
WYT 2101HF
The Bride of the Lamb: Systematic Theology II
Fall, 2017 (online)

This description is intended to assist in the course approval process and to assist students in determining whether this course will help them achieve their educational objectives and the learning goals of their program. It is not a learning contract. The details of the description are subject to change before the course begins. The course syllabus will be available to the class at the beginning of the course.

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The instructor will respond to email questions concerning the course within 24 hours, and will be available for skype conversations, online chat, or immediate email response during online office hours for three hours each week.

Course Prerequisites WYT 1101H or equivalent

Course Description

An exploration of “the way of the creature into the life of God”—that is, those parts of Christian dogmatics that have to do with the origin and destiny of creation, especially the destiny of the human person made in the divine image. Eschatology, the church, and the Christian life (including “justification” and “sanctification”) are among the major issues to be addressed.

Course Outcomes

By the end of the course, students will:	This outcome will be achieved by these course elements:	This course outcome corresponds to this aspect of Wycliffe’s statement of MTS and MDiv outcomes:
• articulate the basic content and “logic” of three major clusters of the doctrines of creation, eschatology, the church, and the Christian life.	- Readings, reading notes - Online discussion - Short papers	MTS: 1.3, 2.1, 2.3 MDiv: 1.3, 2.1, 2.2
• articulate an awareness of their own ecclesial tradition in relation to the ecumenical faith of the church.	- Readings and reading notes - Online discussion - Short papers	MTS: 1.5 MDiv: 1.5
• analyze and assess assigned readings, and engage in critical and respectful discussion of these readings in an online learning environment.	- Readings and reading notes - Online discussion - Short papers	MTS: 2.3 MDiv: 2.2

Required Texts

- David Yeago, *The Apostolic Faith: A Catholic and Evangelical Introduction to Christian Theology*. This is an unpublished manuscript, and will be made available through Blackboard.
- Additional readings will be available online through the course website.

Recommended Texts

- *The Oxford Handbook of Systematic Theology*, ed. John Webster, Kathryn Tanner, and Iain Torrance (Oxford, 2007). Available as an electronic resource via the Blackboard site for this course. Alternatively, you can access the work via the U of T online catalogue – click on “E-Resources.”
- Additional supplementary readings will be provided for each unit on Blackboard.

Course Website

- Blackboard <https://weblogin.utoronto.ca/>

This course uses Blackboard for its course website. To access it, go to the UofT portal login page at <http://portal.utoronto.ca> and login using your UTORid and password. Once you have logged in to the portal using your UTORid and password, look for the **My Courses** module, where you'll find the link to the website for all your Blackboard-based courses. (Your course registration with ROSI gives you access to the course website at Blackboard.) Note also the information at <http://www.portalinfo.utoronto.ca/content/information-students>. Students who have trouble accessing Blackboard should ask Thomas Power for further help.

Course Methodology and Requirements

1. Course Notes

- On Friday mornings, the course notes for the next unit will be made available on Blackboard. The notes will typically be about 10 pages, and will include study questions to stimulate your thinking as you do the required readings.

2. Reading Notes (20% of grade).

- As the name suggests, reading notes should be oriented toward one or more of the assigned readings. You may use questions in the study guide to spur your thinking, but can also reflect on others aspects of the readings that you think are important.
- Your notes should reflect a balance of description, constructive criticism, and exploratory testing and extending of ideas. For instance, you might propose other ways of framing a particular theological issue, or suggest the implications of a doctrine for church practice or mission. Identify what you see as the main points in the text, but do not spend too much time simply summarizing the material. We will be looking for evidence of your own reflective engagement with the issues raised.
- Reading notes will be between 500 and 600 words, and will be submitted through Blackboard by 10 pm on Monday for at least eight weeks of the course. These notes are due at the beginning of the week so that they may inform participation in online discussion.

