**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**Justice Week: Exploring the Biblical Foundation of Social Justice**

April 2024

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| **Instructors** | | Major Katherine Clausell, MA  Elyse Dobney, MSW  Terri Neville, JD | **Office**  THQ 3N 313  THQ 3N 312 | **Phone**  312/371-6327  847/942-2224 | | | |
| **Class Location** | | THQ 2S 208 | | | | | |
| **Credit Hours** | | N/A | **Class Hours** | | 4/23/24-4/25/24 8am-4pm  4/26/24 8am-12pm | | |
| **Course Description** | | | | | | | |
| The purpose of the course is to provide an intensive training on the topic of social justice for equipping and mobilizing Salvationists and those desiring to come alongside The Salvation Army to advance the gospel of Jesus Christ, the mission of The Salvation Army and the Central Territorial imperative to see “more people, more like Jesus”. This course will introduce students to a biblical theology of justice and acquaint them with the leading secular theories of justice. In addition to the historical foundations and contemporary social engagement of The Salvation Army, this course will examine contemporary social justice issues such as immigration, xenophobia, human trafficking, mass incarceration, criminal justice reform, environmentalism, poverty, corruption, and gender equality.  **Course Expectations**  Pre-and-Post Assignments, class instruction, and participation in an immersive experience will provide a holistic framework to Do Justice, in Jesus’ name, through TSA’s presence, preaching, and practice. Included in the class discussion is the notion that adopting a lifestyle marked by justice is an essential to our Christian faith and practice, much like the pursuit of holiness and Christian community. The International Position Statements of The Salvation Army will also be reviewed as we consider how to respond biblically to issues of social justice. | | | | | | | |
| **Correlation to Core Attributes and Competencies**  This course will provide opportunities for learners to be impacted in the following areas of the Core Attributes and Competencies: | | | | | | | |
| Sense of Calling: Gospel-driven passion for the mission  Character Development: Compassion, Ethics, Integrity  Knowledge and Skills: Biblical and doctrinal knowledge; Knowledge of The Salvation Army; Policy and procedural awareness  Problem Solving: Situation analysis skills, Strategic planning ability | | | | | | | |
| **Course Objectives** | | | | | | | |
| At the conclusion of this course, the learner will be able to:   1. Articulate a biblical understanding and definition of justice and delineate the various expressions it takes in society. 2. Understand the significance of biblical social justice within the larger context of God’s activity in the world. 3. Articulate an understanding of the relevance of Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection to God’s call upon his people to “do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly”. 4. Construct and articulate a plan of action to address social issues from a justice-informed lens. 5. Demonstrate skills to appropriately respond to social issues as they arise in their personal and ministry/work context. 6. Demonstrate an ability to analyze social issues which confront the church/Salvationists and offer appropriate responses according to sound theology and Salvation Army policy/position statements. | | | | | | | |
| **Methods of Instruction** | | | | | | | |
| Lecture with focus on interactive class structure and discussion that includes role playing, situational social justice case studies, guest speakers, assigned reading, and immersive experiences. | | | | | | | |
| **Textbooks** | | | | | | | |
| 1. Cannon, Mae Elise (2009). Social Justice Handbook: Small Steps for a Better World. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press. 2. Keller, T. (2010). Generous Justice: How God’s Grace Makes Us Just. New York: Penguin Group (USA) Inc., 3. Bible 4. The Salvation Army International Position Statements, <https://www.salvationarmy.org/isjc/ips>. | | | | | | | |
| **Supporting Articles/Resources:**  Booth, C. & Booth, W. (1880). *Aggressive Christianity: A Passionate Call for Christian Social Justice.* London, UK: Pantianos Classics  Chatraw, J. & Prior, K. (2019). *Cultural Engagement: A Crash Course in Contemporary Issues*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Academic  Edge, L. & Morgan, G. (2017). *Partnering With God: Being a Missional Salvationist.* Eugene, Oregon. Wipf & Stock  Macmillan, M. C., Posterski, D & Read, J. (2014). *When Justice Is the Measure. The Salvation Army*. Canada and Bermuda Territory, Ontario, Canada: Triumph Publishing  McCracken, V. (2014). *Christian Faith and Social Justice.* New York, NY. Bloomsbury Academic  Pallant, D. (2019). *To Be Like Jesus! Christian Ethics for a 21st Century Salvation Army*. The Salvation Army London, United Kingdon: Salvation Books  Rah, S. & Vanderpol, G. (2016). *Return To Justice: Six Movements that Reignited Our Contemporary Evangelical Conscience.* Grand Rapids, MI: Brazos Press.  Roberts, C. & Strickland, D. (2016). *Just: Imagine*. The Salvation Army Western Territory: Frontier Press <https://sajustice.us/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/JustImagine.pdf>  Rolheiser, R. (2019). *The Holy Longing:  The Search For A Christian Spirituality.*New York, NY: Image  Rothstein, R. (2017). *The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America.* New York, NY. Liveright Publishing Corporation  Soeren, M. & Yang, J. (2018). *Welcoming The Stranger.* Downers Grove, IL. InterVarsity Press  Swan, W. (2022). Living Right While Righting Wrong: A Salvationist Theology of Protest. The Salvation Army Canada and Bermuda Territory, Ontario: Triumph Publishing  Winship. J. (2016). *Faith in Action: Guiding Principles of The Salvation Army Social Services Ministries.* The Salvation Army Hoffman Estates, IL | | | | | | | |
