



**UNIVERSITY OF ST. MICHAEL'S COLLEGE**

81 ST. MARY STREET, TORONTO, ONTARIO M5S 1J4

FACULTY OF THEOLOGY

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Creation, Fall, Grace and Glory  
SMT 2328HF  
Muzzo Family Alumni Hall 306  
Monday 11:00-13:00

Instructor: Darren Dias  
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Office Hours: Monday 2-3, Tuesday 11-12, and by appointment/drop in

### **Course Description**

This is a course in theological anthropology. We ask the question: What does it mean to be human? Of course an answer to such a question requires the insights of psychology, philosophy, linguistics, chemistry, biology, physics—in short, the whole range of things by which humans experience and understand themselves, the world around them, and God. This course will be limited to theological perspectives that explore how Christians have attempted to answer this question in the past and, drawing from contemporary resources, how we struggle to answer this question today.

### **Goals**

The purpose of this course is to:

1. Develop a vocabulary to speak meaningfully about creation, sin, grace, death and final fulfillment in theological and pastoral ways.
2. Appropriate the teachings on sin, grace and eschatology in their historical and contemporary exposition.
3. Engage contemporary culture in a conversation about what it means to be human today.

### **Outcomes**

By the end of this course student will be able to:

1. Explain church teachings regarding doctrines such as creation, sin, grace, purgatory and final things.

2. Articulate contemporary issues that affect the Christian understanding of what it means to be human.
3. Demonstrate understanding of basic theological positions on nature and grace.
4. Engage in theological texts and research a particular area of theological anthropology.

### **Class Requirements**

1. Attendance at all classes
2. Weekly reading assignments
3. Participation
4. Text Study
5. Essay

### **Evaluation**

1. **Participation:** Together we form a learning community. In order to have fruitful discussion and debate each week, students must attend classes and complete the weekly readings. (see course policies) 20%
2. **Reflection Paper:** Students will write a brief reflection trying to answer the question: what does it mean to be human? This is not a research paper. It should be based on your own knowledge and experience (of being human). The paper should be 2-pages, double-spaced, 12-point font, with page numbers but no cover page (ensure your name is clearly indicated). 10% Due Jan 21.
3. **Text Study Paper:** Students write a 3-page text study (double-spaced, 12-point font, with page numbers but no cover page) on the readings from listed under weeks 4 or 5. Instructions will be posted on Quercus. 20% Due: Feb 11.
4. **Research Essay:** The essay should follow standard academic research paper style. The paper should address a specific topic related to the course. A list of possible topics will be distributed. You may choose another topic with the approval of the Instructor. The paper should be 8-pages, double-spaced, 12-point font, with page numbers but no cover page (but ensure your name is clearly indicated). Instructions will be posted on Quercus. 40%. Due: March 18.
5. **Integration Paper:** Students will write a brief integration paper. It is not a research paper. The paper should be 2-pages, double-spaced, 12-point font, with page numbers but no cover page (but ensure your name is clearly indicated). Instructions will be posted on Quercus. 10% Due April 8.

### **Course Policies**

1. **Attendance and Participation:** Preparation for and participation in class and tutorial are fundamental aspects of this course. This depends in large part on a thorough engagement with the readings. Because of the importance of tutorial and class conversations anyone who misses more than three tutorials/classes will not receive credit for the course. Please let the instructor know if you must miss class.
2. **Tutorials and class discussions** are to be safe spaces, respectful of the diversity of opinions present. No one person should dominate discussions and everyone has a responsibility to make a contribution to the collective learning of the class. (See

guidelines for participation and discussion)

3. **Deadlines:** Grades for assignments that are submitted after the specified date (without the permission of the instructor) may be subject to a reduction of 5% per day. Extensions will be granted by the instructor.  
If you have a chronic health condition or learning disability that affects your ability to complete an assignment, please let the instructor know at the beginning of the term. Please inform the Student Services Officer. To know about various kinds of support you may wish to visit:  
<http://www.accessibility.utoronto.ca/index.htm>
4. **Grading:** Standardized grading rubrics can be found in the Toronto School of Theology's Basic Degree Handbook which is the standard for all TST colleges. As such a "good" paper is a "B"; a "very good" paper is a "B+"; an "excellent" paper, which shows clear evidence of original thinking, etc., is an "A-" and so on. For more information, please consult the TST BDC handbook.
5. **Questions on progress and grades:** The instructor welcomes questions about progress and grading; however, there is a 24 hour think-it-through policy. So please take a day to read any comments and assess them before contacting the instructor. If you still wish to have your grade reconsidered, send me an email of no less than one paragraph explaining why it deserves a higher (or lower) grade.
6. **Inclusive language:** Some of the articles and texts used in the course lack gender inclusive language. Despite this, students are expected to use gender inclusive language. For help in this area, I recommend the following resources: Dumond, Val. *The Elements of Non-Sexist Language*, Prentice Hall, 1990; Maggio, Rosalie. *Talking about People: A Guide to Fair and Accurate Language*, Oryx Press, 1997; Miller, Casey. *The Handbook of Non-Sexist Language for Writers, Editors and Speakers*, HarperCollins, 1988 and the website by Jenny Redfern at Rensselaer Polytechnical Institute in Troy, New York:  
<http://www.rpi.edu/dept/llc/writecenter/web/genderfair.html> .
7. **Plagiarism:** You are responsible for knowing what constitutes plagiarism. You should be acquainted with acceptable forms of citation and reference. Plagiarism is the failure to indicate the influence of the thought of others in your own writing, whether directly or indirectly. Any assignment that includes plagiarized material will receive a grade of 0%.  
For advice about proper citation and avoiding plagiarism visit:  
<http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources/documentation>

