

*“The mission of Tyndale Seminary is to provide Christ-centred graduate theological education for leaders in the church and society whose lives are marked by intellectual maturity, spiritual vigour and moral integrity, and whose witness will faithfully engage culture with the Gospel.”*

<b>Semester, Year</b>	FALL, 2026
<b>Course Title</b>	<b>CREATION, NEW CREATION, AND CREATION STEWARDSHIP</b>
<b>Course Code</b>	<b>THEO 0653 1P/1S &amp; INTD 0854 1P/1S</b>
<b>Date</b>	<b>Five Fridays: September 18, October 2, October 16, November 6, November 20</b>
<b>Time</b>	From 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
<b>Delivery Format</b>	IN-PERSON WITH SYNCHRONOUS ONLINE OPTION
<b>Class information</b>	The classes will be in-person with synchronous online option on five Fridays (Sep 18; Oct 2, 16; Nov 6, 20) from 9 am to 4 pm.
<b>Instructor</b>	<b>JAMES PEDLAR, PhD</b>
<b>Contact Information</b>	Email: <a href="mailto:jpedlar@tyndale.ca">jpedlar@tyndale.ca</a> Tyndale Phone Number: (416) 226-6620 Ext. 2215
<b>Office Hours</b>	Various times available weekly, booked via link on course page.
<b>Course Materials</b>	Access course material at <a href="https://classes.tyndale.ca">classes.tyndale.ca</a> or other services at <a href="https://TyndaleOne.com">Tyndale One</a> . Course emails will be sent to your @MyTyndale.ca e-mail account only.

## I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Studies the theology of salvation, particularly as it relates to the place of the created order in God's redemptive plan and the meaning of "the restoration of all things" in the new creation by the Spirit through the work of Jesus Christ. Draws on biblical, historical and systematic theology to construct a theological approach to creation stewardship as an aspect of Christian mission.

## II. LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

1. Discuss the 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

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. SUPPLEMENTARY / RECOMMENDED READING AND TOOLS

Tyndale recommends [STEPBible](#) – a free and reputable online resource developed by Tyndale House (Cambridge, England) – for word searches of original-language texts, as well as for topical searches, interlinear texts, dictionaries, etc. Refer to the library for other [online resources for Biblical Studies](#).

#### C. ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

**NOTE:** Marking rubrics for all assignments will be provided on our course page.

Assignments are to be uploaded to the assignment submission section of the course page in pdf or Microsoft Word format by 11:59 PM (Eastern Time) on the assigned due date. **Papers submitted after 11:59 PM on the due date will receive a 1/3 grade 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 extension has been granted. Extensions will be granted only for serious personal, family, or health situations.

##### 1. Discussion Leadership (2 x 15% = 30% total).

Each student will sign up to assist the instructor in facilitating discussion for **two class readings as per the list below**. A schedule will be established at the first class meeting. This assignment will entail the creation of five discussion-starter questions for each of the two assigned readings. The questions will be submitted on the course page by 11:55 PM on the day prior to the class in question. The questions should demonstrate thoughtful engagement with the reading in question. Students should consult the discussion question marking rubric and sample questions (posted on the course page) for further guidance.

**Eligible readings (those not in required texts are available on the course page):**

- Woodley, “God’s First Discourse,” – September 18, afternoon.
- Wirzba, “Perceiving Creation” – October 2, morning.
- Middleton, *A New Heavens and a New Earth*, chapter 2 – October 2, afternoon.
- Francis, “The Human Roots of the Ecological Crisis” – October 16, morning.
- Snyder, *Salvation Means Creation Healed*, chapter 7 – October 16, afternoon.
- Wesley, “The New Creation” – November 6, morning.
- Wright, “Mission and God’s Earth” – November 6, afternoon.
- Wirzba, “Thinking Theologically About Food” – November 20, morning.

**2. Research Paper Proposal (25%, due October 17, 11:59 pm).**

This proposal should include 1) a statement of the topic, 2) a tentative thesis, 3) an outline of the major sections of your paper with a brief description of each section, and 4) a preliminary bibliography. The outline should be approximately 2-4 pages, double-spaced, plus bibliography. The outline will help you to get a good start on the paper, and will provide the instructor with an opportunity to give you feedback before you have finished your work.

**3. Research paper (45%, 12-15 pages, double-spaced; due December 11, 11:55 PM).**

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.

**D. SUMMARY OF ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING**

Evaluation is based upon the completion of the following assignments:

Assignment	Due	%
1. Discussion leadership	Various	30 %
2. Research paper proposal	Oct 17	25 %
3. Research paper	Dec 11	45 %
<b>Total Grade</b>		<b>100 %</b>

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

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

**FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 18 (AM): INTRODUCTION AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

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

#### FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 18 (PM): CREATION AND THE CREATOR

- Readings: Hans Boersma, "The Shape of the Tapestry: A Sacramental Ontology," in *Heavenly Participation*, 19-39 (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2011).  
C. S. Lewis, "The Weight of Glory," in *The Weight of Glory*, 1-15 (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1949).  
Randy Woodley, "God's First Discourse: Connected to Creation," in *Shalom and the Community of Creation: An Indigenous Vision*, 45-64 (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2012).

