



**TYNDALE**  
• SEMINARY •

## Course Syllabus

**SUMMER 2015**  
**CREATION AND NEW CREATION:**  
**SALVATION AND THE RENEWAL OF THE EARTH**  
**THEO 0653**

**JUNE 1-5, 9:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.**

**INSTRUCTOR: JAMES E. PEDLAR, PhD**  
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Office Hours (Rm. 2014):  
Monday-Thursday, by appointment

To access your course material, please go to <http://classes.tyndale.ca>. Course emails will be sent to your @MyTyndale.ca e-mail account. For information how to access and forward emails to your personal account, see <http://www.tyndale.ca/it/live-at-edu>.

### I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Studies the biblical theology of salvation, particularly as it relates to the place of the created order in God's redemptive plan, earth stewardship and the meaning of "the restoration of all things" in the New Creation by the Spirit through the salvific and healing work of Jesus Christ. Draws on biblical, historical and systematic theology, cross-referencing to contemporary ecological and environmental issues.

### II. LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of the course, students should be able to:

1. Articulate a coherent systematic theological basis for creation stewardship, drawing on the following areas of Christian doctrine: Trinitarian theology, theology of creation, theological anthropology, hamartiology, soteriology, ecclesiology, eschatology.
2. Explain how the practice of creation stewardship is grounded in the biblical witness.

3. Integrate the theology of creation stewardship into Christian practice and mission in the contemporary context.
4. Critically discuss a particular aspect of the theology of creation stewardship in significant detail.

### III. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

#### A. REQUIRED READING:

Brunner, Daniel L., Jennifer L. Butler, and A. J. Swoboda. *Introducing Evangelical Ecotheology: Foundations in Scripture, Theology, History, and Praxis*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2014. ISBN: 9780801049651

Middleton, J. Richard. *A New Heaven and a New Earth: Reclaiming Biblical Eschatology*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2014. ISBN: 9780801048685

Snyder, Howard A., and Joel Scandrett. *Salvation Means Creation Healed: The Ecology of Sin and Grace*. Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, 2011. ISBN: 9781608998883

Other short readings, as per the course schedule, will be made available on the course page.

#### B. ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

\*Marking rubrics for all assignments will be provided on our course page\*

**1. Class participation (10%).** Students are expected to attend class sessions and participate actively in discussions, demonstrating knowledge of and engagement with the reading material.

**2. Reflection Paper (25%; 4-5 pages, double spaced; due 11:59 PM on Thursday June 4).** Students will write a reflection on what they have learned in the course, identifying three or four significant insights regarding creation stewardship. The reflection should interact critically with biblical and theological material as discussed in class, and should include some practical application to the contemporary context.

**3. Theology of creation stewardship (30%; 7-8 pages, double-spaced, due 11:59 PM on Saturday, June 20).** Students will write a paper articulating a theological basis for creation stewardship. This paper will draw on course lectures and readings, and should demonstrate systematic theological reflection touching on a variety of doctrines as discussed in class (Trinity, creation, humanity, sin, salvation, eschatology, church).

**4. Research paper (35%, 9-10 pages, double-spaced; due 11:59 PM on July 31, 2015).** Students will write a research paper on a topic relevant to the theology and practice of creation stewardship. Papers should focus on a particular theological question, topic, or theologian, within the broad scope of material discussed in the course. All papers should include an integrative reflection on the practical implications of the topic under consideration. A list of suggested topics will be provided in class.

## C. GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR THE SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN WORK

**All assignments are due by 11:59 PM (Eastern Time) on the assigned due date. Papers are to be emailed to the instructor (jpedlar@tyndale.ca) in Microsoft Word format.** If you do not have Microsoft Word please contact the instructor so that alternate arrangements can be made. Papers emailed to the instructor after 11:59 PM on the due date will receive a 1/3 grade point deduction (i.e., B to B-) for each day (or part thereof) following the due date. This late policy will apply to all assignments for which no application for extension has been made.

