THEO 614

Spring 2015
Thursday 9:00—12:00
mheim@ANTS.edu

SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY II

Prof. Mark Heim
Worcester 310
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This course is the second semester of a two semester exposition and exploration of Christian theology. It deals with major Christian doctrines, their meaning, coherence, and interpretation. Theology has to do with regulative affirmations (which may be expressed in various forms) concerning God and human life. Christian theology roots these affirmations in the history and faith of Israel and the gospel of Jesus Christ, believing that these witness to a decisive movement of God with and for humanity. The course challenges all of us in it to formulate, share and test our affirmations in dialogue with the historical community of the Christian church as it has sought to respond to the Word of God in Jesus Christ, and with the human community whose joys, suffering, gifts and evils we share. It is a premise of our study that the process of which we speak cannot be fulfilled apart from personal, communal and enacted faith.

The objectives (and expectations) of the course are:
1) those who complete the course will be able to give an adequate account of major strands within the historical ecumenical Christian tradition on the doctrines covered;
2) those who complete the course will be able to articulate some of the fundamental modern criticisms of this tradition;
3) those who complete the course will have demonstrated first hand knowledge of the perspectives on these topics of at least two major systematic theologians;
4) those who complete the course will have formulated their own theological perspective more clearly and will have expressed these convictions orally and in writing.

Special Note: This class is the first pilot course in Andover Newton's grant project on science in the theological curriculum through the American Academy for the Advancement of Science. There are two sections of the course in which we will add some particular attention to dialogue between science and theology.

SECTION ONE: SALVATION

January 29 February 5, 12, 19, 26

-------- First Paper Due February 5--------

Readings: Daniel Migliore, FAITH SEEKING UNDERSTANDING, Chapter 7, 10, 13 and Appendix C
The appropriate section in your systematics text

A.M. Fairweather ed., AQUINAS ON NATURE AND GRACE, "Treatise on Grace," pp. 137-218. These selections are Questions 109-114 of the
Summa Theologica, in a section called the Prima Secundae. They may also be found on the internet, beginning at http://www.newadvent.org/summa/2109.htm This reading can be linked on the class web site. Before reading the selections, please review the note on reading Aquinas, which you can find in the same folder as the Aquinas readings on the class web site.

John Dillenberger, MARTIN LUTHER: SELECTIONS, "Two Kinds of Righteousness" and "Theses for the Heidelberg Disputation" (Both are linked on the class web site).

"Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification" Linked on the class web site

Leonardo and Clodovis Boff, INTRODUCING LIBERATION THEOLOGY, Introduction and Chapters 1-3, on class web site

Paul Knitter and John Hick eds., THE MYTH OF CHRISTIAN UNIQUENESS, Introduction, Chapter 2 and one other chapter of your choice from those on the web site. On class web site

S. Mark Heim, SALVATIONS: TRUTH AND DIFFERENCE IN RELIGION, Chapter 5. Available on the class web site

**Science module: February 5 and 19 with Dr. Stan Goldin**

February 5  “Brain Science and Issues of Divine-Human Interface”
Reading: Stan Goldin, “The Human Soul---Can It Survive in an Age of Neuroscience?” Presentation at the Cambridge Roundtable Available on class web site

February 19 “Meditation, Centering Prayer and Brain Plasticity”
Reading: Cynthia Borgeault, CENTERING PRAYER AND INNER AWAKENING
Chapter 1, pp. 1-6; Chapter 2, pp. 7-18; Chapter 6, pp. 55-68; Chapter 8, pp. 79-88
On class web site
Background articles (available on class web site):
Optional Reading: Norman Doidge, THE BRAIN THAT CHANGES ITSELF

“Inquiring After God by Repentance and Forgiveness” (Chapter 8) in Ellen Charry ed., INQUIRING AFTER GOD Available on the class web

******** PAPER DUE THURSDAY MARCH 5 ********
SECTION TWO: CHURCH

March 5, 12, 19, 26
March 23 is joint Community Day with Hebrew College. In each Andover Newton class it is expected that resident and commuting students will take part in community day.

