



TYNDALE

• SEMINARY •

Course Syllabus

Fall 2012

SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY II
THEO 0532

Thursdays 6:30 – 9:20 PM

INSTRUCTOR: Professor James A. Beverley, Ph.D.

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Office Hours: I can see students on Thursday before or after class or during the week when I am at Tyndale. I will be at the seminary Monday-Thursday most weeks during term. Please email to set up an appointment. Do NOT use my Tyndale email but the sympatico email noted above. The best number to reach me is my cell phone number noted above. Do NOT use my Tyndale extension. When sending me an email please put Tyndale STII in subject line.

To access your course material, please go to

<http://mytyndale.ca>

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Continuation of Systematic Theology I. Acquaints students with the elemental building blocks of the Christian faith. The following major doctrines will be considered: the person and work of Christ, the nature of salvation and the necessity of faith, the Holy Spirit, ecclesiology and the priesthood of all believers, and eschatology.

Prerequisite: Systematic Theology I (0531)

The sequel to Systematic Theology I, this course continues to address the basic issues that arise in the foundational work of Systematic theologians. We spend some time thinking again about the first issues in theology and then address issues about God, Jesus, the doctrine of the Holy Spirit, the doctrine of the Church, the mission of the Church, and the major issues in eschatology and the afterlife.

Objectives:

I adopt the words used by Victor Shepherd, my colleague in theology. This course “aims at enabling students to see the truth of God in the interconnection of its various aspects, and to see the truth of God whole. The student will be equipped to understand the faith once for all delivered to the saints and to express it in contemporary thought- forms.”

II. LEARNING OUTCOMES

The professor will ensure that students understand various perspectives and options that Christians have chosen on the different doctrines and issues addressed through the course.

Through this course students will learn

- ❑ to think more deeply about their own theological journey;
- ❑ about options in Christian theology;
- ❑ and about how to relate one’s own journey and theology with the positions of other Christians.

Students will also learn to address major cultural and social pressures that impact developments and decline in theological work.

III. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A. REQUIRED TEXTS

James A. Beverley, *Holy Laughter & The Toronto Blessing* (Zondervan, 1995).

James A. Beverley, *Nelson's Illustrated Guide to Religions* (Nelson, 2009).

Alister E. McGrath, *Christian Theology: An Introduction*, 5th ed. (Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell, 2011).

B. ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

1. Attendance, interview and participation

Students who have already done an interview with Professor Beverley will meet with him for an update. Other students will do initial interview. Schedule to be arranged in first or second class.

Note about the McGrath text

We will use the McGrath text as a guide through STII. Two or three students will provide an outline of a chapter for the whole class.

Attendance is expected at all classes. The student's final grade will be adjusted in relation to attendance. **Students who miss more than three classes without exceptional reason will fail the course.**

2. Two Book Responses (30%)

Response to the topics raised in *Holy Laughter & The Toronto Blessing* (1500 words due October 18) in conjunction with other reading and study on the Doctrine of the Holy Spirit

Response to the religions covered in *Nelson's Illustrated Guide to Religions* (1500 words Due November 15)

Note from Professor Beverley: These two books of mine relate to major theological issues about the Holy Spirit and about the relationship of Christian faith to other religions. Your review is to pursue an interaction with my views, the views of others, and present your own considered opinion about the topics/religions raised. I am **not** asking you to write a formal review of my books but to engage the issues and groups.

3. Major Research Project (30%)

2500 words. This can be on any topic related to all of the issues raised in Systematic Theology II. The topic is to be discussed with Professor Beverley before research begins. The paper is due the last day of regular classes, Dec. 6.

4. Final Exam (20%)

This exam will be a take home and ask for response to all of the major issues presented in class + give an opportunity for overall reflection on course learning.

Please submit all assignments by e-mail to Rebekka Paul—she is Prof. Beverley's administrative assistant. Her email is bekkaries@yahoo.ca

Special Note about Assignment Due Dates

Please do **not** miss class in order to finish an assignment.

Every student can ask for an extension without penalty due to extreme circumstances. Please inform Professor Beverley of these special circumstances in writing.

Official Seminary policy on end of term deadlines...

Faculty may NOT grant an extension on assignments beyond the last day of class for the semester. Students who have not submitted an assignment by this date will receive a grade of F for the assignment, unless official permission has been obtained from the Registrar due to extreme and extenuating circumstances (see Academic Calendar).

C. GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR THE SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN WORK

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 policies 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://www.tyndale.ca/registrar/calendar>. An excerpt is attached with this syllabus for easy reference.

For proper citation style, consult the [Chicago-Style Quick Guide](#) (Tyndale e-resource) or the full edition of the [Chicago Manual of Style Online](#), especially [ch. 14](#). For citing scripture texts, refer to sections [10.46 to 10.51](#) and [14.253 to 14.254](#).

D. SUMMARY OF ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Interview, McGrath, attendance	20 %
Two Book Responses	30 %
Major Research Project	30 %
Final Exam	20 %
Total Grade	100 %

Professor Beverley expects that by signing up for the course students will fully participate in the class through listening, note taking, and other proper forms of engagement. As well, participation and politeness means that students will refrain from texting during class and using computers in ways that distract self and others from learning. Students can use the Internet during class to look up relevant items directly related to class learning. Otherwise, random surfing of the Net and the playing of games on the computer should be avoided.

IV. CLASS SCHEDULE

Date	Topic	Reading and Assignments
September 13	Introduction Perspective and Options Basics from ST1	
September 20	NO CLASS	Prof. at conference
September 27	God	McGrath, ch. 9
October 4	Trinity	McGrath, ch. 10
October 11	Person of Christ	McGrath, ch. 11
October 18	Faith & History	McGrath, ch. 12 Response to HL&TB
October 25	READING WEEK	NO CLASS
November 1	Salvation/Holy Spirit	McGrath, ch. 13
November 8	Human Nature, Sin & Grace	McGrath, ch. 14
November 15	Church	McGrath, ch. 15 Response to religions
November 22	Sacraments Mission and Other Faiths	McGrath, ch. 16/17
November 29	Mission and Other Faiths	McGrath, ch. 17/18
December 6	Last Class	Research Project
December 13		Take Home Exam due end of exam week

I. V. BIBLIOGRAPHY

I am grateful to my colleague Arnold Neufeldt-Fast for providing the bibliographical list below. See his other resources at [Christian Theology online Reading Room](#)

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Badham, Roger A., ed. [*Introduction to Christian Theology. Contemporary North American Perspectives*](#). Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 1998.

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- _____. *Dogmatics in Outline*. trans. G. T. Thomson. London: SCM, 1949.
- _____. *Evangelical Theology: An Introduction*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1963 ([Tyndale eBook](#); also as [audio book](#)).
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- _____. (See also Tyndale's [Barth Reading Room](#)).
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Selected Theological Journals

[*Evangelical Review of Theology*](#)

[*Evangelical Quarterly*](#)

[*Modern Theology*](#)

[*International Journal of Systematic Theology*](#)

[*Scottish Journal of Theology*](#)

[*Theology Today*](#)

Toronto Journal of Theology

[*Word & World*](#)

Important Notes

- To search topically for relevant journal articles, book reviews or collected essays, use the comprehensive *ATLA Religion Database* – [available over Tyndale Library's eJournal databases](#). See also *Proquest Religious Database*, *Religious and Theological Abstracts* and *JSTOR*. Full-text versions of many theological journal and book reviews can be downloaded from these databases via Tyndale Library's eJournals.
- For eResources, see the [Tyndale MTS Modular Reading Room for Christian Theology](#)

