



**Course Syllabus
Winter, 2012**

**SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY II
THEO 0532**

**January 09 to April 09, 2012
Monday, 8:30am-11:20am**

Instructor: James E. Pedlar (ThD cand.)

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Course Resource Page: <http://mytyndale.ca>

Office hours: Mondays, after class, or by appointment.

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Systematic Theology II is a continuation of Systematic Theology I. It endeavours to acquaint students with the thematic study of Christian doctrine according to the evangelical protestant tradition. The following major doctrines will be considered: Christology, salvation, ecclesiology, approaches to world religions, and the last things.

II. LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. **Attitudes:**
 - a. To increase appreciation for the value of theology in ministry and the Christian life.
 - b. To increase confidence in the authority of Scripture.

2. **Information:**
 - a. To introduce students to the basic materials for further theological reflection and study.
 - b. To familiarize students with major theological issues and lines of theological disagreement.

3. **Skills:**

- a. To provide tools and skills for doing theological research.
- b. To stimulate students to think and apply theological insights to practical situations in ministry.

III. COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

A. REQUIRED TEXTS: (Must purchase)

McGrath, Alister E. *Christian Theology: An Introduction*. 5th ed. Cambridge, MA: Blackwell, 2011.

McGrath, Alister E., ed. *The Christian Theology Reader*, 4th ed. Malden, MA: Blackwell, 2011.

B. ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING:

Attendance and Class Participation: 10%

Critical Reflection Paper: Why heresy matters. Due January 30, 2012. 20%.

In this paper, students are asked to *choose one* of the classical Christological heresies (docetism, Arianism, Nestorianism, monophysitism, or adoptionism), and demonstrate a) why this heresy was rejected as a threat to the Christian faith, and b) how the church's rejection of this heresy helped to shape orthodox Christian doctrine. Students should consult three or four academic sources beyond the McGrath *Reader* and *Introduction*. A detailed marking rubric will be provided in class. **4-5 pages, double-spaced.**

Synthesis Paper: What does it mean to be saved? Due Feb. 27. 30%

The purpose of this paper is to provide students with an opportunity to *think theologically* about salvation. This is not an invitation to provide a personal testimony or a Sunday School lesson. Rather, using the concepts covered in the course, students are asked to write a brief theological account of salvation from a Christian perspective. Students may wish to take up a particular confessional position (i.e., Calvinist, Wesleyan, Pentecostal, etc.), or may try to articulate an account of salvation that crosses confessional boundaries. This is not a research paper but a chance for students to draw together and synthesize material covered in the first half of the course to produce a coherent and theologically sound account of salvation. You will be expected to demonstrate engagement with the course readings and lectures (you may involve additional sources if desired, but this is not required). A detailed marking rubric will be provided in class. **5-6 pages, double-spaced.**

Research Paper: Selected topics. Due April 17, 2012. 40%

The paper should be a substantial piece of theological analysis in response to one of the questions provided for this assignment (a list of essay topics or questions will be distributed in class). The essay should not simply report, summarize, or review class

materials (though you are encouraged to draw from class lectures, discussion and readings). It should, rather, concentrate upon theological (method or history) rather than biblical questions (though an understanding of biblical issues may be relevant to the argument of your paper). It should demonstrate thoughtful reflection, analysis, and should embody a conceptual argument in which various angles of the questions are explored in fairness and at length. The paper should contain rigorous documentation from multiple scholarly sources, including theological dictionaries, scholarly books, primary sources, and journal articles. A detailed marking rubric will be provided in class (including expectations regarding number of sources, etc.). **10-12 pages, double-spaced.**

C. SUMMARY OF ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING:

Evaluation is based upon the completion of the following assignments:

Class attendance and Participation	10 %
Critical Reflection Paper	20 %
Synthesis Paper	30 %
Research paper	40%
Total Grade	100%

D. GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR THE SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN WORK

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.

All assignments are to be emailed to the instructor (james.pedlar@gmail.com) in Microsoft Word format. If you do not have Microsoft Word please contact the instructor so that alternate arrangements can be made.

Assignments should be double-spaced, in 12 point Times New Roman font, with 1” or 1.25” margins.

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.

Late papers: Papers emailed to the instructor after 11:59 PM on the due date will receive a full grade point deduction (i.e., B to C) for each week (or part thereof) following the due date. This late policy will apply to all assignments for which no application for extension has been made.

IV. CLASS SCHEDULE, CONTENTS AND ASSIGNED READINGS:

A. INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS:

1. Students must do the assigned readings from McGrath's *Christian Theology* (hereafter designated as CT) and his *Christian Theology Reader* (hereafter designated as CTR). Key figures such as Basil of Caesarea, Gregory of Nyssa, Origen, Anselm, Aquinas, Luther, Calvin, Zwingli, Barth, Moltmann, Jenson, etc. will be covered.
2. Students should read part I of CT, pp.1-98, the background materials which identify the periods, themes and personalities of Christian theology.
3. Students should familiarize themselves with "A Glossary of Theological Terms," CT, pp. 465-471.
4. Classes will be conducted in lecture-format, although occasionally small group discussions on specific topics will occur.
5. Students should read all CTR readings, and acquaint themselves with them although in classes we will focus on selected texts to elucidate the topics discussed.