Reading: Daniel Migliore, FAITH SEEKING UNDERSTANDING, Chapters 11 and 12
The appropriate section in your systematics text

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Peter Rollins, HOW (NOT) TO SPEAK OF GOD, Chapters 1 and 3 and services 1, 5 and 10. On class web site.
World Council of Churches Faith and Order Commission, BAPTISM, EUCHARIST, AND MINISTRY linked on the class web site
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Letty Russell, CHURCH IN THE ROUND, Preface & Chapter 3
Available on the class web site

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<th>“Inquiring After God Around the Lord’s Table” (Chapter 11) in Ellen Charry ed., INQUIRING AFTER GOD</th>
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****** PAPER DUE THURSDAY APRIL 2 ******

SECTION THREE: CONSUMMATION (ESCHATOLOGY)

April 2 [No class Maundy Thursday], April 9 [No class ANTS spring break]
April 16, 23, 30

Reading: Daniel Migliore, FAITH SEEKING UNDERSTANDING, Chapter 14
The appropriate section in your systematics text

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Robert G. Clouse ed., THE MEANING OF THE MILLENIUM (the four main essays but not the responses to the essays, except as you wish)
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Jurgen Moltmann, THE COMING OF GOD, Sections II, III and IV
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Do ONE of the following: read P.D. James, CHILDREN OF MEN, watch the movie “Children of Men” made from the novel, watch the movie “Groundhog Day”
Course Requirements

1) Completion of assigned readings and class participation
2) A one page paper, due on February 5. This paper will not be graded. Do not labor over it. It is a snapshot, an exercise. In it please describe the most powerful example of “religious community” you can remember in your own direct experience. You are free to interpret each of those two words as you feel appropriate to include what you regard as the most significant example.
3) Three papers in the nature of take-home exams are due on the dates indicated. The paper questions will be posted on the class web site.” Papers are to be no more than 3000 words (except as the assignment may provide), printed and double-spaced. Extensions are not given except for the kind of medical or personal emergency which merits the Dean’s approval (extension implies lateness without penalty). Late papers will be accepted, with an automatic scale of graduated grade deductions applying. Obviously the curve of deductions is such that a "point of no return" is eventually reached (the point at which an A paper will be discounted to an F). The lower the quality of the work submitted, the sooner this point will be reached.

The paper in section two (on the church) will be done in a somewhat different format from the other assignments. Part one is to be written jointly in your discussion group. Each individual will submit a paper whose first part will be a copy of his/her group’s joint statement and whose second part will be your commentary and expansion on that statement. More specifics are found in the paper assignment and in the document “Instructions for working on ecclesiology project” on the class web site.

NOTE: completion of all three papers is a requirement of the course. The failure to submit one paper means failing the course (i.e. you receive an F for the semester, not the average of one F and your other grades.).

Grading

Students are reminded that Andover Newton students can elect to take a course on a pass/fail basis. Consult the catalog for the details and regulations, and note that the “pass” level in the class is the cumulative grade point average necessary for your degree program (i.e. "pass" is a C in the M.Div. program).

Each of the 3 papers just described will count 1/3 of the final grade.

In addition there are possibilities to earn extra credit up to a total of 6 points.
Each point raises your final grade .05 points (i.e. a final grade of 3.0 or B becomes 3.3 or B+ with six extra credit points). Extra credit will not be accepted as a substitute for any required work.

1) Extra credit will be given for submission of a written commentary or critique (no more than 1 page, single-spaced) on any selection in the assigned reading from Charray ed., INQUIRING AFTER GOD. To receive credit, the paper must be submitted during the section of the class for which the reading is assigned (i.e. a paper on an assignment for the Christology section must be submitted by the due date for the paper in the Christology section). No more than one paper may be submitted for a single section (three maximum in the semester).

2) Extra credit will be given for a meeting of your discussion group outside class time, for which a one page summary report is submitted on behalf of the group within one week of the meeting. No extra credit is given for discussion group meetings that are part of the schedule during regular class hours. The meeting must deal with subject matter being covered in the section at the time of the meeting. Credit will be given to each member present at the meeting (1 point each) up to a maximum of 3 meetings.

Discussion Groups
To provide opportunity for discussion of the class material and the reading assignments, primarily in preparation for writing the papers, small discussion groups will meet during class time on several occasions in the semester. The groups are to have 4-5 members and will be self-selected. These meetings are an essential part of the course, as one of the crucial features of theological education for ministry is the ability to deal with theological issues in discussion, conversation, argument and response. These groups will also be the focus for a joint assignment in the ecclesiology section.

