

STCE-6007 THEOLOGY & ETHICS DEPARTMENTAL SEMINAR

**Foundational Themes in Theology and Ethics & their Interreligious,
Social, Economic, and Environmental Implications**

Thursdays, 2:10-5:00PM, GTU Library Collaborative Learning Space

Instructor Name and Title

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Course Description

This seminar introduces first year doctoral students to foundational themes, texts, and concepts outlining the contemporary study of Theology and Ethics, interreligiously. Theology is variously experienced and expressed in religions – systemic, mythopoetic, mystical, textual, aesthetic, ethical, emotive, and embodied. There are categories of theology that cross all boundaries and yet every religion has its own unique theological themes and frameworks as well. Students will explore interreligious doctrinal frameworks as well as the diverse conduits through which theology is understood and delivered. Ethics is also a discipline in its own right with particular frameworks: we will attend carefully to the theological sources for justice and virtue ethics in terms of their value as social, economic, and environmental implications. Featured guest lectures and in-class student interactive forums offer additional opportunities for negotiating the field through interdisciplinary and interreligious pathways in theology and ethics.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ASSESSMENT

At the end of this course students will be able to:

Outcome	Assessment
<p>1. Outcome 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate the strengths and limitations of theological and ethical methods in the religious traditions studied, comparing and contrasting classical and constructive approaches. 	<p>1. Assessment 1 Critical Essay #1 on assigned readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Essay on contrasting Classical and Constructive approaches.
<p>2. Outcome 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify the categories of theology and ethics interreligiously. 	<p>2. Assessment 2 Critical Essay #2 on assigned readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Essay addressing convergences and divergences across traditions. What are common theological and ethical categories across traditions, what are unique to a particular tradition?
<p>3. Outcome 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interpret the significance of critical social theories for shaping the methods and approaches of modern theological ethics 	<p>3. Assessment 3 Critical Essay #3 on assigned readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A dialogical essay on the principal theological and ethical categories as they are reflected in one of the religious traditions studied, explaining convergences with, or divergences from a different tradition.
<p>4. Outcome 4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze the social, ecological, and political consequences/outcomes of public theology, ethics, and interreligious engagement in teaching and praxis. 	<p>4. Assessment 4</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Consistent attendance at Class Lectures and Participation in & Facilitation of Class Discussions ii. Attendance at: At least one Theology & Ethics Departmental Colloquium iii. Attendance at & Report on one Public Lecture or Panel Discussion at the GTU Consortium.
<p>5. Outcome 5:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess various theo-ethical approaches to major contemporary topics of concern. 	<p>5. Assessment 5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final Research Paper & Class Presentation of Outline

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

EVALUATION

- I. **30%** (SLO 1, 2 & 3) - Critical Essays on assigned readings
- II. **20%** (SLO 4) – Participation in the Discourse on Theology & Ethics
 - (i) Class Attendance, Engagement with, and Facilitation of Class Discussions
 - (ii) Required: Attendance at least 1 Theology & Ethics Departmental Colloquium
- III. **10%** (SLO 4) – Attendance at a Public Theo-ethical Event & Informative Report on the event
- IV. **40%** Final Project (SLO 5)
 - 30% Final Research Paper
 - 10% Class Presentation

GRADING

Assignment Grade Equivalencies:

A: 96-95 – A publication-worthy paper with minor revisions; significantly exceeds expectations

A-: 93-90 – A publishable paper with major revisions; exceeds expectations

B+: 89-87 – A well done paper that meets all expectations

B: 86-83 – Meets basic expectation

B - : 83-80 – Does not meet basic expectations

C: Failure to meet standards of the GTU Theology & Ethics Seminar

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF ASSIGNMENTS

I. **Three Critical Essays on the Readings (30%) | (1000-1,200 Words)**

Essay #1. Essay on Contrasting Classical and Constructive Approaches that focuses on:

- Reading materials from Weeks 2 & 3.
- Due Week 3.

