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THEO 602: THEOLOGY II

Ross Hastings
rhastings@regent-college.edu
Winter 2021
Tuesday, 6:30 – 9:30 pm
3 graduate credit hours
TA: Jacob Samuel Raju
jacsamuelsinbox@gmail.com

Special Notes

Live Online and Recorded: This course is being offered online with live class sessions in Winter 2021. Recordings of each class will be made available on the course Moodle site for 48 hours after the class. If you are not able to attend the live sessions due to living in a distant time zone, you may appeal to the Senior Academic Administrator for permission to take the course by using the recordings.

Course Description

This course will take up the Christian doctrinal themes of Soteriology, Pneumatology, Ecclesiology, and Eschatology in a description of the accomplishment, application, and actualization of redemption. It is concerned with showing the relevance and process of redemption in the present context and pointing forward to the completion of redemption at the eschaton. It will be shown that Salvation is accomplished in the work of Christ, realized in the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit in the Church, and completed in the return of Christ as sovereign Lord.

Learning Objectives

During the course and at its successful completion, students should be able to:

- Gain command of a broad knowledge of the doctrines of Salvation, the Holy Spirit, the Church and ‘Last Things’, in their biblical, classical, and contemporary expressions.

- Display an ability to do significant research in the fields of Systematic and Historical Theology related to the doctrines under discussion.

- Show a sense for the importance and urgency of these doctrines in both the church and culture. The goal will be application, but from a process of broad exposure to the current discussion, and a reflection on the Biblical mandate in relation to the culture.
Explore these doctrines in a context nurtured by an attention to their significance for the personal spiritual life. The intention is to demonstrate that the academic pursuit of these crucial doctrines can be a positive spiritual experience.

Receive direction for life-long learning in relation to these doctrines, so that they will be equipped for service of the Christian and human community at large.

Academic Requirements and Time Investment

Class time 36 hrs
Reading 48 hrs
Reading Response 16 hrs
Term Paper 35 hrs
TOTAL 135 hrs

Please note: The amount of time taken by students will vary. This information is intended to be used as an approximation for planning purposes.

Assignments

The Regent College guide to writing a research paper can be found here:
https://allisonlibrary.regent-college.edu/student-writing-guide

1. Class Readings (graded by TA)

All assigned readings must be completed before each class. Before the beginning of each class, students will submit a summary/response that need not exceed 500 words. These summaries will not be graded for style, but are solely intended to ensure that the readings have been completed. The response must make clear that the text has been read. The assignments will be graded on a Pass/Fail basis (Pass = 92%; Fail = 0%), except that late assignments receive half the value (46%). No assignments will be accepted after the beginning of the last day of class. Summaries/discussions are not required for the McGrath readings.

DUE: Before each class, submitted on Moodle

2. Research Paper

All students will write a paper on a theological theme, a prominent theologian, or a theological school of thought as it relates to the course. Students must sign up for their topic on the third class. Format: approximately 2,500 words; double-spaced; one-inch margins on all sides; Times New Roman 12pt font. The title page should contain the following information: (1) title; (2) your name; (3) name of the instructor; (4) course number and title; (5) semester and year; (6) word count. The format must be standardized according to Kate L. Turabian, A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations, 9th ed. (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2018). Papers that are between one and two days late (counting inclusively) shall be
penalized one grade point (e.g., a B+ will become a B); papers between three and four days late shall be penalized two grade points (e.g., a B+ will become a B-); and papers between five and seven days late shall be penalized an entire letter grade (e.g. a B+ will become a C+). I shall not accept for grading any paper that without my permission is submitted more than seven days late.