Assignments should be double-spaced, in 12 pt Times New Roman font, with 1" or 1.25" margins. The standard citation method for theological papers is **footnotes with a complete bibliography** in the **Chicago style**, as explained in the [popular guidebook written by Kate L. Turabian](#). For proper citation format, consult check the "[Turabian Citation Quick Guide](#)" (follow style for notes ("N") and bibliography ("B")), or see the complete [Chicago Manual of Style online \(Tyndale e-resource\)](#), especially ch. 14.

The bibliographic software **Zotero** is recommended as a helpful citation tool which will save time and help to ensure that proper formatting is followed (available free at [www.zotero.org](http://www.zotero.org)).

### Academic Integrity

Integrity in academic work is required of all our students. Academic dishonesty is any breach of this integrity, and includes such practices as cheating (the use of unauthorized material on tests and examinations), submitting the same work for different classes without permission of the instructors; using false information (including false references to secondary sources) in an assignment; improper or unacknowledged collaboration with other students, and plagiarism. Tyndale University College & Seminary takes seriously its responsibility to uphold academic integrity, and to penalize academic dishonesty.

**Students should consult the current Academic Calendar for academic polices on Academic Honesty, Gender Inclusive Language in Written Assignments, Late Papers and Extensions, Return of Assignments, and Grading System.** The Academic Calendar is posted at <http://tyndale.ca/registrar>.

### Attendance

One day or more of unexcused absences will constitute grounds for failing that course. Excused absences include the following: death in family, hospitalization of yourself or a member of your immediate family or a prolonged illness for which you require treatment by a physician.

## E. SUMMARY OF ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Evaluation is based upon the completion of the following assignments [*Sample*]

Participation	10 %
Reflection Paper	25 %

Theology of Creation Stewardship	30 %
Research Paper	35 %
Total Grade	100 %

#### IV. COURSE SCHEDULE, CONTENT AND REQUIRED READINGS

**\*All readings other than course text books are available on the course resource page\***

##### MONDAY JUNE 1 (AM): INTRODUCTION AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Readings: Snyder, chapters 1-4  
Middleton, chapter 1 and Appendix  
Brunner, Butler, and Swoboda, chapters 1 and 4

##### MONDAY JUNE 1 (PM): TRINITY, CREATION, AND CREATION STEWARDSHIP

Readings: Brunner, Butler, and Swoboda, chapter 5  
Moltmann, *God in Creation* (San Francisco: Harper & Row, 1985), excerpt.

##### TUESDAY JUNE 2 (AM): THE GOODNESS OF CREATION; CREATION AS THE BOOK OF NATURE

Readings: Brunner, Butler, and Swoboda, chapters 2-3  
McGukin, "The Beauty of the World and Its Significance in St. Gregory the Theologian," in *Toward an Ecology of Transfiguration* (New York: Fordham University Press, 2013) 34-45.  
Barth, "No!" (reply to E. Brunner), in *Natural Theology* (London: Geoffrey Bles, 1946), excerpt.

##### TUESDAY JUNE 2 (PM): HUMANITY, THE IMAGE OF GOD AND CREATION STEWARDSHIP

Readings: Middleton, chapters 2 and 5  
Snyder, chapter 8

##### WEDNESDAY JUNE 3 (AM): SIN AND THE GROANING OF CREATION

Readings: Middleton, chapter 3  
Snyder, chapters 5-6  
Chan, "Sins of the Ancestors: Generational Sin, Pentecostalism, and the Ecological Crisis," in *Blood Cries Out* (Eugene, OR: Pickwick, 2014), 170-188.

##### WEDNESDAY JUNE 3 (PM): THE COSMIC SCOPE OF SALVATION

Readings: Brunner, Butler, and Swoboda, chapter 6  
Middleton, chapters 4 and 6  
Snyder, chapter 7

##### THURSDAY JUNE 4 (AM): ESCHATOLOGY; THE NEW CREATION

Readings: Middleton, chapters 7-10  
Snyder, chapter 10  
Wesley, Sermon 64, "The New Creation."

