Course Syllabus

Winter 2016
SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY II (web-based)
THEO 0532

JANUARY 11 – APRIL 11, 2016

INSTRUCTOR: JAMES E. PEDLAR, PhD
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Email: jpedlar@tyndale.ca

Office Hours (Rm. 2014):
Mondays, 2:15-3:30
Wednesdays, 10:00-11:00
Or by appointment; phone or video chat appointments can also be arranged

To access your course material, please go to http://classes.tyndale.ca

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is a continuation of Systematic Theology I. It acquaints students with the elemental building blocks of the Christian faith. The following major doctrines will be considered: Creation and evil, human nature, sin and grace, salvation, church, sacraments, eschatology and approaches to world religions. Special attention will be given to the implications of a Trinitarian theology for Christian faith and witness.

Prerequisite: THEO 0531

II. LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

1. Identify and critically discuss the foundational issues, questions, and themes in Christian theology, and articulate how these relate to particular historical, cultural and pastoral challenges faced by the church.
2. Critically read and evaluate advanced texts written by major theologians.
3. Reflect theologically on concrete situations in the life of the church, and apply theological insights to Christian mission and ministry.
4. Articulate a coherent evangelical position on a variety of theological questions, whilst appreciating the diversity that exists within evangelical theology.
5. Effectively access and utilize electronic resources for the purposes of theological research.

III. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A. REQUIRED TEXTS


*NB*: Students are encouraged to purchase this book, but it is also available as an e-book from the Tyndale Library. It can be read and “highlighted” online, or downloaded for a two week period (you must first download Adobe Digital Editions).

B. ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Assignment Instructions

**NOTE**: This course is not self-paced, but designed to take advantage of the group-interaction features of the online classroom software. Students are expected to contribute in a timely fashion to each group assignment. It is expected that students will read carefully all of the assigned reading by the end of Monday of the week in which it is assigned. Marking rubrics for all assignments will posted on our course page.

1. Group Discussions (35% of Final Grade, various due dates)

During weeks 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11 students will be expected to participate in online group discussions. The purpose of the discussions is to engage the theological content of the course and explore the implications of the material covered for discipleship and ministry. The class will be assembled into groups of four or five at the end of the second week. These groups will remain fixed for the duration of the course. The process will be guided by comments questions from the moderator.
**Individual Posts (25%)**

A question will be posted each week for group reflection. Students are expected to post their own response by 11:59 PM (Eastern Time) on Tuesday evening of the week in question, and then reply to the reflections of each of the other students in their group by 11:59 PM (Eastern Time) on Thursday of that same week. Your individual contributions to these discussions will be assessed on a weekly basis.

**Group Conclusions (2 by each student) (10%)**

After the individual responses and replies have been posted, one member of the group will be required to write a conclusion, summarizing the discussion, identifying points of agreement and disagreement, etc. The conclusion is due by 11:59 PM (Eastern Time) on Saturday evening of the week in question. Your group is responsible for establishing a schedule for conclusion writers. Each student will write two conclusions throughout the semester, and you will be assigned individual marks for the conclusions you write.

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2. **Critical Analysis Paper: The Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification (30% of final grade, 6-8 pages, due Feb. 20)**


3. **Integrative Paper: What is the Church, Why Does it Matter? (35% of final grade, 8-10 pages, due April 11)**

Students will write an integrative research paper on the topic: “*What is the Church? Why does it matter?*” This assignment is designed to allow you to demonstrate your capacity to reflect theologically, and for your instructor to assess how you have met the learning outcomes set by the Theology Department.

As the final assignment for Systematic Theology II, you will draw upon what you have learned over the duration of Systematic Theology I and II, including the readings, lectures, and discussions, in addition to consulting other scholarly sources beyond those engaged in these courses (academic journals, academic articles, dictionaries of theology, monographs, etc.). The assignment should be characterized by critical theological reflection and not just a matter of reporting what others have said.

DECEMBER 14, 2015
An integrative essay should have a **systematic**, a **historical**, and a **contemporary** dimension, and also demonstrate **coherence** of thought and **theological integration**.

a. **Systematic**: Your integrative paper will draw upon material from Systematic Theology I & II in order to treat the particular problem (“What is the church?”), and the implications of the question for the life of the church (“Why does it matter?”) in a systematic manner. In other words, your critical reflection upon the church will intentionally consider the connections between ecclesiology and other areas of Christian doctrine. For example, what are the implications of Trinitarian theology for understanding the church and its mission?

b. **Historical**: Your integrative paper will *compare* and *relate* numerous images, concepts, facts, arguments, etc., from historical theological literature (e.g., from the *Christian Theology Reader*).

c. **Contemporary**: Your paper will also draw upon at least two contemporary voices that have expanded your own theological understanding. These might be contemporary theologians, or other denominational traditions you have encountered among your classmates. Attention should be given to perspectives or interpretations very different from your own personal or denominational convictions and practices.

d. **Coherence and Integration**: Your paper should present a coherent argument which produces an integrative framework for theological reflection. This means you will draw upon your own experience in order to explore the missional and practical implications of the theological argument you have been advancing. Your own voice is critical for an integrative assignment; your lingering questions are just as important as your new insights and conclusions.

e. **Sources used for research**: It is expected that, as an integrative research paper, the student will have engaged a minimum of at least 6 academic monographs and 6 scholarly articles.

C. GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR THE SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN WORK

Assignments are to be uploaded to the assignment submission section of the course page in Microsoft Word or pdf format by 11:59 PM (Eastern Time) on the assigned due date. If you do not have Microsoft Word please contact the instructor so that alternate arrangements can be made. Papers submitted after 11:59 PM on the due date will receive a 1/3 grade point deduction (i.e., B to C) 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.