| **Expectations & Requirements** | | | | | | | |
| All written assignments are due to the instructors via email by 11:59 PM on the due date listed. Please submit all assignment via email to [Katherine.clausell@usc.salvationarmy.org](mailto:Katherine.clausell@usc.salvationarmy.org). All responses should be typed (12-point font, Times New Roman, 1-inch margins, double spaced).  Attendance is expected and required in all class sessions – some courses include role playing, group participation, etc., for which class absence may result in a lowered grade.  Late submission of assignments carries a deduction of 10% per day (excluding Sundays) until the grade reaches “0”. The late penalty will be applied to the grade after the assignment has been graded according to the assignment description and rubric.  **MLA Guidelines for Papers**  Students are responsible for submitting papers in keeping with MLA guidelines. Papers should include an appropriate cover page, the body of the paper and a reference page. The body of the paper should follow preset word counts from the instructor. Please refer to the Shortcut for additional information. | | | | | | | |
| |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | GRADING SCALE WITH POINTS | | | | | | | | | | | | A |  | 95-100 |  | B- |  | 80-83 |  | D+ |  | 67-69 | | A- |  | 90-94 |  | C+ |  | 77-79 |  | D |  | 64-66 | | B+ |  | 87-89 |  | C |  | 74-76 |  | D- |  | 60-63 | | B |  | 84-86 |  | C- |  | 70-73 |  | F |  | 0-59 |   **Grading Scale**  Note: Final grades are **not** rounded up (i.e. a “94.8” = an “A-“) | | | | | | | |
| **CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION AND SUMMARY OF ASSIGNMENTS** | | | | | | | |
| **Project or Assignment** | **Description of Assignment** | | | | | **% of Grade** | **Due Date** |
| Pre-class Assignment #1 | **Reading Assignment** - Read Chapter 1 and Chapter 2 in Social Justice Handbook: Small Steps for a Better World. Write an initial reflection paper (approximately 300 words each) on What is Justice? What is Evangelism? And What is Discipleship? See appendix for expectations for this writing assignment. Submit to [katherine.clausell@usc.salvationarmy.org](mailto:katherine.clausell@usc.salvationarmy.org) by/on April 12, 2024. | | | | | 10% | Due 4/12/2024 |
| Pre-class Assignment #2 | **Reading Assignment** - Read the following International Position Statements of The Salvation Army and write a reflection paper:   1. IPS: Refugees and Asylum Seekers 2. IPS: Modern Slavery & Human Trafficking 3. IPS: The Salvation Army and the State 4. IPS: Corruption   5. IPS: Use of Power  Each reflection paper should be no more than 350 words. **Submit to** [**elyse.dobney@usc.salvationarmy.org**](mailto:elyse.dobney@usc.salvationarmy.org) **by/on April 19, 2024** | | | | | 15% | Due 4/19/2024 |
| Pre-Class Assignment #3 | **Reading Assignments and Observation** – While reading the book *Generous Justice*, the learner should look for a-ha moments of discovery and enlightenment regarding social justice (they may also be negative a-ha moments of disagreement). While reading, the learner should compose a minimum of 20 observations or a-ha moments that challenge, confirm, or enhance the learner’s own thinking. Your reflections should come from across the book (i.e., not just the first few pages or half, etc.). 20 observations represent average work ©; 20-29 solid observations represent above average work (B); 30 or more solid observations represent excellent work (A). The learner should describe HOW each statement has challenged, confirmed, or enhanced his/her thinking. The learner should use the format in the appendix of the syllabus. **Submit to** [**katherine.clausell@usc.salvationarmy.org**](mailto:katherine.clausell@usc.salvationarmy.org) **by/on April 19, 2024** | | | | | 15% | Due 4/19/2024 |
| In-class Assignment | **Prophetic Involvement** – Use the four steps described in chapter 7 of *Just Imagine* to preliminarily develop an action plan that outlines an appropriate response to a social justice issue that currently disturbs you or is relevant to your work/ministry. Be prepared to share your initial thoughts about your chosen issue area on the last day of class. The presentation should be 15-20 minutes. | | | | | 15% | Due 4/25/2024 |
| Post-Class Assignment | **Lessons learned Paper** – Bring together the reading of your textbooks, the classroom lectures, discussions, and class presentations, write a 4-5 page reflection paper that summarizes the lessons you have learned from your study of social justice. **Submit to** [**elyse.dobney@usc.salvationarmy.org**](mailto:elyse.dobney@usc.salvationarmy.org) **by/on May 15, 2024** | | | | | 30% | Due 5/15/2024 |
| Post-Class Assignment | **Salvationist Social Justice Manifesto** – Write a 6-7 page research paper that can be used as a Salvationist Social Justice Manifesto. Your paper should draw upon the required texts, classroom teaching, assigned materials, additional materials to be provided, and two or more published books or articles (no unreviewed internet sources). The Manifesto should provide an overview of biblical social justice, some historical background, critical aspects of social justice movements, a prophetic critique of The Salvation Army today and what the Army could become through faithful recalibration of Salvationists’ hearts, minds and souls to our birthright calling to biblical social justice. **Submit to** [**katherine.clausell@usc.salvationarmy.org**](mailto:katherine.clausell@usc.salvationarmy.org) **by/on June 1, 2024** | | | | | 25% | Due 6/1/2024 |
| TOTALS |  | | | | | 100% |  |