3. Online Conversation (20% of grade).

- Participating in online discussion will form a key element of the course, providing opportunity for students to learn from one another and to clarify their thinking as they engaging with one another and with the course material.
- Students will be assigned to discussion groups of 5 to 7 persons. For each unit, one of the group members will initiate discussion of the week's topic by noon on Monday with a post of approximately 500 words. The post should identify and briefly develop one or two questions for discussion. Initiating discussion will rotate between group members.
- Each member of the group will be responsible to contribute at least two substantive comments to the discussion.
 - One of these comments must be a response to the initial post. The person who makes the initial post only needs to make one other post that week.
 - The other comment must be a response to one of the other students in the group.
- The deadline for completing these contributions is 10:00 pm on Thursday.
- Posts should be detailed, informed by the reading, and assist in moving the conversation forward. Each post should be between 250 and 300 words. NB: These are the minimal requirements for participation in the on-line discussion. Additional posts are certainly welcome.

4. Essay on the church (30% of grade; due November 23).

- Write an essay (2000 words, or 6 – 8 pages, double spaced) in which you articulate and defend a conviction concerning the Christian church. The essay should make some reference to your own Christian tradition and/or the particular congregation where you worship, although it should not be limited to this. Possible topics include: primary metaphors for the church, the role of the church in salvation, questions of authority or polity, the relation of the individual congregation to the church universal, or the character of Christian disunity—a scandal, or a welcome diversity? This list is not exhaustive; please consult with the course instructor for guidance on framing your topic. Your essay should be well-organized, have a clearly-stated thesis, and engage viewpoints and positions in tension with your own.

5. Final exam (30% of grade).

- Students will write a final exam between December 7 and December 12. The format will be short answers. Students will be given three hours in which to complete the exam, and will arrange timing with the instructor or TA.

Course Schedule

Unit 1 (September 8 to 14). Before the Beginning: Election.

Primary Readings:

- Katherine Sonderegger, "Election," in *Oxford Handbook*

Unit 2 (September 15 to 21). In the Beginning: Creation.

Primary Readings:

- Yeago, *Apostolic Faith*, Chapter 9, part I and part II: “God the Creator”, and “Creator and Creature”
- David Fergusson, “Creation,” in *Oxford Handbook*

Unit 3 (September 22 to 28). Providence and the “Problem” of Evil.

Primary Readings:

- Yeago, *Apostolic Faith*, Chapter 9, part III: “The Providence of God”
- William C. Placher, “Evil and Divine Transcendence”

Unit 4 (September 29 to October 5) The Human Person as *Imago Dei*

Primary Readings:

- Yeago, *Apostolic Faith*, Chapter 10, parts I to III: “The image and likeness of God,” “Nature and Grace,” and “Covenant and Commandment”

Unit 5 (October 6 to 12) The Broken Image: Sin.

Primary Readings:

- Yeago, *Apostolic Faith*, Chapter 10, part IV and part V: “The breaking of the covenant” and “Original sin and its consequences”
- Ian McFarland, “The Fall and Sin,” in *Oxford Handbook*

Unit 6 (October 13 to 19) The Church (I).

Primary Readings:

- Yeago, *Apostolic Faith*, Chapter 11, parts I to III: “The Church in the mission of the Spirit”, “The Church and/as Israel”, and “The Church and Christ”
- Ralph del Colle, “The Church,” in *Oxford Handbook*

Reading Week: October 20 to 26

Unit 7 (October 27 to November 2) The Church (II).

Primary Readings:

- Yeago, *Apostolic Faith*, Chapter 11, part IV and part V: “The visibility of the Church”, “The life of the Church in history”

Unit 8 (November 3 to 9) The Gospel, the Law, and Faith.

Primary Readings:

- Yeago, *Apostolic Faith*, Chapter 12: “Spirit, Word and Faith”

Unit 9 (November 10 to 16) The Christian Life (I).

Primary Readings:

- Yeago, *Apostolic Faith*, Chapter 13: “The New Life”
- Essay on the Church due November 23**

Unit 10 (November 17 to 23) The Christian Life (II): Sacraments and Baptism

Primary Readings:

- Yeago, *Apostolic Faith*, Chapter 14: “The Sacraments in General and the Sacrament of Holy Baptism”

Unit 11 (November 24 to 30). The Christian Life (III): The Supper of the Lamb

Primary Readings:

- Yeago, *Apostolic Faith*, Chapter 15: The Holy Eucharist
Final exam must be completed by December 12

Unit 12 (December 1 to 7). The Beginning of the End: Eschatology.

