SYLLABUS FOR STMA 592
CORE 20th CENTURY UNITARIAN AND UNIVERSALIST THEOLOGIES
Instructor: Rev. Jon M. Luopa

PURPOSE OF THE COURSE

This course will acquaint students with the main, contemporary theological trends impacting Unitarian Universalism. We will consider Universalism, religious humanism, liberal Christianity, anti-racist theology, feminist theology, process theology and post-modernism. Students should finish the course with a clearer sense of their own theological grounding for ministry and an appreciation for how this helps promote Unitarian Universalism.

COURSE SCHEDULE

We shall meet on successive Wednesday afternoons from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. beginning on January 6 through March 10 in the Knatvold Room at University Unitarian Church, 6556 35th Ave NE, Seattle, 98115.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students will be expected to attend class sessions and participate in class discussion. They will also be expected to do the required reading. Each student taking the class for credit will also be expected to write a 10-page reflection paper on a topic approved by the instructor. The paper will be due no later than March 17.

REQUIRED READING

The reading list is identical to the list required by the MFC for ministerial candidates (and is downloadable from the UUA site):

Clarence Russell Skinner, "The Social Implications of Universalism"

Curtis W. Reese, "Humanism"

John Dietrich, "Unitarianism and Humanism"

James Luther Adams, "Why Liberal?"

"The Liberalism that is Dead"

"The Changing Reputation of Human Nature"

"A Faith for Free Men"

"Theological Bases of Social Action"

"The Liberal Christian Holds Up the Mirror"

""The Indispensable Discipline of Social Responsibility"

Marjorie Bowens-Wheatley and Nancy Palmer Jones, SOUL WORK: ANTI-RACIST THEOLOGIES IN DIALOGUE (2003)

Paul Rasor, FAITH WITHOUT CERTAINTY: LIBERAL THEOLOGY IN THE 21st CENTURY (2005)

William R. Murray, REASON AND REVERENCE: RELIGIOUS HUMANISM IN THE 21st CENTURY (2006)

Charles Hartshorne, THE DIVINE RELATIVITY, (1948)

Rita Nakashima Brock and Rebecca Parker, PROVERBS OF ASHES: VIOLENCE, REDEMPTIVE SUFFERING ANDF THE SEARCH FOR WHAT SAVES US (2001)

Total: 1419 pages

DISCUSSION SCHEDULE

January 6 and 13:	Reese, Dietrich and Murray readings
January 20 and 27:	Adams and Skinner readings
February 3 and 10:	Hartshorne reading
February 17 and 24:	Parker and Bowens-Wheatley readings
March 3 and 10:	Rasor reading and wrap-up