Essay #2. Essay on Major Social Theories shaping the methods and approaches of theological ethics that focuses on:

- Reading materials from Weeks 6 & 7.
- Due Week 8.

Essay #3. Dialogical Essay on the Foundational Theological and Ethical Categories as it is reflected in:

- Two Religions studied in the seminar—that are not your own—explaining convergences and divergences

- Explore similar basic theological categories such as the nature of God, or Theological Anthropology, etc.
- Focus on reading material from Weeks 1 – 11
- Due Week 12.

Critical Essays must include:

1. 700-1000 Words (not to exceed 1000) - (2-2 ½) pages, double-spaced, 12 pt. font, Times Roman.
2. Major Theses of the articles, chapters, or group of chapters, summarizing key points, teachings, or arguments of the authors / writers.
 - Focus on the theories of at least 4 books and authors studied during the assigned weeks.
3. Response / Reaction. Present your critical analysis of the readings to convey your critique, constructive viewpoint, and questions raised by your reflection.
4. Citation / References.

Essay Grading:

Essays should demonstrate:

Basic Expectations (all of the following):

2. Understanding of authors' positions.
3. Clear Thesis & Supportive Argumentation.
4. Critical & Evenhanded Engagement.
5. Correct Grammar.
6. Proper Style – Turabian

Advanced Composition:

7. Interdisciplinary: Bring in another discipline, field, or theory than the one being studied.
8. Interreligious: Reflection on the value of the material for:
 - Comparative or Dialogical Engagement.
9. Reflection on the value of the material for:
 - Gender, Intersectional, and Cross-Cultural needs, considerations, and transactions.
10. Application: How do the assigned readings speak to (or can be used to engage):
 - Problems of the contemporary era.

II. Attendance at a Public Theo-ethical Event & Reflection Paper on Theo-ethics (15%).

- Attend an event on Public Theology or Theological/Religious Ethics

- Compose a brief but formal **Informative Reflection Paper** that presents the information and insights gleaned from, and/or critique of the event attended.
- 400-600 words

III. Seminar Attendance (20%). Missed class will affect student cognition and participation, and will impact grade (unless faculty excuses for critical reason or emergency). More than one missed class (class held 1x/wk.) will result in loss of 2 percentage points per absence unless there is a documented reason related to family, health, legal, transport, or other emergency.

- Each student will have a chance to facilitate class discussion.
- Participation is always expected.

IV. Final Research Paper /Presentation (35%).

- **The final research paper will explain and assess a theo-ethical approach to a major contemporary topic of concern.**

Final Research Paper /Presentation Cont'd:

- **The topic and sources must be approved first by the instructors during a meeting or email communication with each student (before Thanksgiving break).**
- **Required: Class Presentation that offers a succinct overview of the Research Paper (preferably PowerPoint, 10 minutes max).**
- **When composing the final research paper:**
 1. Choose a specific theo-ethical issue of significance:
 - Contemporary societal and global challenges—ethical, moral, relational, sociological, environmental, economic, etc.
 2. Use one or more of the methods, approaches, and theories that has been studied in the seminar.
 3. Religion: Be well-grounded in relevant theological or theo-ethical *primary* texts and applicable *secondary* literature of a particular religion.
 4. Demonstrate sufficient familiarity with the same categories in more than one religion if the paper is dialogical (interreligious).
 5. In relation to the specific theo-ethical issue you have chosen to focus on:
 - Emphasize the work and thought of a particular theory, theo-ethical movement, individual, or theological school.
 6. Paper can be grounded in one tradition, but must have:
 - an interreligious component or dialogical angle that connects to other traditions.