#### FRIDAY OCTOBER 2 (AM): THE GOODNESS OF CREATION; THE "BOOK OF NATURE"

- Readings: Thomas Oden, "God the Creator and Creation" (excerpt), in *The Living God*, 227-231, 246-269 (San Francisco: HarperCollins, 1992).  
Norman Wirzba, "Perceiving Creation," in *From Nature to Creation*, 60-94 (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2015).  
Gerald McDermott, "Appendix: Theological Objections, - Luther and Barth," in *Everyday Glory: The Revelation of God in All of Reality*, 195-206.

#### FRIDAY OCTOBER 2 (PM): HUMANITY, THE IMAGE OF GOD AND STEWARDSHIP

- Readings: Middleton, chapters 2 and 5  
Snyder, chapter 8  
Francis, Pope, "The Gospel of Creation," chapter 2 of *Laudato Si: On Care for our Common Home*. Encyclical Letter, May 24, 2015.

#### FRIDAY OCTOBER 16 (AM): SIN AND THE GROANING OF CREATION

- Readings: Middleton, chapter 3  
Snyder, chapters 5-6  
Francis, Pope, "The Human Roots of the Ecological Crisis," chapter 3 of *Laudato Si: On Care for our Common Home*. Encyclical Letter, May 24, 2015

#### FRIDAY OCTOBER 16 (PM): THE COSMIC SCOPE OF SALVATION

- Readings: Middleton, chapters 4 and 6  
Snyder, chapter 7

#### FRIDAY NOVEMBER 6 (AM): ESCHATOLOGY; THE NEW CREATION

- Readings: Middleton, chapters 7-10  
John Wesley, Sermon 64, "The New Creation," in *The Works of John Wesley*, vol. 2, ed. Albert C. Outler, 500-510 (Nashville: Abingdon, 1985).

#### FRIDAY NOVEMBER 6 (PM): CREATION AND THE CHURCH'S MISSION

Readings: Snyder, chapters 9, 10, 11  
Christopher J. H. Wright, "Mission and God's Earth," in *The Mission of God*, 397-420 (Downers Grove: IVP Academic, 2006).

#### FRIDAY NOVEMBER 20 (AM): ETHICS AND THE PRACTICE OF CREATION STEWARDSHIP

Readings: Middleton, chapters 11-12  
Wirzba, "Thinking Theologically about Food," in *Food and Faith: A Theology of Eating*, 1-34 (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2012).

#### FRIDAY NOVEMBER 20 (PM): CONCLUSION

Readings: Snyder, Chapters 12-13  
Berry, "Christianity and the Survival of Creation," in *The Art of the Commonplace*, 305-320 (Washington, DC: Counterpoint, 2002).

#### V. SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Bahnson, Fred, and Norman Wirzba. *Making Peace with the Land: God's Call to Reconcile with Creation*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Books, 2012.
- 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. *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, Daniel L., Jennifer L. Butler, and A. J. Swoboda. *Introducing Evangelical Ecotheology: Foundations in Scripture, Theology, History, and Praxis*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2014.
- Brunner, Emil, and Karl Barth. *Natural Theology*. Edited by Peter Fraenkel. Translated by John Baillie. London: Geoffrey Bles, 1946.

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- Cunningham, Joseph W., and Clive Murray Norris. *The Routledge Companion to John Wesley*. London: Routledge, 2023.
- Davis, Ellen F. *Scripture, Culture, and Agriculture: An Agrarian Reading of the Bible*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2009.
- DeWitt, Calvin B, and Ghilleen T Prance, eds. *Missionary Earthkeeping*. Macon, GA: Mercer University Press, 1992.
- Edwards, Denis. *Partaking of God: Trinity, Evolution, and Ecology*. Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 2014.
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- 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.
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- . *The Triune Creator: A Historical and Systematic Study*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 1998.
- Horrell, David G, Cheryl Hunt, and Christopher Southgate. *Greening Paul: Rereading the Apostle in a Time of Ecological Crisis*. Waco, TX: Baylor University Press, 2010.
- Jacobs, Adrian. "Creation Speaks: An Aboriginal Christian's Reflections." *Vision: A Journal for Church and Theology* 9, no. 1 (2008): 35–43.
- Klink, Edward W. *The Beginning and End of All Things: A Biblical Theology of Creation and New Creation*. Essential Studies in Biblical Theology. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2023.
- 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.
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- Northcott, Michael S. *A Moral Climate: The Ethics of Global Warming*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 2007.
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- Williamson, Paul R. *Death and the Afterlife: Biblical Perspectives on Ultimate Questions*. 1 online resource. vols. *New Studies In Biblical Theology* 44. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2018.
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## **VI. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL COURSES**

### **A. EQUITY OF ACCESS**

Students with permanent or temporary disabilities who need academic accommodations must [contact](#) the [Accessibility Services](#) at the [Centre for Academic Excellence](#) to [register](#) and discuss their specific needs. *New students* must self-identify and register with the Accessibility Office at the beginning of the semester or as early as possible to access appropriate services. *Current students* must renew their plans as early as possible to have active accommodations in place.