Office Hours
Prof. Heim's office hours will be Thursdays 12:15--1:00. If this is not convenient for you, seek an appointment at another time.

Academic Regulations
Students are reminded that academic regulations outlined in the Andover Newton catalog and in the bulletin from the Dean's office at the beginning of each semester are to be strictly observed. In particular, all students should be aware that plagiarism is a severe academic offense and will receive strong disciplinary action. If you are in any doubt about proper attribution of sources, inquire or consult a writing manual for academic work.

Practical Questions
All registered members of the class are free to tape record PLENARY class sessions (not discussion groups) solely for their personal use.

Each student needs to select his/her systematic text as soon as possible.

As the class meets only once a week, our time is precious. Classes will begin promptly and students are expected to be in place and ready to begin.

THE POSSIBILITIES OF GLOBAL THEOLOGY; Samuel Solivan, THE SPIRIT, PATHOS AND LIBERATION: TOWARD A HISPANIC PENTECOSTAL THEOLOGY; Dorthee Solle, POLITICAL THEOLOGY and TO WORK AND TO LOVE; Letty Russell, THE FUTURE OF PARTNERSHIP; O.P. Moyd, REDEMPTION IN BLACK THEOLOGY; James Cone, GOD OF THE OPPRESSED; J. Deotis Roberts, A BLACK POLITICAL THEOLOGY; Paul Knitter, NO OTHER NAME?; Gavin D’Costa, CHRISTIAN UNIQUENESS RECONSIDERED; Paul Griffiths, AN APOLOGY FOR APOLOGETICS; Lesslie Newbigin, THE GOSPEL IN A PLURALISTIC CULTURE; S. Mark Heim, THE DEPTH OF THE RICHES: A TRINITARIAN THEOLOGY OF RELIGIOUS ENDS; David Bosch, TRANSFORMING MISSION; Oscar Cullmann, SALVATION IN HISTORY; Juan Luis Segundo, GRACE AND THE HUMAN CONDITION; Julian of Norwich, REVELATION OF DIVINE LOVE; M.M. Thomas, SALVATION AND HUMANIZATION; Rosemary Ruether, WOMEN AND REDEMPTION: A THEOLOGICAL HISTORY; Michael Novak, WILL IT LIBERATE?; Jack Rogers et. al., CASE STUDIES IN CHRIST AND SALVATION; World Council of Churches, SALVATION TODAY AND CONTEMPORARY EXPERIENCE; John Wesley, A PLAIN ACCOUNT OF CHRISTIAN PERFECTION; John Bunyan, PILGRIM’S PROGRESS; Reinhold Niebuhr, AN INTERPRETATION OF CHRISTIAN ETHICS; Elizabeth Johnson, FRIENDS OF GOD AND PROPHETS: A FEMINIST THEOLOGICAL READING OF THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS; Albert Ritschl, THE CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE OF JUSTIFICATION AND RECONCILIATION; Jan Lochman, RECONCILIATION AND LIBERATION; H.R. Mackintosh, THE CHRISTIAN EXPERIENCE OF FORGIVENESS; H.D. Lewis, CHRIST IN THE LIFE OF CHRISTIANS; Michael Green, THE MEANING OF SALVATION; Ellen Chapp, BY THE RENEWING OF OUR MINDS; Kathryn Tanner, ECONOMY OF GRACE.


Supplementary Bibliography: Michael Welker and John Polkinghorne eds., THE END OF THE WORLD AND THE ENDS OF GOD: SCIENCE AND THEOLOGY ON ESCHATOLOGY; Gayraud Wilmore, LAST THINGS FIRST; Ronald J. Sider and Robert Taylor, NUCLEAR HOLOCAUST AND CHRISTIAN HOPE; Hans Schwartz, ESCHATOLOGY; Joseph A. Bracken, WORLD WITHOUT END: CHRISTIAN ESCHATOLOGY FROM A PROCESS PERSPECTIVE; Charles Ryrie, WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE RAPTURE; J.A.T. Robinson, JESUS AND HIS COMING; Rosemary