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HB6/712 - Deuteronomy and the Formation of Racial/Ethnic Worldviews
Summer 2023 July 10-14, 9am-12pm
Course Description

PURPOSE: This course will explore the book of Deuteronomy as well as literature focused on the formation of ethnicity and processes of racialization. Students will evaluate our own connection to ethnic and racialized worldviews while we will seek to understand what sort of community Deuteronomy is attempting to form in ancient Israel. Then, we will consider what interpreting Deuteronomy could lend to shaping the church's call to racial and ethnic justice.

PREREQUISITES: For MA or M.Div students taking course for advanced Hebrew Bible credit, HB500 and BIBL500 or Biblical Hebrew are pre-requisites; other students have no pre-requisites

COMPETENCE OBJECTIVES:

- 1) Identify the themes and literary shape of the book of Deuteronomy
- 2) Define with some major theories of ethnicity and racialization
- 3) Compare the connections between the world of the text and the world of the reader
- 4) Integrate their own social location as ethnic/racialized subjects
- 5) Apply OT exegesis and theory we've read to contribute to the church's call to reject white supremacy

FORMAT AND CONTENT:

This class meets 3 hours daily from July 10-14 during Summer session.

For on-campus students, work in the course consists of classes including lectures, discussions and small group exercises, some prepared before class. Distance students will participate through Zoom either synchronously at the same time as class (synchronous required for diploma or degree credit students), or asynchronously through recordings of class. Expectations for distance students will be spelled out in the syllabus.

TEXTS:

- 1) Bible, NRSV or JPS translation
- 2) Eriksen, Thomas H *Ethnicity and Nationalism*
- 3) Jennings, Willie *After Whiteness: An Education in Belonging*
- 4) Olson, Dennis *Deuteronomy and the Death of Moses*
- 5) Romero, Robert Chao *Brown Church: Five Centuries of Latina/o Social Justice, Theology, and Identity*

EXPECTATIONS, ASSIGNMENTS AND EVALUATIVE CRITERIA

The expectations and assignments in this course include: active class participation in discussions, a short paper (2-3 pages) reporting on an aspect of a particular topic, and a final research paper on a topic to be assigned (8-10 pages). Details for all assignments will be provided in the syllabus.

Due date: August 7th (Certificate, Diploma, MA, MDIV); Sept 5th (Th.M, GDTS)

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Stoler, Ann Laura. "Racial Regimes of Truth" in *Duress: Imperial durabilities in our times*. Duke University Press, 2016.

Stoler, Ann Laura. "Carnal knowledge and imperial power: Race and the intimate in colonial rule." In *The New Imperial Histories Reader*, pp. 177-194. Routledge, 2020.

Heng, Geraldine. *The invention of race in the European Middle Ages*. Cambridge University Press, 2018.(Introduction)

Jennings, Willie James. "The Christian Imagination." In *The Christian Imagination*. Yale University Press, 2010.

Carter, J. Kameron. *Race: A theological account*. Oxford University Press, 2008.

Buell, Denise. "Why This New Race." In *Why This New Race*. Columbia University Press, 2005. (introduction)

Brubaker, Rogers, Mara Loveman, and Peter Stamatov. "Ethnicity as cognition." *Theory and society* 33, no. 1 (2004): 31-64.

Brubaker, Rogers. "Ethnicity without groups." *European Journal of Sociology/Archives européennes de sociologie* 43, no. 2 (2002): 163-189.

Miller, James C. "Ethnicity and the Hebrew Bible: Problems and prospects." *Currents in Biblical Research* 6, no. 2 (2008): 170-213.

Lizardo, Omar. "The cognitive origins of Bourdieu's habitus." *Journal for the theory of social behaviour* 34, no. 4 (2004): 375-401.

Barth, Fredrik. "Enduring and emerging issues in." *The anthropology of ethnicity: beyond "Ethnic Groups and Boundaries"* (1994).

Nestor, Dermot Anthony. *Cognitive perspectives on Israelite identity*. Bloomsbury Publishing USA, 2010.