Primary Readings:

- Yeago, *Apostolic Faith*, Chapter 16: "The Last Things"
- Richard Bauckham, "Eschatology," in *Oxford Handbook*;

Course Requirements Summary

- Weekly Reading notes (20%)
- Weekly on-line discussion (20%)
- Essay on the Church (30%)
- Final Exam (30%)

Students will be required to submit a course evaluation prior to receiving their grade for the course. As always, the professor does not see the evaluation until he has submitted the grade to the college registrar, and does not ever see the name of the person who has written the evaluation.

Grading Policy

Grading will follow the grading scale, found in section 11.2 of the Basic Degree Handbook.

Letter Grade	Numerical Equivalents	Grade Point	Grasp of Subject Matter	Other qualities expected of students
A RANGE: Excellent: Student shows original thinking, analytic and synthetic ability, critical evaluations, and broad knowledge base.				
A+	90-100	4.0	Profound and Creative	Strong evidence of original thought, of analytic and synthetic ability; sound and penetrating critical evaluations which identify assumptions of those they study as well as their own; mastery of an extensive knowledge base
A	85-89	4.0	Outstanding	
A-	80-84	3.7	Excellent	Clear evidence of original thinking, of analytic and synthetic ability; sound critical evaluations; broad knowledge base
B RANGE: Good: Student shows critical capacity and analytic ability, understanding of relevant issues, familiarity with the literature.				
B+	77-79	3.3	Very Good	Good critical capacity and analytic ability; reasonable understanding of relevant issues; good familiarity with the literature
B	73-76	3.0	Good	
B-	70-72	2.7	Satisfactory at a post- baccalaureate level.	Adequate critical capacity and analytic ability; some understanding of relevant issues; some familiarity with the literature
FZ	0-69	0	Failure	Failure to meet the above criteria

Please see the appropriate handbook for more details about the grading scale and non-numerical grades (e.g. SDF, INC, etc).

Policy on Assignment Extensions

Students are expected to hand in assignments by the date given in the outline. Basic Degree students are expected to complete all course work by the end of the term in which they are registered. Under **exceptional circumstances**, with the written permission of the instructor, students may request an extension (SDF = “standing deferred”) beyond the term. An extension, when offered, will have a mutually agreed upon deadline that does not extend beyond the conclusion of the following term. An SDF must be requested no later than the last day of classes of the term in which the course is taken. The request form is available on the college website or from the Registrar’s office.

One percentage point per day will be deducted on the course grade if an extension has not been requested by the stated deadline.

Academic Policies

Course grades. Consistently with the policy of the University of Toronto, course grades submitted by an instructor are reviewed by a committee of the instructor’s college before being posted. Course grades may be adjusted where they do not comply with University grading policy (<http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/grading.htm>) or college grading policy.

Accessibility. Students with a disability or health consideration are entitled to accommodation. Students must register at the University of Toronto’s Accessibility Services offices; information is available at <http://www.accessibility.utoronto.ca/>. The sooner a student seeks accommodation, the quicker we can assist.

Plagiarism. Students submitting written material in courses are expected to provide full documentation for sources of both words and ideas in footnotes or endnotes. Direct quotations should be placed within quotation marks. (If small changes are made in the quotation, they should be indicated by appropriate punctuation such as brackets and ellipses, but the quotation still counts as a direct quotation.) Failure to document borrowed material constitutes plagiarism, which is a serious breach of academic, professional, and Christian ethics. An instructor who discovers evidence of student plagiarism is not permitted to deal with the situation individually but is required to report it to his or her head of college or delegate according to the TST *Basic Degree Handbook* (linked from <http://www.tst.edu/content/handbooks>) and the University of Toronto *Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters* <http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/AssetFactory.aspx?did=4871>. A student who plagiarizes in this course. Students will be assumed to have read the document “Avoidance of plagiarism in theological writing” published by the Graham Library of Trinity and Wycliffe Colleges (http://www.trinity.utoronto.ca/Library_Archives/Theological_Resources/Tools/Guides/plag.htm).

Other academic offences. TST students come under the jurisdiction of the University of Toronto *Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters* <http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm>).

Writing Style. The writing standard for the Toronto School of Theology is Kate L. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses and Dissertations*, 8th edition (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2013), which is available at Crux Books.

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