

Sammy Alfaro, Ph.D.

10335 W. Odeum Ln. ♦ Tolleson, AZ 85353
Cell (623) 703-0474 / Fax (623) 328-7134
sammy.alfaro@gcu.edu

EDUCATION

Fuller Theological Seminary Pasadena, CA
Ph.D. in Theology June 2008
Dissertation: “Foundations for a Hispanic Pentecostal Christology:
a Constructive and Liberative Approach”
Advisor: Dr. Colin Brown

M.A. in Biblical and Theological Studies September 2002

Patten University Oakland, CA
B.A. in Pre-Seminary Studies May 2000

Hispanic Institute of Ministry Dallas, TX
A.A. in Pastoral Studies May 1997

RESEARCH INTERESTS

U.S. Latina/o Theology and Religion, Liberation Theologies, Theology of Religions,
Contemporary Christology, Pentecostal Theology, and Historical Jesus Studies

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Grand Canyon University Phoenix, AZ
Assistant Professor of Theology Aug. 2010 – present
Courses: Christian Doctrines, Contemporary Theology, Christianity &
Culture, Historical Theology, Old Testament History, Moses and the
Prophets, New Testament History & Johannine Literature

Adjunct & Online Instructor Aug. 2004 – July 2010

Fuller Theological Seminary Pasadena, CA
Adjunct Online Instructor Sept. 2012-present
Courses taught: Orientación para Estudios Teológicos

Teaching Assistant Jan. 2003 - June 2008
Responsibilities: Graded papers and exams
Taught in absence of professor
Courses: Systematic Theology III, New Testament II, Greek,
Courses in Spanish: Pastoral Theology and Foundations for Ministry

Arizona State University Tempe, AZ
Faculty Associate Aug. 2009 – Dec. 2009
Course: US Latina/o Religions

Seminario Hispano de Misionología (a Bible institute) Phoenix, AZ
Instructor and Academic Dean Feb. 2008 – Dec. 2009
Courses: Systematic Theology I, III (taught in Spanish)
Other: Developed academic catalog and updated academic records.

Latin American Bible Institute

Instructor in Theological and Biblical Studies
Courses: Systematic Theology I & II, Hermeneutics

La Puente, CA
 Sept. - Dec. 2003

GRANTS & AWARDS

Wabash Center

Crawfordsville, IN

Pre-Tenure Latina/o Faculty in Religion & Theology (2012)

Hispanic Theological Initiative

Princeton, NJ

Annual Book Prize (2011)

Dissertation Year Grant (2007-08)

Special Mentoring Award (2005-06)

Doctoral Grant Renewal (2004-05)

Doctoral Grant (2003-04)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Academy of Religion (2004-present)

Association for Hispanic Theological Education / AETH (2009-present)

Society for Pentecostal Studies (2005-present)

PUBLICATIONS**BOOKS & ESSAYS/CHAPTERS IN BOOKS**

Theology in the Spirit. Eugene: Pickwick Publications, **forthcoming 2013**.

“Exegetical essays on John 14:18-24 & 14:25-31” in *Feasting on the Gospels* Westminster: John Knox Press, **forthcoming 2014**.

Divino Compañero: Toward a Hispanic Pentecostal Christology. Princeton Theological Monograph Series. Eugene: Pickwick Publications, 2010.

“Se fue con el Señor: The Hispanic Pentecostal Funeral Service as Anticipatory Celebration.” In *Perspectives in Pentecostal Eschatologies: Biblical and Theological Dimensions in the Americas*. Eds. Peter Althouse and Robby Wadell. Eugene: Pickwick Publications, 2010.

JOURNAL ARTICLES

“Dissertation Abstract: Foundations for a Hispanic Pentecostal Christology,” *Perspectivas/Occasional Papers* (Fall 2007): 103-05.

BOOK REVIEWS

Review of Darío López Rodríguez, *La Fiesta del Espíritu: espiritualidad y celebración Pentecostal*. (Lima, Perú: Ediciones Puma, 2006) & *Pentecostalismo y Misión Integral: Teología del Espíritu, Teología de la Vida*. (Lima, Perú: Ediciones Puma, 2009) in *Pneuma: The Journal of the Society for Pentecostal Studies* (**forthcoming**).