7. The grade for this paper will be based on the extent to which the following requirements are fulfilled and the Assignment Grade Equivalencies (see p. 3):

- i) Focused choice of theo-ethical theme.
- ii) Clarity of thesis statement.
- iii) Sufficient textual evidence (properly referenced) to support your thesis.
- iv) Careful and comprehensive grasp of the material used.
- v) Argumentation must be supported by a variety of sources: Primary; Secondary; Monographs; Edited Volumes; Journal Articles.
- vi) Demonstrated critical (analytical) and evenhanded approach.
- vii) Sections & Sub-Sections
- viii) Appropriate & consistent use of citations (Turabian).
- ix) Works Cited Page or Bibliography of works referenced (not solely to class materials).
- x) Additional consideration will be given for visuals: charts, graphics, diagrams, art, etc.

COURSE FORMAT

- Lectures (faculty and guests) with audio-visual content as appropriate
- Interactive Discussion with student facilitation and presentation as assigned

REQUIRED TEXTS

- ❖ Miguel De La Torre, ed. *Ethics: A Liberative Approach* (Fortress, 2013). ISBN 978-0800697877, Price \$29
- ❖ Serene Jones and Paul Lakeland, eds. *Constructive Theology: A Contemporary Approach to Classical Themes* (Augsburg Fortress, 2005) ISBN 978-0800636838, Price \$40
- ❖ All other reading selections will be posted in Moodle

**REQUIRED READINGS, WEEKLY CALENDAR OF SECTIONS, TOPICS,
READINGS,
& ASSIGNMENT DUE DATES**

SECTION: UNDERSTANDING THEOLOGY & ETHICS

Week 1 – Sept 5

Foundational Categories across Religious Traditions

What are the Categories of theology?

What is Theological Ethics and its Impact on Human and Planetary Life?

Introduction to the course and its modalities.

- ❖ Selections from: Francis Schussler Fiorenza & John P. Galvin eds., *Systematic Theology: Roman Catholic Perspectives*
 - Systematic theology / Francis Schüssler Fiorenza
 - Sin and grace / Roger Haight
 - Eschatology / Jeanine Hill Fletcher
- ❖ Selections from: Rita Sherma, *Hinduism and the Divine: A New Introduction to Hindu Theology* (IB Tauris, 2018)
 - The Foundational Categories of Hindu Theology Chart
- ❖ Article: “Introduction to Islamic Theology” [islam.uga.edu/faith.html]

Please come to class prepared to offer a brief introduction about yourself and your interests in the doctoral program.

**SECTION: UNDERSTANDING CLASSICAL & CONTEMPORARY CHRISTIAN
THEOLOGY**

Week 2 – Sept 12

Comparing Christian Constructs to Systematics:

In what ways do classical systematic approaches inform contemporary constructs?

Guest presenter: Dr. Jay E. Johnson (PSR)

- ❖ Selections from: Serene Jones and Paul Lakeland, eds. *Constructive Theology: A Contemporary Approach to Classical Themes* (Augsburg Fortress, 2005)
 - 1. GOD: ancient biblical, philosophical roots—Augustine, Aquinas, Levinas, Derrida and others; Contextual gleanings of polytheism / monotheism throughout history—challenges of our time; Constructive proposals of theism: God of love / religious diversity, beyond racism/ sexism
 - 2. HUMAN BEINGS: creation to existential understandings of finite and eternal; Theological anthropology of Eucharist as human / divine interaction; Eschatological character of Gregory’s views; Augustinian view of body, time, and eternity; ritualizing fellowship over conflict; problematics of election/entitlement over service/grace/charity

- 3. SIN and EVIL: constructive proposals of sin through history tracking tragedy, anguish, victimization; poststructuralist and post-colonialist theories; critical view of Adamic language, original sin, sin as disobedience, personal/moral evil vs natural evil; Sin and evil as social constructs
- 4. JESUS CHRIST: historical to constructive proposals of Incarnation; theoethical understanding of ‘God with us’; significance of Mary; Nicea and Chalcedon; Engaging the Cross: Suffering, Atonement, Redemption; Radical Reformation; Schleiermacher and Colonialism; cultural diversity of Christologies.

ESSAY 1 DUE | Week 3 | Sept 19

SECTION: COMPARATIVE THEOLOGY

Week 3 – Sept 19

How do We Understand Comparative Theological Perspectives Filled with Perils and Promise?

