

Systematic Theology

THSR9301 SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY READING COLLOQUIUM • FALL 2014

8/28, 9/25, 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. The core value focus for the 2014-2015 academic year is Spiritual Vitality.

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 instructors operate 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 they 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 or section of a 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. *Church Dogmatics*, vol. 1, no. 1. *The Doctrine of the Word of God*. Translated by G. T. Thomson and Harold Knight. Edinburgh: T&T Clark, 1975.

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.

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.

Henry, Carl F. H. *Revelation and Authority*, vol. 2, *God Who Speaks and Shows: Fifteen Theses, Part One*. Waco, TX: Word, 1976.

Kunhiyop, Samuel Waje. *African Christian Theology*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan (Hippo), 2012.

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

McGrath, Alister E. *Iustitia Dei: A History of the Christian Doctrine of Justification*. 3d ed. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2005.

McFague, Sallie. *The Body of God: An Ecological Theology*. Minneapolis: Fortress, 1993.

Moltmann, Jürgen. *Sun of Righteousness, Arise!: God's Future for Humanity and the Earth*. Minneapolis: Fortress, 2010.

Oden, Thomas C. *Systematic Theology*, vol. 1, *The Living God*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 2008.

Pannenberg, Wolfhart. *Systematic Theology*, vol. 1. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1991.

Pinnock, Clark H. *Most Moved Mover: A Theology of God's Openness*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2001.

Taylor, Mark. C. *Erring: A Postmodern A/theology*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1987.

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

Course Schedule and Assignments

Meeting #1—Neorthodox and Existentialist Theologies (8/28)

Barth, <i>Church Dogmatics</i>, Vol. 1, Part 1, §§1-7	Hollingsworth
Barth, <i>Church Dogmatics</i>, Vol. 1, Part 1, §§8-12	Suluma
Brunner, "Nature and Grace" (in <i>Natural Theology</i>)	Bailey
Barth, "No!" (in <i>Natural Theology</i>)	Milstead
Bultmann, <i>Jesus Christ and Mythology</i>	Freeman
Tillich, <i>Systematic Theology</i>, vol. 1, pp. 3-162	Shaffer

Meeting #2—Global and Hermeneutical Theologies (9/25)

Kunhiyop, <i>African Christian Theology</i>, Introduction-ch. 5	Shaffer
Kunhiyop, <i>African Christian Theology</i>, ch. 6-Appendix	Bailey
Moltmann, <i>Sun of Righteousness, Arise!</i>, pp. 1-81	Suluma
Moltmann, <i>Sun of Righteousness, Arise!</i>, pp. 82-224	Freeman
Pannenberg, <i>Systematic Theology</i>, vol. 1, pp. 1-188	Hollingsworth
Pannenberg, <i>Systematic Theology</i>, vol. 1, pp. 189-448	Milstead

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

Cone, <i>A Black Theology of Liberation</i>	Milstead
Cobb and Griffin, <i>Process Theology</i>	Suluma
Lindbeck, <i>The Nature of Doctrine</i>	Bailey
McFague, <i>The Body of God</i>	Shaffer
Pinnock, <i>Most Moved Mover</i>	Freeman
Taylor, <i>Erring</i>	Hollingsworth

Meeting #4—Contemporary Evangelical Theologies (12/4)

Henry, <i>Revelation and Authority</i>, vol. 2, <i>God Who Speaks and Shows: Fifteen Theses Part One</i>, pp. 7-150	Suluma
Henry, <i>Revelation and Authority</i>, vol. 2, <i>God Who Speaks and Shows: Fifteen Theses Part One</i>, pp. 151-334	Hollingsworth
McGrath, <i>Iustitia Dei</i>, 3d ed., pp. vii-207	Freeman
McGrath, <i>Iustitia Dei</i>, 3d ed., pp. 208-421	Shaffer
Oden, <i>Systematic Theology</i>, vol. 1, pp. ix-224	Milstead
Oden, <i>Systematic Theology</i>, vol. 1, pp. 225-406	Bailey