#### THURSDAY JUNE 4 (PM): CREATION AND THE CHURCH'S MISSION

Readings: Snyder, chapters 9, 11  
Brunner, Butler, and Swoboda, chapter 9

#### FRIDAY JUNE 5 (AM): ETHICS AND THE PRACTICE OF CREATION STEWARDSHIP

Readings: Brunner, Butler, and Swoboda, chapters 7-8  
Middleton, chapters 11-12  
Snyder, chapter 12

#### FRIDAY JUNE 5 (PM): CONCLUSION

Readings: Brunner, Butler, and Swoboda, chapter 10  
Snyder, Chapter 13  
Berry, "The Gift of Good Land," in *The Art of the Commonplace* (Washington, DC: Counterpoint, 2002), 293-304.

## V. SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Bauckham, Richard. *Bible and Ecology: Rediscovering the Community of Creation*. Waco, TX: Baylor University Press, 2010.
- Berry, Wendell. *The Art of the Commonplace: Agrarian Essays of Wendell Berry*. Edited by Norman Wirzba. Washington, D.C.: Counterpoint, 2002.
- Blanchard, Kathryn D'Arcy, and Kevin J O'Brien. *An Introduction to Christian Environmentalism: Ecology, Virtue, and Ethics*. Waco, TX: Baylor University Press, 2014.
- Boff, Leonardo. *Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1997.
- . *Ecology and Liberation: A New Paradigm*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1995.
- Bouma-Prediger, Steven. *For the Beauty of the Earth: A Christian Vision for Creation Care*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2001.
- . *The Greening of Theology: The Ecological Models of Rosemary Radford Ruether, Joseph Sittler, and Juergen Moltmann*. Atlanta, GA: Scholars Press, 1995.
- Brown, Edward R. *Our Father's World: Mobilizing the Church to Care for Creation*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Books, 2008.
- Brown, William P. *The Seven Pillars of Creation: The Bible, Science, and the Ecology of Wonder*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2010.
- Brueggemann, Walter. *The Land: Place as Gift, Promise, and Challenge in Biblical Faith*. Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1977.
- Brunner, Emil, and Karl Barth. *Natural Theology*. Edited by Peter Fraenkel. Translated by John Baillie. London: Geoffrey Bles, 1946.

- Chryssavgis, John, and Bruce V Foltz, eds. *Toward an Ecology of Transfiguration Orthodox Christian Perspectives on Environment, Nature, and Creation*. New York: Fordham University Press, 2013.
- DeWitt, Calvin B, and Ghilleen T Prance, eds. *Missionary Earthkeeping*. Macon, GA: Mercer University Press, 1992.
- Van Dyke, Fred. *Redeeming Creation: The Biblical Basis for Environmental Stewardship*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1996.
- Edwards, Denis. *Partaking of God: Trinity, Evolution, and Ecology*. Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 2014.
- Florovsky, Georges. *Creation and Redemption*. Belmont, MA: Nordland Publishing, 1976.
- Gnanakan, Ken. *God's World: Biblical Insights for a Theology of the Environment*. London: SPCK, 1999.
- Gunton, Colin E. *Christ and Creation*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1993.
- , ed. *Doctrine of Creation: Essays in Dogmatics, History and Philosophy*. London: Continuum, 2004.
- . *The Promise of Trinitarian Theology*. London: T & T Clark, 2003.
- . *The Triune Creator: A Historical and Systematic Study*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 1998.
- Horrell, David G, Cherryl Hunt, and Christopher Southgate. *Greening Paul: Rereading the Apostle in a Time of Ecological Crisis*. Waco, TX: Baylor University Press, 2010.
- Kostamo, Leah. *Planted: A Story of Creation, Community, and Calling*. Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, 2013.
- Macchia, Frank D. "Justification through New Creation: The Holy Spirit and the Doctrine by Which the Church Stands or Falls." *Theology Today* 58, no. 2 (2001): 202.
- Maddox, Randy L. "Nurturing the New Creation: Reflections on a Wesleyan Trajectory." In *Wesleyan Perspectives on the New Creation*, 21–52. Nashville: Kingswood Books, 2004.
- McGrath, Alister E. *The Reenchantment of Nature: The Denial of Religion and the Ecological Crisis*. New York: Doubleday, 2002.
- Moltmann, Jürgen. *God in Creation: A New Theology of Creation and the Spirit of God*. San Francisco: Harper & Row, 1985.
- Northcott, Michael S. *A Moral Climate: The Ethics of Global Warming*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 2007.
- Reumann, John H. P. *Stewardship and the Economy of God*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1992.
- Richter, Sandra L. *The Epic of Eden: A Christian Entry into the Old Testament*, 2008.
- Runyon, Theodore. *The New Creation: John Wesley's Theology Today*. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 1998.
- Schaeffer, Francis A. *Pollution and the Death of Man: The Christian View of Ecology*. Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, 1970.
- Scott, Lindy. *Christians, the Care of Creation and Global Climate Change*. Eugene, OR: Pickwick Publications, 2008.
- Sleeth, J. Matthew. *Serve God, Save the Planet: A Christian Call to Action*. White River Junction, VT: Chelsea Green Publishing, 2006.
- Sleeth, Nancy. *Go Green, Save Green: A Simple Guide to Saving Time, Money, and God's Green Earth*. Carol Stream, IL: Tyndale House, 2009.

