UNDERGRADUATE COURSE DESCRIPTION

Term: Spring 2016
Instructor: Dr. Joseph Ogbonnaya
Course #: THEO 2410
Section: 101
Course Title: Christian Faith in Cultural Contexts
Topic: Globalizing Theology

Description:

A new way of doing theology in the context of world Christianity is gradually emerging. The context recognizes the impact of globalization and the diverse ways of being Christian in various cultural contexts as well as the emergent religious pluralism that has become a reality as globalization narrows geographical boundaries and brings peoples, cultures and religions together. This course therefore introduces interdisciplinary and cross-cultural Christian theology conscious of diverse cultural contexts of Christian faith. It also explores the remarkable shift in the theology of religions from concentrating on the role Christianity assigns to other historical religious traditions to searching for the root cause of pluralism itself in God’s own design for the religious traditions themselves. It addresses questions such as whether pluralism has positive or negative significance for church and society at large; has there always being pluralism, various ways of searching for fullness of life and is this attributed to the inexhaustible depth of Divine Mystery revealed in many and in various ways? In other words, as Jacques Dupuis asks: “how from the point of view of a Christian theology, does religious pluralism square, within God’s plan for humankind, with the traditional Christian faith in the universal significance of God’s self-manifestation and self-gift in Jesus Christ?”