

“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.”

Course	CREATION, NEW CREATION, AND CREATION STEWARDSHIP THEO 0653
Date and Time	JANUARY 11 – APRIL 12, 2021 CLASS TIME ON FIVE FRIDAYS: January 15 and 29, February 12, March 5 and 19.
Instructor	JAMES E. PEDLAR, PhD (416) 226-6620 Ext. 2215 jpedlar@tyndale.ca
Class Information	Classes will be livestreamed. Class time is 9:00 am – 4:00 pm on the dates noted above. Lectures may be pre-recorded and posted ahead of time, providing more flexibility for lecture viewing and a shortened livestream session. Further details will be posted on the course page. Students may participate in live-streamed office hours on Tuesdays, 1:00-2:00 pm, or at another time by appointment.
Course Material	Access course material at classes.tyndale.ca Course emails will be sent to your @MyTyndale.ca e-mail account only. Learn how to access and forward emails to your personal account.

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course 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. It 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 should 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 www.stepbible.org – 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. INTERACTIVE LIVESTREAM AND/OR HYBRID COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- Livestream attendance 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

D. 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. Discussion Leadership (25%, various due dates as per below). Students will assist the instructor in facilitating discussion of one of the class readings listed below. This will entail the creation of five good-quality questions for the class to discuss. The questions must be submitted to the instructor by email by 11:59 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):

- Jacobs, "Creation Speaks" – January 15, afternoon.
- Wirzba, "Perceiving Creation" – January 29, morning.
- Middleton, *A New Heavens and a New Earth*, chapter 2 – January 29, afternoon.
- Francis, "The Human Roots of the Ecological Crisis" – February 12, morning.
- Snyder, *Salvation Means Creation Healed*, chapter 7 – February 12, afternoon.
- Wesley, "The New Creation" – March 5, morning.
- Snyder, *Salvation Means Creation Healed*, chapter 9 – March 5, afternoon.
- Middleton, *A New Heavens and a New Earth*, chapter 12 – March 19, morning.

3. Research Paper Proposal (25%, 2-4 pages plus bibliography, due February 5, 2021, 11:55 pm). This proposal should include a statement of the topic, a tentative thesis, an outline of the major sections of your paper with a brief description of each section, and a preliminary bibliography. This 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.

4. Research paper (40%, 12-15 pages, double-spaced; due 11:55 PM on April 9, 2021). 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.

E. 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.

F. SUMMARY OF ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Evaluation is based upon the completion of the following assignments:

Participation	10 %
Discussion leadership	25 %
Research paper proposal	25 %
Research paper	40 %
Total Grade	100 %

G. GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR THE SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN WORK

Assignments are to be uploaded to the assignment submission section of the course page in pdf or Microsoft Word format by 11:55 PM (Eastern Time) on the assigned due date. Papers submitted after 11:55 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.

Assignments should be double-spaced, in 12 pt Times New Roman font, with 1" margins. The standard citation method for theological papers is **full footnotes with a complete bibliography** in the [Chicago style](#), as explained in the [popular guidebook written by Kate L. Turabian](#). 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 [10.44 to 10.48](#) and [14.238 to 14.241](#).

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 takes seriously its responsibility to uphold academic integrity, and to penalize academic dishonesty.

Students are encouraged to consult [Writing Services](#). Citation and other [tip sheets](#).

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.

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 (aa@tyndale.ca) before proceeding.

H. 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.

IV. COURSE SCHEDULE, CONTENT AND REQUIRED READINGS

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

FRIDAY JANUARY 15 (AM): INTRODUCTION AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

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

FRIDAY JANUARY 15 (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).

Adrian Jacobs, "Creation Speaks: An Aboriginal Christian's Reflections," *Vision: A Journal for Church and Theology* 9, no. 1 (2008): 35-43.

FRIDAY JANUARY 29 (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 JANUARY 29 (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 FEBRUARY 12 (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 FEBRUARY 12 (PM): THE COSMIC SCOPE OF SALVATION

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

FRIDAY MARCH 5 (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 MARCH 5 (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 MARCH 19 (AM): ETHICS AND THE PRACTICE OF CREATION STEWARDSHIP

Readings: Middleton, chapters 11-12
Snyder, chapter 12

FRIDAY MARCH 19 (PM): CONCLUSION

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

V. SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

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

- Bahnsen, 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.

- 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.
- 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.
- 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 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.
- 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.
- McDermott, Gerald R. *Everyday Glory: The Revelation of God in All of Reality*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2018.
- McGrath, Alister E. *The Reenchantment of Nature: The Denial of Religion and the Ecological Crisis*. New York: Doubleday, 2002.
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- Reumann, John H. P. *Stewardship and the Economy of God*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1992.
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- _____. *The Paradise of God: Renewing Religion in an Ecological Age*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2003.
- Woodley, Randy. *Shalom and the Community of Creation: An Indigenous Vision*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2012.
- Wright, N. T. *Surprised by Hope: Rethinking Heaven, the Resurrection, and the Mission of the Church*. New York: HarperOne, 2008.

ONLINE RESOURCES

Many relevant books, including some of those listed above, are available as ebooks through Tyndale's extensive collection. They can be accessed through the [Tyndale Library Catalogue](#).

Full-text versions of many theological journals and book reviews can be downloaded from [online databases available through the Tyndale Library](#). Some of the most important searchable databases for theology are the [ATLA Religion Database](#), the [Proquest Religion Database](#), [Religious and Theological Abstracts](#) and [JSTOR](#).