Guest presenter: Pravina Rodrigues (GTU/CDS)

- ❖ Selections from: Francis X. Clooney, *Comparative Theology: Deep Learning Across Religious Borders*, (Wiley-Blackwell; 1st ed., 2010)
 - 1. Religious Diversity and Comparative Theology
 - 3. Comparative Theology Today
 - 4. From Theory to Practice
 - 6. Learning to See
- ❖ Paul Hedges, “Comparative Theology and Hermeneutics: A Gadamerian Approach to Interreligious Interpretation” in *Religion* [2016; v7:7]
- ❖ Selections from: Paul F Knitter, *Introducing Theologies of Religions* (Orbis, 2002)
 - Introduction: Christianity and Other Religions: Problem and Promise
 - 1. Total Replacement
 - 2. Partial Replacement
 - 3. The Replacement Model: Insights and Questions
- ❖ David Cheetham et al, *Interreligious Hermeneutics in Pluralistic Europe: Between Texts and People*.
 - Comparative Theology / Ulrich Winkler

SECTION: HINDU THEOLOGY & ETHICS

Week 4 – Sept 26

Hindu Classical & Constructive Theology

Guest presenter: Pravina Rodrigues (GTU/CDS)

- ❖ Selection from Rita D. Sherma:
 - “God, gods, or Godhead? The Architecture of Hindu Theology.” In *Hinduism and the Divine: An Introduction to Hindu Theology*
 - “Sri Ramakrishna Paramahansa & the Flavors of Bhakti.” In *Beacons of Dharma*

- “*Sa Ham: I Am She - Woman as Goddess.*” In *Is the Goddess a Feminist*
- “God the Mother and her Sacred Text: A Hindu Vision of Divine Immanence.” In *Hindu Philosophy and Gender*.
- ❖ Selection from: Richard King, *Indian Philosophy* (Georgetown University Press, 1999)
 - 9. Creation and Causality: Where do We Come From?
- ❖ Selections from: Ravi M. Gupta, *Caitanya Vaiṣṇava Philosophy: Tradition, Reason and Devotion*. (Routledge, 2016)
 - Introduction Circling in on the Subject: Discourses of Ultimacy in Caitanya Vaiṣṇavism / Kenneth R. Valpey
 - Epistemology and Ontology I Where One is Forever Two: God and World in Jīva Gosvāmī’s *Bhāgavata-sandarbha* / Ravi M. Gupta
 - Ethics and Practice Caitanya Vaiṣṇava Ethics in Relation to Devotional Community / Joseph T. O’Connell
 - Aesthetics An Ocean of Emotion: Rasa and Religious Experience in Early Caitanya Vaiṣṇava Thought / Rembert Lutjeharms
- ❖ Other resources on Moodle.

SECTION: HINDU ETHICS

Week 5 – Oct 3

Hindu Ethics

Guest presenter: Pravina Rodrigues (GTU/CDS)

- ❖ Selections from: Purushottama Bilimoria et al, *Indian Ethics: Classical Traditions and Contemporary Challenges*, Vol. I (Routledge, 2017)
 - Introduction: Thinking Ethics Eastern and Western
 - *Dharma*, Imperatives, and Tradition: Toward an Indian Theory of Moral Action / J. N. Mohanty
 - Ethics of Liberation in Patañjali’s Yoga / Ian Whicher
 - Gandhi, Empire, and a Culture of Peace / Joseph Prabhu
- ❖ Selections from: Roy W. Perrett, *Hindu Ethics: A Philosophical Study* (University of Hawai’i Press, 1998)
 - Introduction
 - 1. Facts, Values, and the *Bhagavad Gītā*
 - 3. Living Right and Living Well in Hindu Ethics
 - 4. The Law of Karma