B. COURSE SCHEDULE:

I. THE PERSON OF CHRIST

January 9 - Introduction; The Person of Christ: Biblical and Patristic Foundations

Introduction to the course; Christ and Christian theology; New Testament Christological titles; Patristic developments and heresies; Chalcedonian orthodoxy;
CT, chapter 11, "The Doctrine of the Person of Christ," first half, pp, 265-282
CTR, sections 4.1-4.19, "The Person of Christ," pp. 218-242

January 16: The Person of Christ: Christological Models

Patristic Christology continued; the virgin birth and role of Mary; Medieval and Reformation perspectives; Christological models: classical and contemporary
CT, chapter 11, "The Doctrine of the Person of Christ," second half, pp. 282-294
CTR, sections 4.21-4.25, "The Person of Christ," pp. 242-249

January 23: The Person of Christ: Contemporary Questions

Faith and history; the quest for the historical Jesus; the meaning of the resurrection
CT, chapter 12, "Faith and History," pp. 295-314
CTR, sections 4.26-4.41 "The Person of Christ," pp. 249-282.

Guest lecture: Dr. Howard Snyder

II. SALVATION IN CHRIST

January 30 - Salvation in Christ: The Atonement

Salvation from a Christian perspective; Approaches to the atonement: the cross as sacrifice, victory, satisfaction, and demonstration of God's love

CT, chapter 13 "The Doctrine of Salvation in Christ," first half, pp. 315-337

CTR, sections 5.1-5.38 "Salvation in Christ," pp. 284-338

****CRITICAL REFLECTION PAPER DUE****

February 6 - Salvation in Christ: The Appropriation of Salvation

Images and models of salvation; regeneration; justification; sanctification; glorification; the nature of saving faith; faith and works;

CT, chapter 13 "The Doctrine of Salvation in Christ," second half, pp. 337-347

CTR, sections 6.32-6.57, "Human Nature, Sin, and Grace," pp. 371-405

February 13 - Salvation in Christ: Grace, Predestination, and Assurance

The Pelagian controversy; the bondage of the will; the meaning of "grace alone"; views on predestination (Augustine, Calvin, Arminius, Barth); assurance of salvation

CT, chapter 14, "The Doctrines of Human Nature, Sin, and Grace," pp. 348-371

CTR, sections 6.1-6.31, "Human Nature, Sin and Grace," pp. 339-371

Guest lecture: Dr. Howard Snyder

February 20 – Family Day (NO CLASS)

III. CHURCH AND SACRAMENTS

February 27 - The Doctrine of the Church: Historical Developments

Biblical Foundations; patristic developments; the Donatist controversy; church and society in the Middle Ages; the Reformation debates; Pietism; Puritanism; the Free Church tradition; the development of evangelical ecclesiologies

CT, chapter 15, "The Doctrine of the Church," first half, pp. 375-385

CTR, sections 7.1-7.22, "The Church," pp. 406-433

****SYNTHESIS PAPER DUE****

March 5 – The Church: Marks and Models

The Marks of the Church: one, holy, catholic, and apostolic; models of the church; the church and the mission of God

CT, chapter 15, "The Doctrine of the Church," second half, pp. 385-399

CTR, sections 7.23-7.32, "The Church," pp. 433-452

Guest lecture: Dr. Howard Snyder

March 12 – March Break (NO CLASS)

March 19 - The Sacraments

Nature and function of sacraments; the Donatists and sacramental efficacy; the Eucharist and the question of real presence; infant baptism and believers' baptism

CT, chapter 16, "The Doctrine of the Sacraments," pp. 400-423

CTR, section 8.1-8.26, "The Sacraments," pp. 453-499

IV. CHRISTIANITY AND WORLD RELIGIONS

March 26 - Christianity and World Religions:

Approaches to religions; Christian theologies of religion; missiological implications

CT, chapter 17, "Christianity and the World Religions," pp. 424-443

CTR, sections 9.1-9.13, "Christianity and the World Religions," pp. 500-533

Guest lecture: Dr. Howard Snyder

V. ESCHATOLOGY

April 2 - Eschatology: The Resurrection of the Body and the New Creation

New Testament foundations; the resurrection of the body; the new heavens and the new earth; dispensationalism and millennial theories

CT, chapter 18, "The Last Things," first half, pp. 444-457

CTR, sections 10.1-10.14, "The Last Things," pp. 534-547

April 9 - Eschatology: The Last Things

Hell; purgatory; Heaven; eternal life; eschatology and mission

CT, chapter 18, "The Last Things," second half, pp. 457-464

CTR, sections 10.15-10.26, "The Last Things," pp. 547-565

Guest lecture: Dr. Howard Snyder

****FINAL PAPER DUE APRIL 17****

V. BIBLIOGRAPHY

(See also Tyndale's [Christian Theology online Reading Room](#) and selected bibliography of [Tyndale e-books for Systematic Theology](#)).