DUE: Tuesday, March 18, 2020, by 11:55 pm (PST) on Moodle

3. Book Response (graded both by TA and Professor)

Write an argued response to Miroslav Volf, After Our Likeness: The Church in the Image of the Trinity. Your discussion should centre on the following questions: which of the three ecclesiological traditions appeals to you most, and for what reasons? Paying particular attention to what catholicity means, what would be one or two of the most significant (positive and/or negative) practical consequences if the Church were to take your preferred ecclesiology to heart? Your response must contain a clearly argued thesis that is maintained throughout. Make sure to carefully argue your evaluative comments. Format: 1500 (no longer) words; double-spaced; one-inch margins on all sides; Times New Roman 12pt font. The title page should contain the following information: (1) title; (2) your name; (3) name of the instructor; (4) course number and title; (5) semester and year; (6) word count. All supporting documentation and bibliography must be standardized according to Kate L. Turabian, A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses and Dissertations, 9th ed. (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2018). Papers that are between one and two days late (counting inclusively) shall be penalized one grade point (e.g., a B+ will become a B); papers between three and four days late shall be penalized two grade points (e.g., a B+ will become a B-); and papers between five and seven days late shall be penalized an entire letter grade (e.g. a B+ will become a C+). I shall not accept for grading any paper that without my permission is submitted more than seven days late.

DUE: Tuesday, March 30, 2020, by 11:55 pm (PST) on Moodle

### Evaluation

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### Grading Scale

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Important Policies

Note that while every effort is made to ensure that assignments do not go missing, students are strongly advised to keep a copy of all course work in the event that resubmission is required.

Course Evaluations are an essential way for the College to measure and improve the effectiveness of its courses. Submitting a course evaluation is considered a requirement of this course. Near the last class session, you will receive an e-mail notice with a link to an online course evaluation. Once you have submitted your evaluation you may then view your course grade online.

Extensions for course work are granted only in cases of a demonstrated unforeseeable and unavoidable emergency. See the Extension Policy for details (http://www.regent-college.edu/current-students/academic-catalogue/course-policies). The deadline for applying for an extension is the due date of the assignment(s). For Fall and Winter end-of-term assignments, you must first ask your instructor for an extension before applying through the Student Services Office.

Attendance is expected at all classes. If you must miss a class, for whatever reason, you are encouraged to contact your instructor prior to the class. Instructors are at liberty to assign grade penalties for unexcused absences.

Academic Honour is upheld by Regent College, as the highest standards of academic responsibility are part of our commitment to Christ in all of life. Students are required to familiarize themselves especially with the discussion of “Academic Integrity” in the College Catalogue.
Course Outline

Part I. Salvation as participation in the triune God in Christ- the envisioning and accomplishment of reconciliation

Week 1: January 12
Introduction: matters relating to the study of theology.
Salvation as the outworking of the inner life of the triune God: the covenant of redemption (salvation from the covenantal participation of the persons of the Trinity)

Key biblical text: Ephesians 1:3-14

Week 2: January 19
Salvation as accomplished by the atoning life and death of Christ: the role of the incarnation, life and death of Christ in the atonement; the concepts of Recapitulation, Reconciliation, Sacrifice, Obedience and Theosis in the atonement. Models of the Atonement: Christus Victor, Moral Influence, Substitutionary Sacrifice (salvation through the participation of the Son in humanity and in suffering)

Pre-class reading:
Calvin’s Institutes Vol. I, Book 2, chapters XIV-XVII. pp.482-534. (Posted on Moodle);
Irenaeus, The Scandal of the Incarnation, 53-111: student must read the first 25 pages only (pp.53-77).

Key biblical texts: Romans 3:21-26; Ephesians 2:1-10

Week 3: January 26
Salvation as applied: a. to humanity—the doctrines of Justification by Christ and Sanctification by the Spirit, as the accomplishments of atoning reconciliation, flowing from union with Christ. The objectivity and subjectivity of salvation in relation to the role of the Holy Spirit as the one who applies redemption (salvation by the participation of the Christian in Christ by the Spirit) b. to creation (the participation of creation in Christ’s reconciling work)

Pre-class reading:
Bavinck, Reformed Dogmatics Vol 4: Chapter 17: The Day of the Lord; Chapter 18: Renewal of Creation (pp.691-730) (on Moodle);

Key biblical text: Romans 5:1-5; 6:1-14
Part II. Salvation as participation in the Spirit

Week 4: February 2


Pre-class Reading:
Calvin, *Institutes* Vol 1, Book III, Chapters I-III, (pp. 537-621) (on Moodle);
Key biblical texts: Romans 8.

