

UNDERGRADUATE COURSE DESCRIPTION

Term: **Fall 2010**
Instructor: Rev. Bryan N. Massingale
Course #: THEO 2410
Sections: 101 and 102
Course Title: **Christian Faith in Cultural Contexts**
Course Sub-Title: **Liberation Theologies**

Description:

This course examines forms of Christian life and thought that arise out of situations of social marginalization, exclusion, and injustice. "Liberation theologies" describe an umbrella of approaches that share a common concern: to give voice to those often neglected in the construction of what passes for knowledge and "faith." They critique religious faith as an often used tool for social oppression . . . and then seek to uncover its potential as a resource for social transformation. We will examine three examples of these theologies, namely, Latin American, Black American, and gay/lesbian.

The students should be aware that this course, while exciting, will also challenge their understandings of faith and society. Those who wish to live in peace with how they understand life would be best advised to take another course.