SECTION: LIBERATION THEOLOGIES & LIBERATIVE ETHICS ACROSS BOUNDARIES

Week 6 – Oct 10

Perspectives on Liberative Theoethics I

Guest Panelists: Pravina Rodrigues (GTU/CDS), Leslie Bowling Dyer (GTU), Rev. Dr. Maria Cristina Vlassidis Burgoa (SKSM), Rachelle Syed (GTU/CDS)

Latin-American and Hispanic Liberative Theology and Ethics

- ❖ Selections from: Miguel De La Torre, ed. *Ethics: A Liberative Approach* (Fortress, 2013)
 - 1: Latin American Liberative Ethics / Alejandro Croswaite
 - 5: Hispanic Liberative Ethics / Ruben Rosario Rodriguez

Gandhi & Hindu Liberative Ethics

- ❖ Selections from: M. K. Gandhi, *Non-Violent Resistance: Satyagraha* (Dover Publications: 2001)
 - 7. The Theory and Practice of Satyagraha
 - 8. Satyagraha Ashram Vows
 - 9. Yajna or Sacrifice
- ❖ Selections from: Anantanand Rambachan, *A Hindu Theology of Liberation: Not-Two Is Not One* (State University of New York: 2015)
 - Introduction
 - 1. The Quest for Fullness
 - 3. The Full Self
 - 4. The Liberated Life
 - 7. Liberation from Anthropocentrism

Liberation Theology in Islam

- ❖ Selections from: Hamid Dabashi, *Islamic Liberation Theology: Resisting the Empire* (Routledge, 2008)
 - 1. Resisting Empire
 - 2. The End of Islamic Ideology
 - 4. Islam and Globalization
 - 6. Liberation Theodicy

African American Liberation Theology and Ethics

- ❖ Selections from: James H. Cone, *God of the Oppressed* (Orbis Books, 1997) *
 - Liberation and the Christian Ethic
 - Black Theology and Ideology
- ❖ Selection from: Howard Thurman, *With Head and Heart: The Autobiography of Howard Thurman* (Mariner Books, 1981)
 - Crossing the Great Divine: India
- ❖ Obery Hendricks, Jr. *The Politics of Jesus* (Doubleday, 2006)
 - 2. Birth of a Revolutionary: The Shaping of Jesus' Politics

Womanist / Mujerista Theology and Ethics- Exegetical and Methodological Aims

- ❖ Selections from: Miguel De La Torre, ed. *Ethics: A Liberative Approach* (Fortress, 2013)
 - 6: Keri Day: African-American Liberative Ethics
- ❖ Selections from: Stephanie Y. Mitchem, *Introducing Womanist Theology*. (Orbis Books, 2002)

- 3. Womanist Theology
- ❖ Selections from: Kwok Pui-Lan, *Postcolonial Imagination and Feminist Theology*. (WJK Press: 2005) Part II:
 - 5. Postcolonial Feminist Theology: What is it? How to do It?
 - 8. Beyond Pluralism: Towards a Postcolonial Theology of Religions
- ❖ Selections from: Kelly Brown Douglas, *Stand Your Ground: Black Bodies and the Justice of God* (Orbis, 2015)
 - 5: Jesus and Trayvon-the Justice of God
- ❖ Article: Ada María Isasi-Díaz, “Praxis: The Heart of Mujerista Theology,” in: *JHLT*, Vol. 1, No.1, 1993

Week 7 – Oct 17

Intersectionality in Liberative Theology and Ethics

Dr. Jay E. Johnson (PSR/GTU) – Dr. Hugo Cordova Quero (SKSM/GTU)

Hill Collins, Patricia and Sirma Bilge. *Intersectionality*. Cambridge, UK: Polity Press, 2016, 1-30 and 63-87.