### **B. REQUIREMENTS FOR LIVESTREAM INTERACTION (SYNCHRONOUS ONLINE COURSE ONLY)**

- Livestream attendance for the entire duration of the class at announced times
- Headphones (preferred), built-in microphone, and web-camera
- Well-lit and quiet room
- Stable high-speed internet connection, preferably using an Ethernet cable over Wi-Fi
- Full name displayed on Zoom and Microsoft Teams for attendance purposes\*
- A commitment to having the camera on to foster community building\*

*\*exceptions with permission from professor*

### **C. GUIDELINES FOR INTERACTIONS**

Tyndale University prides itself in being a trans-denominational community. We anticipate our students to have varied viewpoints which will enrich the discussions in our learning community. Therefore, we ask our students to be charitable and respectful in their interactions with each other, and to remain focused on the topic of discussion, out of respect to others who have committed to being a part of this learning community. Please refer to “Guidelines for Interactions” on your course resource page at [classes.tyndale.ca](https://classes.tyndale.ca).

## D. GUIDELINES FOR THE SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN WORK

### Grading Rubric

Please consult the rubric provided for each assignment on your course resource page at [classes.tyndale.ca](https://classes.tyndale.ca).

### 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 (including improper use of artificial intelligence programs). Tyndale University takes seriously its responsibility to uphold academic integrity, and to penalize academic dishonesty. Please refer to the [Academic Integrity website](#) for further details.

For proper citation style, consult [Citation Guides](#) for different styles. Students are encouraged to consult [Writing Services](#).

Students should also 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.

### Turnitin Text-Matching Software

Tyndale has a subscription to Turnitin, a text-matching software that ensures the originality of academic writing and verifies the proper citation of all sources. The instructor for this course will use Turnitin for assignments submitted through your course resource page at [classes.tyndale.ca](https://classes.tyndale.ca). Upon submission, you will receive a summary that includes your submitted files along with a similarity report generated by Turnitin. Please be aware that Turnitin can also detect AI-generated content from tools like Grammarly, so students should be mindful of when using such software. It's advisable to confirm with your instructor before using any AI tools into your assignments. Below are some useful resources:

- [Student](#) Guides for Turnitin via [classes.tyndale.ca](https://classes.tyndale.ca) course resource page
- Interpreting Similarity ([Guide](#), [Video](#), [Spectrum](#))

### Research Ethics

All course-based assignments involving human participants requires ethical review and may require approval by the [Tyndale Research Ethics Board \(REB\)](#). Check with the Seminary Dean's Office ([aau@tyndale.ca](mailto:aau@tyndale.ca)) before proceeding.

### **Late Papers and Extensions Policy**

All papers and course assignments must be submitted by the due dates indicated in the course syllabus. Unless the instructor already has a policy on grading late papers in the course syllabus, grades for papers submitted late without an approved extension will be lowered at the rate of two-thirds of a grade per week or part thereof (e.g., from “A+” to “A-,” from “B” to “C+”). Please note that some programs, such as cohort-based or intensive courses, may follow a different policy due to the nature of the program.

Faculty may not grant an extension beyond the last day of exams for the semester. Requests for extensions beyond this date must be addressed in writing to the Registrar by filling out the [Extension Request Form](#). The application will be considered only in cases such as a death in the family, medical emergency, hospitalization of oneself or immediate family member or prolonged illness requiring treatment by a physician. Factors such as assignments for other courses, holidays, and technology-related difficulties are insufficient grounds for requesting an extension.

A temporary grade of incomplete (“I”) may be granted by the Registrar. Once an extension is granted, it is the student’s responsibility to contact the instructor and make satisfactory arrangements to complete the outstanding work. A grade of “F” will be recorded for students who do not complete the outstanding work by the deadline.

### **E. COURSE EVALUATION**

Tyndale Seminary values quality in the courses it offers its students. End-of-course evaluations provide valuable student feedback and are one of the ways that Tyndale Seminary works towards maintaining and improving the quality of courses and the student’s learning experience. Student involvement in this process is critical to enhance the general quality of teaching and learning.

Before the end of the course, students will receive a MyTyndale email with a link to the online course evaluation. The link can also be found in the left column on the course page. The evaluation period is 2 weeks; after the evaluation period has ended, it cannot be reopened.

Course Evaluation results will not be disclosed to the instructor before final grades in the course have been submitted and processed. Student names will be kept confidential, and the instructor will only see the aggregated results of the class.

### **F. LIBRARY RESOURCES**

[Tyndale Library](#) supports courses with [e-journals](#), [e-books](#), and the [mail delivery of books](#) and circulating materials. See the [Library FAQ page](#).

## **G. GRADING SYSTEM & SCALE**

For each course's grading rubric, please refer to your course syllabus or [classes.tyndale.ca](https://classes.tyndale.ca). For general grading guidelines, refer to Seminary [Grading System & Scale](#).