

Systematic Theology

THSR9301 SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY READING COLLOQUIUM • FALL 2012

TU 1:30-3:30 (9/4, 10/2, 11/6, 12/4) • NEW ORLEANS BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

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“NOW TO HIM WHO IS ABLE TO STRENGTHEN YOU... ACCORDING TO THE REVELATION OF THE MYSTERY THAT ... HAS NOW BEEN DISCLOSED...”

ROMANS 16:26 (ESV)

Seminary Mission Statement

Our mission is to equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

Core Value and Key Competency

The primary core value of the Seminary addressed in this course is Doctrinal Integrity. The primary key competency in ministry addressed is Christian Theological Heritage.

Course Description

This colloquium is designed for and led by resident Doctor of Philosophy and Masters of Theology students under the supervision of the faculty of Theological and Historical Division, with focused readings on contemporary Systematic Theology.

Statement on Biblical Authority

In order to develop competent theological researchers for the twenty-first century church and academy, students in this course will be exposed to seminal works in Christian theology from a wide array of theological perspectives, including the influential works of many prominent non-evangelical theologians. Students are expected to become familiar with and demonstrate advanced, biblically guided critical engagement with the works of these thinkers.

The course instructor operates under the assumption that the Bible is the inspired, totally true and trustworthy Word of God which is “profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness” (2 Tim. 3:16). The Baptist Faith and Message (2000) provides the confessional framework in which I lead the course.

Reading Assignments (100%)

All students will read every text in the course and should be prepared to discuss every book assigned. For each class meeting, students will prepare and present a **critical book review** based on the text assigned to them. These book reviews should be 4-6 single-spaced pages in length and should include a bibliographic entry, brief biographical data about the author (including dates, degrees, theological tradition, academic positions held, research interests, and significant works), a **brief** summary, **critical analysis**, and **discussion questions**.

Course Texts (Required)

Barth, Karl. *Evangelical Theology: An Introduction*. Translated by Grover Foley. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1992.

Brunner, Emil, and Karl Barth. *Natural Theology: Comprising "Nature and Grace" by Professor Dr. Emil Brunner and the Reply "No!" by Dr. Karl Barth*. Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock, 2002.

Bultmann, Rudolf. *Jesus Christ and Mythology*. London: SCM Press, 2012.

Clark, David K. *To Know and Love God: Method for Theology*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2010.

Cobb, John B., Jr. and David Ray Griffin. *Process Theology: An Introductory Exposition*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 1996.

Cone, James H. *A Black Theology of Liberation*. Rev. ed. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis, 2010.

Lindbeck, George. *The Nature of Doctrine*. Rev. ed. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2009.

Marion, Jean-Luc. *God Without Being: Hors-Texte*. Translated by Thomas A. Carlson. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1995.

McFague, Sallie. *Metaphorical Theology: Models of God in Religious Language*. Philadelphia: Fortress, 1982.

McGrath, Alister E. *The Science of God*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2004.

Moltmann, Jürgen. *The Crucified God: The Cross of Christ as the Foundation and Criticism of Christian Theology*. Minneapolis: Fortress, 1993.

Pannenberg, Wolfhart. *Basic Questions in Theology*, vol. 1. Minneapolis: Fortress, 2008.

Rahner, Karl. *The Trinity*. Milestones in Catholic Theology. New York: The Crossroads Publishing Company, 1997.

Tillich, Paul. *Systematic Theology*, vol. 1. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1973.

Vanhoozer, Kevin J. *The Drama of Doctrine: A Canonical Linguistic Approach to Christian Doctrine*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2005.

Wright, N. T. *The New Testament and the People of God*. Minneapolis: Fortress, 1992.

Course Schedule and Assignments

Meeting #1—Dialectical and Existentialist Theologies (9/4)

Barth, <i>Evangelical Theology: An Introduction</i>	Bray
Brunner and Barth, <i>Natural Theology</i>	Jones
Bultmann, <i>Jesus Christ and Mythology</i>	Turner
Tillich, <i>Systematic Theology</i>, vol. 1	Walker

Meeting #2—Global and Hermeneutical Theologies (10/2)

Cone, <i>A Black Theology of Liberation</i>	Turner
Moltmann, <i>The Crucified God</i>	Walker
Pannenberg, <i>Basic Questions in Theology</i>, vol. 1	Bray
Rahner, <i>The Trinity</i>	Jones

Meeting #3—Postliberal, Postmodern, and Process Theologies (11/6)

Lindbeck, <i>The Nature of Doctrine</i>	Turner
McFague, <i>Metaphorical Theology</i>	Jones
Cobb and Griffin, <i>Process Theology</i>	Bray
Marion, <i>God Without Being</i>	Walker

Meeting #4—Contemporary Evangelical Theological Method (12/4)

Clark, <i>To Know and Love God</i>	Turner
McGrath, <i>The Science of God</i>	Bray
Wright, <i>The New Testament and the People of God</i>, pp. 1-144	Jones
Vanhooser, <i>The Drama of Doctrine</i>	Walker