Also be aware of the TST guidelines on both plagiarism and citation:

<http://www.utoronto.ca/academicintegrity/>

You may wish to consult a manual of style such as Kate L. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations* 6<sup>th</sup> ed. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1996.

### **Text**

Neil Ormerod, *Creation, Grace, and Redemption*, Maryknoll: Orbis Books, 2007.

## Articles

Available on Quercus

## Class Schedule

### Class 1                      Jan 7

What and Where Does It Mean to be Human?

World Council of Church, "Christian Perspectives on Theological Anthropology," Faith and Order Paper 199, January 1, 2005.

<http://www.oikoumene.org/en/resources/documents/commissions/faith-and-order/v-theological-anthropology/christian-perspectives-on-theological-anthropology>

Pope Francis, "Laudato Si," Chapter 2, May 24, 2015.

[http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco\\_20150524\\_enciclica-laudato-si.html](http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20150524_enciclica-laudato-si.html)

Podcast: Andrei Linde on the Universe

<https://entitledopinions.stanford.edu/andrei-linde-universe>

### Class 2                      Jan 14

The Dependence and Independence of Creation

Ormerod, 1-22.

Elizabeth A. Johnson, "Losing and Finding Creation in the Christian Tradition," in *Christianity and Ecology* (Cambridge: Harvard University Center for the Study of World Religions) 3-22.

David Burrell, *Faith and Freedom: An Interfaith Perspective* (Oxford: Blackwell Publishing) 143-155.

Kathryn Tanner, "Creation *Ex Nihilo* as Mixed Metaphor," *Modern Theology* 29 (2013) 138-155.

Joseph Hannon, *Theological Objections to a Metaphysicalist Interpretation of Creation in Theology and Science* 18/2 (2020) 290-302.

Thomas O'Meara, "Christian Theology and Extraterrestrial Intelligent Life," *Theological Studies* 60 (1999) 3-30.

Podcast: How It All Began

<http://www.npr.org/programs/ted-radio-hour/357837221/how-it-all-began?showDate=2014-10-24>

### Class 3                      Jan 21

Human Beings as Embodied Hunger for God

Ormerod, 23-45.

Bernard Lonergan, "The Subject," in *A Second Collection*, ed. William F. J. Ryan, SJ and Bernard J. Tyrrell, SJ (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1996) 69-87.

Ethna Regan, "Not Merely the Cognitive Subject: Rahner's Theological Anthropology," in *Karl Rahner, Theologian for the Twenty-First Century*, ed. Padraic Conway and Fainche Ryan (Bern: Peter Lang, 2010) 121-140.

*Reflection paper due.*

Podcast: The Soul

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p00548g4>

**Class 4                      Jan 28**

Sin and Its Consequences

Ormerod, 46-89.

Jeff Vogel, "The Haste of Sin, the Slowness of Salvation: An Interpretation of Irenaeus on the Fall and Redemption," *Anglican Theological Review* 89 (2007) 443-459.

Nathan Halloran, "Evolution and the Nature and Transmission of Original Sin: Rahner, Schoonenberg and Teilhard de Chardin," *Colloquium* 44 (2012) 177-193.

Charles Hefling, "Why We Mess Things Up," *Christian Century* 131 (2014) 22-25, 27, 29.

Podcast: The Devil

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p005494p>

**Class 5                      Feb 4**

Contemporary Understandings of Original Sin

Tatha Wiley, "Original Sin in a Contemporary Context," "Original Sin in Feminist Theology," "Sustained Unauthenticity," in *Original Sin, Origins, Developments, Contemporary Meanings* (Mahwah: Paulist Press, 2002) 103-204.

Podcast: The Fall

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p004y27p>

**Class 6                      Feb 11**

The New Creation and the Reign of God

Ormerod, 90-108.

Karl Rahner, "The Order of Creation and the Order of Redemption," *The Rahner Reader*, ed. G. McCool, (New York: Seabury Press, 1975) 190-196.

Denis Edwards, "Resurrection and the Costs of Evolution: A Dialogue with Rahner on Nonintervensionist Theology," *Theological Studies* 67 (2006) 816-834.

Jurgen Moltmann, "The Resurrection of Christ and the New Earth," *Communio Viatorum* 49 (2007) 141-149.

Mary Gerhart, "Bernard Lonergan's 'Law of the Cross': Transforming the Sources and Effects of Violence," *Theological Studies* 77 (2016) 77-95.

*Text study due.*

Podcast: Redemption

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p00548vp>

**Reading Week      No Classes**

**Class 7                  Feb 25**

Grace

Ormerod, 109-133.

