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
416 226 6620 ext. 2215
Email: jpedlar@tyndale.ca

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:


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).

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]

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>10 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reflection Paper</td>
<td>25 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>Theology of Creation Stewardship</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Paper</td>
<td>35%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Grade</td>
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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

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

Readings:
- Brunner, Butler, and Swoboda, chapters 2-3
- 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

**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  

**V. SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY**


**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.