LGBTQ Theology and Ethics

- ❖ Selection from: Jay E. Johnson, *Peculiar Faith: Queer Theology for Christian Witness*, (Seabury, 2014):
 - Queerly Called: Ecstasy, Hope, and Theological Method
- ❖ Selection from: Marcella Althaus-Reid, *The Queer God*, (Routledge, 2003)
 - Kneeling: Deviant Theologians
- ❖ Selection from: Miguel De La Torre, ed. *Ethics: A Liberative Approach* (Fortress, 2013)
 - 11: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Liberative Ethics / Patrick Cheng

Intersectional Ethics-Women of Color and Disability Ethics

- ❖ Miguel De La Torre, ed. *Ethics: A Liberative Approach* (Fortress, 2013)
 - 10: Young Women of Color Liberative Ethics / Robin Henderson-Espinoza and Thalethia
 - 12. Disability Liberative Ethics / Deborah Creamer

READING WEEK – NO CLASS

Oct 24

ESSAY 2 DUE | Week 8 | Oct. 31st

SECTION: ISLAMIC PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS

Week 8 – Oct 31

Islamic Philosophy

Guest Presenter: Ahmed Khater

Sources and Themes in Islamic Philosophy

- ❖ Selections from Ingrid Mattson, *The Story of the Qu'ran: Its History and Place in Muslim Life* (Blackwell Publishing):
 - God Speaks to Humanity
- ❖ Selections from: Tim Winter, ed., *The Cambridge Companion to Classical Islamic Theology* (Cambridge Companions to Religion) 1st Edition. (Cambridge University Press, 2008).
 - Part II. Themes:
 - 6. God: Essence and Attributes / Nader El-Bizri;
 - 7. Creation / David Burrell
 - 9. Revelation / Yahya Michot
 - 10. Cosmology and the Existence of God / Ayman Shihadeh
 - 12. Theology and Jurisprudence / Umar F. Abd-Allah
- ❖ Selections from Michael Sells (translator, editor), *Approaching the Qur'an: Early Revelations*:
 - Sound, Spirit, and Gender in the Qur'an
- ❖ Selections from Saba Mahmood, *Politics of Piety: The Islamic Revival and the Feminist Subject* (Princeton 2005):
 - Preface
 - 1. The Subject of Freedom
- ❖ Selections from Jane Dammen McAuliffe (general editor), *Encyclopedia of the Qu'ran* (Brill, 2006):
 - Women and the *Qu'ran*
 - Feminism and the *Qu'ran*

Recommended Readings:

- ❖ Selections from: Seyyed Hossein Nasr, *Islamic Philosophy from Its Origin to the Present: Philosophy in the Land of Prophecy*. (SUNY 2006).
 - 2. The Meaning and Role of Philosophy in Islam
 - 3. Al-Hikmat al-Ilahiyyah and Kalam
 - 7. A Framework for the Study of the History of Islamic Philosophy
 - 8. Dimensions of the Islamic Intellectual Tradition: Kalam, Philosophy, and Spirituality
 - 9. The Poet-Scientist 'Umar Khayyam as Philosopher
- ❖ Selections from Andrew Rippin, *The Blackwell Companion to the Qur'an*:
 - 19. Sex, Sexuality, and the Family / Khaleel Mohammed

Week 9 – Nov 7

Islamic Ethics

Guest Presenter: Mahjabeen Dhala (GTU/CIS)

Islamic Ethics and Social Theory:

- ❖ Selections from: Islamic Ethics Scholarship on Moodle:
 - “The Evolution of Early Islamic Ethics”: Selection from Yasien Mohamed, in *American Journal of Islamic Social Sciences* (vol. 18, fall 2001, No. 4) - pp. 89-132
 - *The Refinement of Character* (by Miskawayh) - pp 95-119
 - Fahkry, Text 1 - pp 78-92
 - Fahkry, Text 2 - pp 107 - 130
 - Fahkry, Text 3 - pp 193 - 206
 - S Hamza Yusuf on Ghazali - pp xi - xxv
 - Al Ghazali, *Marvels of the Heart*, Chapter 5, 6, & 7 - pp 29 - 50
 - Al Ghazali, *Alchemy of Happiness* - pp 3 - 63

SECTION: THEOLOGY & THE NATURAL SCIENCES

Week 10 – Nov 14

Overlapping or Non-Overlapping Fields of Knowing?