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| CLASS SCHEDULE | | | | | |
| Session | DAY | DATE | TIME | TOPIC OF INSTRUCTION | PRE-READING/READING ASSIGNMENTS |
| 1 | Mon | 4/22 | 2:00 – 4:00 | **Welcome & Introductions**  **Syllabus Review**  ***Overview of Justice Week***  (Land Use Acknowledgement)  Major Katherine Clausell/Elyse Dobney |  |
| 2 | Tues | 4/23 | 9:00 – 10:30 | ***Theological Foundations of Justice***  Intro: Justice & The Character of God  The Triune Nature of God  The Divine and Human Nature of Jesus The Unio Mystica: That They May Be One Instructor: Terri Neville, JD | Gen. 1:26; Deut. 6:4-5; Isaiah 41:10; 42:1; Psalm 89:14; Amos 5:24; Micah 6:8; Matthew 3:2; Luke 3:22; John 1:32-34; 17:21-23; Romans 6:23; 1 Cor. 15:45; 2 Cor. 5:16-21; Gal. 3:28; Eph. 2:14; 1 Tim. 3:16; 1 John 4 |
| 3 | Tues | 4/23 | 10:45 – 12:00 | ***Theological Foundations of Justice*** *(Cont.)*  What is “Doing” Justice? Justice & The Bible Justice & The Old Testament:  Justice & The New Testament:  Justice and the Unfolding Kingdom of God  Instructor: Terri Neville, JD | Deut. 6:4-9; 24:14; 1 Sam. 2:8; Job 5:11,15; Ps.12:5; 72:4; 35:10; 89:14; Isaiah 58; 61; 65:1-2; Jonah 4:9-11; Matt. 11:28-29; 22:33-40; 23:37; Mark 10:45; Luke 1:51-52;4:16-21; 10:25-29; John 13:34-35; 14:16-17; 15:5; Rom. 12:4-5; 1 Cor. 12:27; 2 Cor. 3:18; Eph. 1:9-10; 2:19-22; 4:3-5; 5:31-32; Col. 1:27; James 4:6,10; 2 Tim.. 1:7 |
| 4 | Tues | 4/23 | 1:00 – 2:30 | ***Jesus & Justice***  Instructor: Terri Neville, JD | Small Group Interactive Exercise |
| 5 | Tues | 4/23 | 2:45 – 4:00 | ***Justice & The Salvation Army***  Elyse Dobney | Handout: TBD |
| 6 | Wed | 4/24 | 8:30 – 10:00 | ***THQ Chapel***  *Captain Katherine Clausell* |  |
| 7 | Wed | 4/24 | 10:15 – 11:45 | ***Why Should We Do Justice?***  ***How Should we Do Justice?***  ***Immigration: Crisis or Opportunity***  Major Katherine Clausell | Social Justice Handbook – Chapters 3 and 4 |
| 8/9 | Wed | 4/24 | 1:00 – 5:00 | ***Doing Justice in the Public Square: Immersive Experience on Immigration***  Major Katherine Clausell | Immersive Experience in the Field: Getting fired up about justice needing to be done. |
| 10 | Thurs | 4/25 | 8:30 – 10:00 | ***Action Planning: Prophetic Response***  Instructor: Major Katherine Clausell | Just: Imagine - Chapter 7 |
| 11 | Thurs | 4/25 | 10:15-11:45 | ***Action Planning: Principled Protest***  Instructor: Major Katherine Clausell | Just: Imagine - Chapter 8 |
| 12 | Thurs | 4/25 | 1:00 – 2:30 | ***Action Planning (Cont.)***  Instructor: Major Katherine Clausell |  |
| 13 | Thurs | 4/25 | 2:45 – 4:00 | ***Presentation Preparation***  Instructor: Major Katherine Clausell |  |
| 14 | Fri | 4/26 | 9:00 – 10:30 | ***Presentations*** |  |
| 15 | Fri | 4/26 | 10:45 – 11:30 | ***Wrap-up*** |  |

