proclamation*. Fortress Press. 1989. (142 pgs)
2. Barnes Craig, M. *When God Interrupts – Finding New Life Through Unwanted Change*. Inter Varsity Press. 1996. (158 pgs)
3. Brueggemann, Walter. *Cadences of Home – Preaching Among Exiles*. Westminster John Knox Press. 1997. (134 pgs.)
4. Cone, James. *God of the Oppressed*. Orbis Books. 1975. (226 pgs.)
5. De Vries, Peter. *The Blood of the Lamb*. Penguin. 1961
6. Endo, Shusaku. *Silence*. Taplinger Publishing Co. 1969. (191 pgs)
7. Ekblad, Bob. *Reading The Bible With The Damned*. Westminster John Knox Press. 2005. (203 pages)
8. Freire, Paulo. *Pedagogy of the Oppressed*. Continuum Publishers. 1970. (164 pgs)
9. Fretheim, Terence E. *The Suffering of God – An Old Testament Perspective*. Fortress Press. 1984. (166 pgs.)
10. Hall, Douglas John. *God and Human Suffering – An Exercise in the Theology of the Cross*. Augsburg Publishing House. 1986. (198 pgs)
11. Kraybill, Donald B. *The Upsidedown Kingdom*. Herald Press. 1978. (272. pgs.)
12. Lapierrre, Dominique. *City of Joy*. Doubleday. 1985 (464 pgs)
13. Lewis, Alan E. *Between Cross and Resurrection – A Theology of Holy Saturday*. W. B. Eerdmans. 2001. ISBN 0-8028-4702-1
14. Lewis C. S. *A Grief Observed*. Bantaam Books. 1963. (151 pgs)
15. Morris, David, B. *The Culture of Pain*. University of California Press. 1991. (290 pgs)
16. Nowen, Henri J.M. *The Wounded Healer – In Our Own Woundedness, We Can Become a Source of Life For Others*. Image Books – Doubleday. 1979. (100 pgs)
17. Resner, Andre Jr. *Preacher and Cross – Person and Message in Theology and Rhetoric*. William B. Eedmans Publishing Co. 1999. (185 pgs.)
18. Rohr, Richard. *Job and the Mystery of Suffering – Spiritual Reflections*. The Crossroad Publishing Co. 1996. (189 pages)
19. Sachar, Louis. *Holes*. Dell Yearling. 1998 (233 pgs)
20. Thurman, Howard. *Jesus and the Disinherited*. 1949. Abingdon Press. (112 pgs.)
21. Tribble, Phyllis. *Texts of Terror – Literary-Feminist Readings of Biblical Narratives*. Fortress Press. 1984. (109 pgs)
22. Yancy, Phillip. *Where is God When It Hurts?* Zondervan. 1990. (257 pgs)
23. Wiesel, Elie. *Night*. Hill and Wang. 1960. (119 pgs)

CTM REFERENCE RESOURCES:

These are books that are required for the program. Reading assignments will be given from these texts throughout the six intensives.

1. Bosch. David, J. *Transforming Mission – Paradigm Shifts In Theology of Mission*. Orbis Books. 1993.
2. Brueggemann, Walter. *An Introduction to the Old Testament: The Canon and Christian Imagination*. Westminster John Knox Press. 2003
3. McGrath, Alister E. *Christian Theology – An Introduction (Second Edition)*. Blackwell Publishers. 1997.
4. Wright, N.T. *The New Testament and the People of God*. Fortress Press. 1992.