Week 5: February 9

Historical perspectives... towards a robust pneumatology: participation in the Spirit in History - the ancient and medieval church; the Reformation emphases; post-Reformation emphases; the Pentecostal and Charismatic emphases.

Pre-class Reading:
Basil, *On the Holy Spirit* (on Moodle): 18 pages (pp. 82-99) only need to be read;
Key biblical text: 1 Thessalonians 5:19-21

February 16   READING WEEK – NO CLASS

Week 6: February 23

Theological perspectives: the Spirit as Redeemer in triune salvation who accomplishes salvation. The themes uncovered in this session will prepare us for an understanding of the role of the Church in the application of redemption.

Pre-class reading:
Key biblical text: Ephesians 1:13-14

Week 7: March 2

Lecture 1: Theological perspectives cont. The Spirit in Divine Providence: a case study. Chemical Evolution and Divine Providence: This is a discussion of the role of the Spirit in creation and especially in the providence of God. The elements of a doctrine of providence, and in particular
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that of Barth's notion of asymmetric concursus, will be discussed in relation to how this might account for the dynamics of chemical or biological evolution. Barth's doctrine of providence, and its implications for the science/theology interface was the subject of Ross Hastings' recent publication of a chapter in Divine Action and Providence: Explorations in Constructive Dogmatics (Los Angeles Theology Conference Series), Oliver Crisp and Fred Sanders, eds. (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2019). This discussion will help students in developing an integrative theology that includes consideration of science and a theology of science. Interaction with Amos Yong, Science for Seminaries sponsored.


Key biblical text: Galatians 5:16-26

Part III. Ecclesiology: Salvation in (but not by) participation in the church

Week 8: March 9

Ecclesiology in light of pneumatology: the Church universal as the means by which God applies the accomplishments of redemption, particularly as the community of faith drawn together in the power of the Spirit. Salvation is not without the church, yet not by the church. Protestant and Catholic and Orthodox dialogue on the nature of the church. Unity, holiness, catholicity, apostolicity.

Pre-class reading:
Key biblical passages: 1 Corinthians 12; Revelation 2-3.

Week 9: March 16

Participation in the Word and Sacrament and Community (discipline) of the church: Preaching, Baptism, the Lord's Supper, and community structure(s). The church worships and proclaims the reality of salvation from the communal center of its union with Christ. Different ecclesiologies within the tradition and their rationale.

Pre-class reading:

March 23   READING WEEK – NO CLASS
Week 10: March 30

Participation in the missio Dei: Ecclesiology in light of the Kingdom of God and the mission of God.

Pre-class reading:

Part IV. Salvation Actualized in the Eschaton

Week 11: April 6

Cosmic and Ecclesial Eschatology: Realized and Future Eschatology (participation in the End, participation in Hope)

Reading:
Karl Barth, *Dogmatics in Outline*, 95-155;
-Key biblical texts: 1 Corinthians 15; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Revelation 20.

Week 12: April 13

Personal Eschatology: (participation of the body, the whole person in Christ, in salvation)

Pre-reading:
-Key biblical texts: Philippians 1:19-26; 2 Cor. 5:1-10; 1 Corinthians 15

Lecture 2: The relationship of the eschaton to origins of the universe and humanity. This would be a lecture on how we are to view present and future eschatology for both humanity and the cosmos in light of the two prominent scientific understanding of how the cosmos and humanity began—through the Big Bang, and through the process of evolution. We will seek to probe questions like what does the future of the cosmos look like according to Big Bang Theory? What is the telos of evolutionary development in *homo sapiens*? How can these be understood in light of biblical eschatology? Interaction with local astrophysicist, Joanna Woo, Simon Fraser University. Science for Seminaries Lecture.

Bibliography

Required Texts


Recommended Texts


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