**APPENDIX**

**Course Requirements**

**Pre-class Assignments:**

1. **Reflection Papers** 
   1. Initial Reflection – Based on the readings of Chapters 1 and 2 of The Social Justice Handbook the learner will submit 3 initial reflections, approximately 300 words each, to thoughtfully convey their present perspective on the following:
      1. What is justice/?
      2. What is Evangelism?
      3. What is Discipleship?

In this reflection paper, each student should (a) define each term (i.e., Justice/Evangelism/Discipleship); (b) describe how the student arrived at this definition (what influences, etc., gave this definition to the student?); (c) discuss why s/he believes that the God of Christian scripture has any interest at all in each concept and what that interest is; (d) discuss whether s/he believes that Justice/Evangelism/Discipleship is essential to The Salvation army missional impact and briefly state why or why not. (“I do/do not believe that Discipleship is essential to The Salvation Army mission because…”)

1. **Reading Assignments and Observations**
   1. Generous Justice, How God’s Grace Makes Us Just. While reading the book, the learner should particularly look for a-ha moments of discovery and enlightenment regarding social justice. The learner should submit the reflections in the following format:

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| **Observation (can either be a direct quote or paraphrase)** | **Page Number(s) in Keller book** | **How or why your thinking was challenged, confirmed, enhanced** |
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**Post-Course Requirements**

1. **Lessons Learned Paper** – Bringing together the reading of your textbooks, the classroom lectures, discussions, and class presentations, write a 4–5-page refection paper that summarizes the lessons you have learned from your study of social justice
2. **Salvationist Social Justice Manifesto** – Write a 6–7-page research paper that can be used as a Salvationist Social Justice Manifesto. Your paper should draw upon the required texts, classroom teaching, assigned materials, additional materials to be provided, and two or more published books or articles (no unreviewed internet sources). The Manifesto should provide an overview of biblical social justice, some historical background, critical aspects of social justice movements, a prophetic critique of The Salvation Army today and what the Army could become through faithful recalibration of Salvationist’s hearts, minds and souls to our birthright calling to biblical social justice.