GENERAL OR INTRODUCTORY RESOURCES ON SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

Barth, Karl. *Dogmatics in Outline*. Translated by G. T. Thomson. New York: Harper & Row, 1959.

———. *Evangelical Theology: An Introduction*. Grand Rapids Mich.: Eerdmans, 1979.

Bloesch, Donald. *Essentials of Evangelical Theology*. Peabody MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 2006.

Bloesch, Donald G. *Christian Foundations*. 7 vols. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1992.

- Catechism of the Catholic Church*. New York: Doubleday, 1995.
- Elwell, Walter. *Evangelical Dictionary of Theology*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2001.
- Erickson, Millard. *Christian Theology*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1998.
- Ford, David, ed. *The Modern Theologians: An Introduction to Christian Theology Since 1918*. 3rd ed. Malden MA: Blackwell, 2005.
- Grenz, Stanley. *Theology for the Community of God*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2000.
- Gunton, Colin. *The Cambridge Companion to Christian Doctrine*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1997.
- . *The Christian Faith: An Introduction to Christian Doctrine*. Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishers, 2002.
- Halverson, Marvin, ed. *A Handbook of Christian Theology*. New York: Meridian Books, 1958.
- Harvey, Van. *A Handbook of Theological Terms*. New York: Macmillan, 1964.
- Kelly, J. N. D. *Early Christian Doctrines*. Revised. Peabody MA: Prince Press, 2007.
- Leith, John H., ed. *Creeds of the Churches*. 2nd ed. Richmond, VA: John Knox Press, 1973.
- McDermott, Gerald. *The Oxford Handbook of Evangelical Theology*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2011.
- McKim, Donald. *Westminster Dictionary of Theological Terms*. Louisville KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 1996.
- Migliore, Daniel. *Faith Seeking Understanding: An Introduction to Christian Theology*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1991.
- Oden, Thomas C. *Systematic Theology*. Vol. 3. Peabody MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 2006.
- Olson, Roger. *The Mosaic of Christian Belief: Twenty Centuries of Unity & Diversity*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2002.
- . *The Story of Christian Theology: Twenty Centuries of Tradition & Reform*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1999.
- Pelikan, Jaroslav. *The Christian Tradition: A History of the Development of Doctrine*. 5 vols. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1971.
- Placher, William. *A History of Christian Theology: An Introduction*. Philadelphia: Westminster John Knox Press, 1983.
- Ratzinger, Joseph. *Introduction to Christianity*. Translated by J. R. Foster. San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 1990.
- Torrance, Thomas F. *The Trinitarian Faith: The Evangelical Theology of the Ancient Catholic Church*. [New impr.]. Edinburgh: T.& T. Clark, 1997.
- Vanhoozer, Kevin, ed. *The Cambridge Companion to Postmodern Theology*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2003.
- Williams, Rowan. *On Christian Theology*. Oxford: Blackwell Publishers, 2000.

RESOURCES DEALING WITH THE SPECIFIC TOPICS COVERED IN THIS COURSE

- Aulén, Gustaf. *Christus Victor: An Historical Study of the Three Main Types of the Idea of Atonement*. Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock, 2003.
- Beilby, James K., and Paul R. Eddy, eds. *Justification: Five Views*. Downers Grove: IVP Academic, 2011.

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- Cavanaugh, William. *Being Consumed: Economics and Christian Desire*. Grand Rapids: Ee, 2008.
- Dieter, Melvin E., Anthony A. Hoekema, Stanley M. Horton, J. Robertson McQuilkin, and John F. Walvoord. *Five Views on Sanctification*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1996.
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- Quash, Ben, ed. *Heresies and How to Avoid Them: Why It Matters What Christians Believe*. Peabody MA: Hendrickson, 2007.
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- Zizioulas, Jean. *Being as Communion: Studies in Personhood and the Church*. Crestwood, N.Y.: St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, 1985.

Selected Theological Journals

Evangelical Review of Theology
Modern Theology
Theology Today
International Journal of Systematic Theology
Scottish Journal of Theology
Theology
Theology Today
Toronto Journal of Theology

To search topically for relevant journal articles, book reviews or collected essays, use the comprehensive *ATLA Religion Database* – available via Tyndale Library's [eJournal Databases](#). See also *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.

For relevant ebooks topically arranged, see [Netlibrary Ebook list](#). For **detailed bibliographies** to support *Christian Theology: An Introduction*, a **glossary** of theological terms, and **details of theologians** from *The Christian Theology Reader*, cf. www.wiley.com/mcgrath