D. SUMMARY OF ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Evaluation is based upon the completion of the following assignments:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Group Discussions</td>
<td>35%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Critical Analysis</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Integrative Paper</td>
<td>35%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Grade</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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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.

DECEMBER 14, 2015
Before the end of the course, students will receive a MyTyndale email with a link to the online course evaluation. 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.

IV. COURSE SCHEDULE, CONTENT AND REQUIRED READINGS

A. CREATION AND FALL

WEEK 1 (January 11-16) - Creation and Evil
CT, chapter 9, pp. 215-227 only
CTR, 3.2, 3.4-3.6, 3.14, 3.25, 6.25

WEEK 2 (January 16-23) – Humanity and Sin
CT, pp. 348-351; 371-374
CTR 6.1-6.10, 6.13, 6.23, 6.47, 6.50, 6.53-6.57

B. SALVATION IN CHRIST

WEEK 3 (January 25-30) - Salvation in Christ: the Atonement
CT, chapter 13, pp. 315-337 only
CTR, 5.1-3, 5.7, 5.13, 5.14, 5.17, 5.19, 5.23, 5.27, 5.29, 5.33, 5.35, 5.38

WEEK 4 (February 1-6) - Salvation in Christ: The Appropriation of Salvation
CT, chapter 13, pp. 337-347 only
CTR, 6.32, 6.35, 6.37, 6.39, 6.45, 6.48

WEEK 5 (February 8-13) - Salvation in Christ: Grace, Predestination, and Assurance
CT, chapter 14, pp. 351-371 only
CTR, 6.11, 6.12, 6.14-6.18, 6.20, 6.21, 6.36, 6.43, 6.51

C. CHURCH AND SACRAMENTS

WEEK 6 (February 15-20) - the Mission of God and the People of God
Thompson, chapter 4 & 6
**No Discussion Forum in Week 6; Critical Analysis Paper Due February 20**
WEEK 7 (February 22-27) - The Doctrine of the Church: Historical Developments
CT, chapter 15, pp. 375-385 only
CTR 7.1-4, 7.6, 7.9, 7.14, 7.19, 7.20, 7.22

WEEK 8 (February 29-March 5) - The Church: Marks and Models
CT, chapter 15, pp. 385-399
CTR 7.12, 7.17, 7.24, 7.26, 7.29

WEEK 9 (March 7-12) - The Sacraments
CT, chapter 16, pp. 400-423
CTR 8.2-8, 8.16-21, 8.23-28, 8.30-31, 8.33
Thompson, chapter 5

***READING WEEK – MARCH 14-18***

D. CHRISTIANITY AND WORLD RELIGIONS

WEEK 10 (March 21-26) - Christianity and World Religions
CT, chapter 17
CTR, sections 9.1-9.13

E. THE LAST THINGS

WEEK 11 (March 28-April 2) - Eschatology: Resurrection of the Body and the New Creation
CT, chapter 18, pp. 444-457 only
CTR, sections 10.1-10.14

WEEK 12 (April 4-9) - Eschatology: The Last Things
CT, chapter 18, pp. 457-464 only
CTR, sections 10.15-10.26
**No discussion forum in week 12; Integrative Paper Due April 11**

V. SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

NOTE: Many of the books listed below are available as eBooks through the Tyndale Library. Many academic journals are also available online through (see the resources at the end of this bibliography). Students are expected to learn how to make use of these resources, particularly in preparation for the integrative paper.

GENERAL INTRODUCTORY SOURCES


DECEMBER 14, 2015


Tennent, Timothy C. *Theology in the Context of World Christianity: How the Global Church Is Influencing the Way We Think About and Discuss Theology*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2007.


**SELECTED RESOURCES RELEVANT TO SPECIFIC TOPICS COVERED IN THIS COURSE**


Madueme, Hans, and Michael Reeves, eds. *Adam, the Fall, and Original Sin: Theological, Biblical, and Scientific Perspectives*, 2014.


**ONLINE RESOURCES**

The MTS Modular program has an excellent online [Christian Theology Reading Room](http://www.lausanne.org/content/covenant/lausanne-covenant), 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](http://www.lausanne.org/content/covenant/lausanne-covenant), as well as theologians [Dietrich Bonhoeffer](http://www.lausanne.org/content/covenant/lausanne-covenant), [Eberhard Jüngel](http://www.lausanne.org/content/covenant/lausanne-covenant), [John Howard Yoder](http://www.lausanne.org/content/covenant/lausanne-covenant), [Jürgen Moltmann](http://www.lausanne.org/content/covenant/lausanne-covenant), and [Karl Barth](http://www.lausanne.org/content/covenant/lausanne-covenant).

To search topically for relevant journal articles, book reviews or collected essays, use the comprehensive [ATLA Religion Database](http://www.lausanne.org/content/covenant/lausanne-covenant). Other databases include the [Proquest Religious Database](http://www.lausanne.org/content/covenant/lausanne-covenant), [Religious and Theological Abstracts](http://www.lausanne.org/content/covenant/lausanne-covenant), and [JSTOR](http://www.lausanne.org/content/covenant/lausanne-covenant). Full text versions of articles and book reviews can be downloaded from these databases.

For detailed bibliographies to support *Christian Theology: An Introduction*, a [glossary](http://www.lausanne.org/content/covenant/lausanne-covenant) of theological terms, and [details of theologians](http://www.lausanne.org/content/covenant/lausanne-covenant) from *The Christian Theology Reader*, cf. [www.wiley.com/mcgrath](http://www.lausanne.org/content/covenant/lausanne-covenant).