Jaroslav Pelikan, "Nature and Grace," in *The Emergence of the Catholic Tradition, The Christian Tradition, A History of the Development of Doctrine, 100-600*, vol. 1 (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1971) 278-331.

Stephen J. Duffy, "Friar Thomas D'Aquinas: Grace Perfecting Nature," "in *The Dynamics of Grace: Perspectives in Anthropology* (Collegeville: The Liturgical Press, 1993) 121-172.

Podcast: The Pelagian Controversy

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b010dstl>

**Class 8                  March 4**

Justification by Faith through Grace

Jaroslav Pelikan, "Justification by Faith," in *Reformation of Church Dogma (1300-1700), The Christian Tradition: A History of the Development of Doctrine, vol. 4* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1984) 138-155.

Elizabeth Dryer, "A Tug of War: Trent, Molinism and Jansenism," in *Manifestation of the Grace* (Wilmington: Michael Glazier Press, 1990) 144-155.

Kathryn Tanner, "Justification and Justice in a Theology of Grace," *Theology Today* 55 (1999) 510-523.

Lutheran World Federation and Catholic Church, *Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification*,

[http://www.vatican.va/roman\\_curia/pontifical\\_councils/chrstuni/documents/rc\\_pc\\_chrstuni\\_doc\\_31101999\\_cath-luth-joint-declaration\\_en.html](http://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/pontifical_councils/chrstuni/documents/rc_pc_chrstuni_doc_31101999_cath-luth-joint-declaration_en.html)

Podcast: Lutheran Catholic Dialogue

<http://cucatholicctr.org/2012/05/lutheran-catholic-dialogue/>

## **Class 9                      March 11**

Communicating Grace

Jaroslav Pelikan, "The Communication of Grace," in *The Emergence of the Catholic Tradition, The Christian Tradition, A History of the Development of Doctrine, 1300-1700*, vol. 4 (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1971) 38-59.

Robert M. Doran, "Social Grace and the Mission of the Church," in *A Realist's Church: Essays in Honor of Joseph A. Komonchak*, ed. Patrick Hayes and Nicholas Rademacher (Maryknoll: Orbis Books, 2015) 169-184.

Kathryn Tanner, "Economy of Grace," *Word and World* 30 (2010) 174-181.

Podcast: Resurrection

<https://entitledopinions.stanford.edu/thomas-sheehan-resurrection-part-1>

<https://entitledopinions.stanford.edu/thomas-sheehan-resurrection-part-2>

## **Class 10                      March 18**

Hope

Pope Benedict XVI, *Spe Salvi*, Nov. 30, 2007.

[http://w2.vatican.va/content/benedict-xvi/en/encyclicals/documents/hf\\_ben-xvi\\_enc\\_20071130\\_spe-salvi.html](http://w2.vatican.va/content/benedict-xvi/en/encyclicals/documents/hf_ben-xvi_enc_20071130_spe-salvi.html)

Sarah Coakley, "The Eschatological Body: Gender, Transformation, and God," *Modern Theology* 16 (2000) 61-73.

Ronald Cole-Turner, "Eschatology and the Technologies of Human Enhancement," *Interpretation: A Journal of Bible and Theology* 70 (2016) 21-33.

Allan R. Bevere, "Cosmos Dissolved or Made New? Cosmology, Polkinghorne and Christian Liturgy," *Liturgy* 28 (2013) 28-40.

*Research paper due.*

TedTalk: Hope

[https://www.ted.com/talks/sherwin\\_nuland\\_on\\_hope?language=en](https://www.ted.com/talks/sherwin_nuland_on_hope?language=en)

**Class 11**                      **March 25**

Death, and after Death

Gerard Mannion, "The End of the Beginning—Discerning Fundamental Themes in Rahner's Theology of Death," *Louvain Studies* 29 (2004) 166-186.

Harvey Egan, "In Purgatory We Shall Be Mystics," *Theological Studies* 73 (2012) 870-891.  
John Sanders, "Raising hell about razing hell: evangelical debates on universal salvation," *Perspectives in Religious Studies* 40 (2013) 267-281.

John Sanders, "Raising hell and razing hell: evangelical debates on universal salvation," *Perspectives in Religious Studies* 40 (2013) 267-281.

Podcast: What the Dying Know

<http://www.cbc.ca/radio/tapestry/what-the-dying-know-1.2803151/what-the-dying-know-1.3089361>

**Class 12**                      **April 1**

Final Fulfilment

Ormerod, 196-215.

Werner G. Jeanrond, "Love and Eschatology," *Dialog: A Journal of Theology* (50) 53-62.

Elizabeth A. Johnson, "Communion of Saints: Friends of God and Prophets," in *Friends of God and Prophets, A Feminist Theological Reading of the Communion of Saints* (London: SCM Press Ltd, 198) 119-243.

Peter Phan, "Eschatology and Ecology: The Environment and the End-Times," *Irish Theological Quarterly* 62 (1996) 3-16.

Podcasts:

Hell

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p0038xb6>

Heaven

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p003k9lf>

*Integration paper due April 8.*