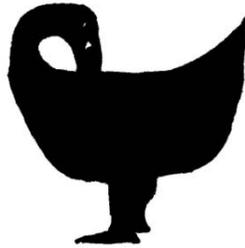


Sankofa Class Syllabus- Ministry 6401
North Park Theological Seminary
3225 W. Foster Avenue
Chicago, IL 60625
www.northpark.edu/sem
Fall 2011



The symbol represents the idea that one must take from the past what is good and bring it into the present in order to make positive progress through the benevolent use of knowledge. It can be represented by a bird with its head turned backwards taking an egg off its back. Sankofa is actually an Akan word meaning go back and take. Sanko- go back, fa- take. This idea has since been adopted by other tribes in the area and other cultures around the world. The Asante people of Ghana use an Adinkra symbol to represent this same idea and a version of it looks like this.



Adinkra symbols are used by the Asante to express proverbs and other philosophical ideas. They are numerous and are used throughout the world because of their aesthetic and spiritual beauty.

The Sankofa course is 3 credit hours. Traditional Seminary tuition is \$445/ per credit hour. The cost to audit the course is \$125.00.

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Class Time: Class begins Monday, August 29, 2011 at 6:30 – 9:20 pm in Nyvall. Class meets 13 weeks on the following Monday evenings: 8/29; 9/12; 9/19; 9/26; 10/3; 10/10; 10/24; 10/31; 11/7; 11/14; 11/21; 11/28; 12/5; 12/12. The class meets in Nyvall N-21, second floor of Nyvall.

- ◆ The course includes a *Chicago Sankofa Journey* which takes place Friday through Sunday, September 23-25, 2011.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: The course approaches the challenges of racism, justice and reconciliation through a theological and biblical framework aimed at equipping students for ministry in multicultural settings. Through a variety of readings, one on one conversation, lectures and visits to places where these challenges are being addressed, participants get an experiential perspective on the subject. The goal is to provide information on the challenges of racial justice, especially as it relates to the church as well as to transform participants into agents of racial reconciliation as part of their ministry and leadership.

This is a required course for the Certificate in Justice Ministries.

The certificate provides a foundational basis for doing justice ministries rooted in a biblical and theological understanding. The range of areas that the certificate can focus on includes: ecology, race, economy and gender. The certificate will give both a theoretical and practical approach to the student who wants to do ministry in this area. While not required, consideration may be given to a student who in consults with the director for the Center for Justice Ministries whether an internship in a given area may be part of such preparation for ministry.

Course Objectives: At the end of the course the student will be able to:

1. Have historical knowledge of the civil rights struggle, in both the South and the North.
2. Be able to think theologically and biblically why the struggle for racial justice and reconciliation is crucial to ministry.
3. Do critical analysis of the contemporary state of race relations.
4. Explore issues of race for the benefit of your future ministry.
5. Be familiar with resources for teaching on racial justice in the local church.
6. Have a clear Biblical foundation for ministries of reconciliation.
7. Be aware and conversant about issues of racial discrimination and injustice that are still present in Chicago.
8. Have some in-depth awareness of a particular Chicago neighborhood/community as focus for racial/ethnic change and the role of the church therein.
9. Create authentic relationship and community with people of other races and ethnicities.
10. Be engaged and committed to staying on the journey to recognize, speak to its presence, and eradicate racism

Primary Course Texts

Besides occasional papers, selected articles and chapters assigned in preparation for the class trip and engaging discussions, the class will read the following primary texts:

1. Melissa V. Harris-Perry, *Sister Citizen: Shame, Stereotypes, and Black Women in America*, Yale, New Haven CN, 2011
2. Joseph Barndt, *Understanding and Dismantling Racism*, Augsburg/Fortress, MN 2007.
3. Dwight N. Hopkins, *Being Human: Race, Culture and Religion*. Fortress, MN 2005.
4. Other readings will be distributed in class.

Course Requirements

	Grade
1. Full and active attention in the trip, classes, and worship experiences	20%
2. A two-page reflection paper on the Chicago Sankofa Journey experience and your interaction with your partner. [Due: September 26]	15%
3. A civil rights era quiz [in class October 31]	10%
4. A two-page each personal reflection paper on some significant issues from both Barndt and Hopkins texts. [Barndt Due: November 7; Hopkins Due: November 14]	10% each
5. A three-page paper on your own interaction with Harris-Perry. [Due: November 28]	15%
6. A five-page summary paper of personal reflection on race and reconciliation in one's own ministry. [Due: December 12]	20%

Expected Time Commitments for the Class

◆ Trip	30 hrs
◆ Class sessions	35 hrs
◆ Research:	
1. Reading	30 hrs
2. Writing	<u>25 hrs</u>
Total	120 hrs

Disabilities Accommodations

Students with disabilities who believe that they may need accommodations in this class are encouraged to contact the program's office [773-244-5619]. Please do so as soon as possible to better ensure that such accommodations are implemented in a timely manner. For further information please review the following website: <http://www.northpark.edu/ada>.

Academic Honesty

In keeping with our Christian heritage and commitment, North Park is committed to the highest possible ethical and moral standards. Just as we will constantly strive to live up to these high standards, we expect our students to do the same. To that end, cheating of any sort will not be tolerated. Students who are discovered cheating are subject to discipline up to and including failure of a course and expulsion. Our definition of cheating includes but is not limited to:

1. Plagiarism- the use of another's work as one's own without giving credit to the individual. This includes using materials from the Internet.
2. Representing another's work as your own.
3. Deliberately allowing another to copy your work.
4. Signing an attendance roster for another who is not present.

For further information on this subject you may refer to the Academic Dishonesty section of the University's online catalog.

Notes

The instructors reserve the right to modify the course syllabus to best accommodate the particular needs of the class.

Class Schedule

Date	Theme	Reading to be done
8/29	Introduction: African History/Culture	To be announced
9/5	Labor Day (No Class)	
9/12	Conversations on West, Harris-Perry, and "The Help"	
9/19	The "middle passage" and trip preparation	
9/23-25	Chicago Sankofa (see below)	
9/26	Trip debriefing; Slave Life	
10/3	The Construction of Race	
10/17	Fall Break	
10/24	The Civil Rights Movement: Selma to April 4, 1968	
10/31	Black Power and Beyond: Liberation Theology	
11/7	Growing up Black and Woman	
11/14	Womanist Theology	
11/21	The Role of the Bible in the Church	Guest Lecturer
11/28	Womanist Theology	
12/5	Theological/Ethical Analysis and Action	
12/12	Recapitulation and Reconciliation	

The Chicago Sankofa Journey September 10-12th Trip: Possible Sites

- ◆ Du Sable Museum
- ◆ Englewood and Lawndale Communities
- ◆ The Firehouse Arts Center; King home
- ◆ Pearl's and MacArthur's restaurants
- ◆ New Moms
- ◆ Operation Push
- ◆ Atonement Covenant Church
- ◆ The House – Saturday evening worship service (Hip Hop)
- ◆ Second Baptist Church worship service (Evanston, IL)
 - Bronzeville visits and church plants
 - Oakdale Covenant Church

Pedagogy

This course assumes an adult learning model valuing group interaction more than teacher/student presentation. There will be, besides the experiential trip and community study, much use of media both individually and corporately. Some films that may be used include:

- ◆ Eye on the Prize
- ◆ Black Metropolis: DuSable to Obama
- ◆ Race; The Power of an Illusion
- ◆ Color of Fear
- ◆ Amistad
- ◆ Four Little Girls

Devotionals

Beginning class devotionals will be centered on cross-racial interviews and conversations with other persons in the University community.