- Snyder, Howard A. *EarthCurrents: The Struggle for the World's Soul*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1995.
- . *Kingdom, Church, and World: Biblical Themes for Today*. Eugene, OR: Wipf and Stock, 2001.
- . *Models of the Kingdom*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1991.
- . *Yes in Christ: Wesleyan Reflections on Gospel, Mission, and Culture*. Tyndale Studies in Wesleyan History and Theology 2. Toronto: Clements Academic, 2011.
- Snyder, Howard A., and Daniel V Runyon. *Decoding the Church: Mapping the Dna of Christ's Body*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2002. Swoboda, A. J. *Blood Cries Out: Pentecostals, Ecology, and the Groans of Creation*. Eugene, OR: Pickwick Publications, 2014.
- Wilkinson, Loren, ed. *Earthkeeping, Christian Stewardship of Natural Resources*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1980.
- Wilkinson, Loren, and Mary Ruth Wilkinson. *Caring for Creation in Your Own Backyard: Over 100 Things Christian Families Can Do to Help the Earth*. Ann Arbor, MI: Vine Books, 1992.
- Wilkinson, Michael, and Steven M. Studebaker. *A Liberating Spirit: Pentecostals and Social Action in North America*. Eugene, OR: Pickwick Publications, 2010.
- Wilson, Edward O. *The Creation: An Appeal to Save Life on Earth*. New York: W. W. Norton, 2007.
- Woodley, Randy. *Shalom and the Community of Creation: An Indigenous Vision*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2012.
- Wright, N. T. *Surprised by Hope: Rethinking Heaven, the Resurrection, and the Mission of the Church*. New York: HarperOne, 2008.

### **ONLINE RESOURCES**

The Tyndale library has an extensive collection of e-books, including some of those listed above. Also, Tyndale's MTS Modular program has an excellent online [Christian Theology Reading Room](#), which has extensive links to material available as full text eBooks, as well as partial-text books available on Google Books. Reading rooms have also been established on the [Doctrine of the Trinity](#), as well as theologians [Dietrich Bonhoeffer](#), [Eberhard Jüngel](#), [John Howard Yoder](#), [Jürgen Moltmann](#), and [Karl Barth](#).

To search topically for relevant journal articles, book reviews or collected essays, use the comprehensive *ATLA Religion Database*, or the *Proquest Religious Database*, *Religious and Theological Abstracts* and *JSTOR*. [Full-text versions of many theological journals](#) and book reviews can be downloaded from these databases.