Review of *Los Evangélicos: Portraits of Latina/o Protestantism in the United States*, by Juan F. Martínez and Lindy Scott, eds. *Pneuma: The Journal of the Society for Pentecostal Studies* ().

PRESENTATIONS

- “New or Old Wineskins: the significance of holiness for developing a Pentecostal theology of worship.” Society for Pentecostal Studies Annual Meeting 2013, Seattle, WA. Practical Theology/Christian Formation Interest Group. **forthcoming**
- “Pentecostal Politics or Power: A Latino Pastor's Response to Arizona's Anti-immigration Laws.” *AAR* Western Regional Meeting 2013, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ. Religion in America Section. **forthcoming**
- “Reading and Hearing in the Spirit: the Bible in Latina/o Pentecostal Theological Hermeneutics.” *AAR* Annual Meeting Meeting 2012, Chicago, IL. Consultation on the Bible in Racial, Ethnic and Indigenous Communities.
- “Construyendo Puentes: Revitalizando el Modelo Educativo de la Iglesia Hispana Pentecostal.” Congreso de Formación March 9-10, 2012. Región Sureste Hispana de la Iglesia de Dios. Orlando, FL.
- “Desafíos para la Iglesia Hispana Hoy: Reflexiones sobre nuestro pasado, presente y futuro en EEUU.” Asamblea de Ministros de la Región Suroeste Hispana October 28-29, 2011, Indio, CA.
- “Espiritualidad Integral y Educación Teológica: Aproximaciones escriturales para el desarrollo del líder plantador de iglesias.” FIEL USA 2010, Pentecostal Theological Seminary, Cleveland, TN.
- “Rethinking Theological Method from the Periphery: A Latina/o Pentecostal Perspective.” *AAR* Western Regional Meeting 2008, Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, CA. Latina/o and Latin American Religions Section.
- “Building Bridges: the Journey from the Bible Institute to a Ph.D.” *First Summit of Hispanic Young Scholars*, May 1, 2008, Church of God Theological Seminary, Cleveland, TN.
- “Divino Compañero: Toward a Hispanic Pentecostal Christology.” *AAR* Annual Meeting 2007, San Diego, CA. Pentecostal-Charismatic Movements Consultation.
- “La Bajada del Divino Salvador: A Study of the Role of Image and Ritual in Salvadoran Immigrant Popular Catholicism.” *AAR* Western Regional Meeting 2005, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ. Religion in America Section.

LANGUAGES

Fully Bilingual – English and Spanish
 Research Proficiency – Greek, Hebrew, Latin, and French

MINISTRY EXPERIENCE

- Ordained Minister** March 2008-present
 Church of God (Cleveland, TN)
- Pastor** Feb. 2008-present
 My wife and I pastor a bilingual Hispanic church in Phoenix, AZ (Iglesia Nuevo Dia/New Day Church) working with the Church of God (Cleveland, TN).
- Board of Directors** April 2012- present
 National Hispanic Christian Leadership Conference
- Last Updated Nov 2012

- Youth Ministry** 1990-2000
Youth Pastor at two Spanish-speaking churches affiliated with the Church of God (Cleveland, TN). San Pablo, CA (1997-2000) and Glendale, AZ (1990-1995)
- Youth Sunday School Teacher** 1990-2000
San Pablo, CA (1997-2000), Dallas, TX (1995-97), and Glendale, AZ (1990-95)

REFERENCES

- Dr. Colin Brown, Professor of Theology
Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, CA
Phone: (626) 584-5243
Email: colbrn@fuller.edu
- Dr. Veli-Matti Kärkkäinen, Professor of Theology
Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, CA
Phone: (626) 584-5379
Email: vmk@fuller.edu
- Dr. Efrain Agosto, Academic Dean & Professor of New Testament
Hartford Seminary, Hartford, CT
Phone: (860) 509-9536
Email: eagosto@hartsem.edu