Guest Presenter: Dr. Hyung-Joo Lee (GTU)

- ❖ Selections from: Robert Russell, *Cosmology from Alpha to Omega* (Fortress: 2008)
 - 3. Finite Creation without a Beginning: The Doctrine of Creation in Relation to the Big Bang and Quantum Cosmologies
 - 4. Does “The God Who Acts” Really Act? New Approaches to Divine Action In Light of Contemporary Science
 - 5. Special Divine Action and Quantum Mechanics: A Case for Non-Interventionist Divine Action
 - 6. Special Providence and Genetic Mutation: A New Defense of Theistic Evolution
- ❖ Selections from: John Polkinghorne, *The Faith of a Physicist: Reflections of a Bottom-Up Thinker*, (Princeton University Press, 2016):
 - 1. Humanity
 - 2. Knowledge
 - 3. Divinity
 - 4. Creation
 - 6. Crucifixion and Resurrection
 - 9. Eschatology
- ❖ Selection from: Ted Peters, *Science, Theology & Ethics* (Ashgate, 2003):
 - 1. Theology and Science: Where are We?
 - 2. Scientific Research and the Christian Faith

SECTION: CONTEXTUALIZING RELIGION & ETHICS IN JUDAISM

Week 12 – Nov 21

Interreligious, Intersectional, & Cross-cultural Considerations

Guest Presenter: Dr. Sam Berrin Shonkoff (CJS-GTU)

Judaism: Justice Theoethics in Hebrew Text, Midrash, and Praxis

- ❖ Selections from: Martin D. Yaffe, ed., *Judaism and Environmental Ethics: A Reader*.
 - Introduction (pp 1-71)
 - **Recommended: Any of the following selections:**
 - 8. Commentary on the Book of Genesis, Chapter 1
 - 10. Created in the Image of God: Humanity and Divinity in an Age of Environmentalism
 - 14. Contemporary Problems in Ethics from a Jewish Perspective
 - 19. Judaism and Nature: Theological and Moral Issues to Consider While Renegotiating a Jewish Relationship to the Natural World
- ❖ Selections from: Aryeh Cohen, *Justice in the City: An Argument from the Sources of Rabbinic Judaism* (Academic Studies Press, 2013)
 - Introduction
 - 2. The Obligation of Protest
 - 5. Homelessness
 - 6. Labor

NOVEMBER 28 THANKSGIVING/THANKSGRIEVING BREAK

(please note additional reading load for December 5th)

ESSAY 3 DUE | Week 13 | Dec. 5th

SECTION: THE ETHICS OF BIOSPHERIC RESTORATION and HUMAN RIGHTS

Week 13 – Dec 5

Concerns of Ecological / Environmental Theoethics

Guest Presenter: Cynthia D. Moe-Lobeda (PLTS-GTU)

- ❖ Selections from: Cynthia D. Moe-Lobeda, *Resisting Structural Evil: Love as Ecological-Economic Vocation*. (Fortress Press: 2013)
 - Introduction
 - 2. Moral Crisis, Context, Call
 - 3. Structural Violence as Structural Evil
- ❖ Selections from: Lance Nelson, ed., *Purifying the Earthly Body of God: Religion & Ecology in Hindu India* (SUNY: 1998)
 - 2. The Ecological Implications of Karma Theory / Harold Coward
 - 3. Attitudes to Nature in the Early Upaniṣads / Arvind Sharma
 - 6. Models and Images for a Vaiṣṇava Environmental Theology: The Potential Contribution of Srivaiṣṇavaism / Patricia Y. Mumme
- ❖ Selections from: David Schmidtz & Elizabeth Willott eds., *Environmental Ethics: What Really Matters, What Really Works*, 2nd Edition (Oxford 2011):
 - Chapter 2. Respect for Nature

- Chapter 3. Holistic Ethics
- Chapter 4. Ecofeminism
- Chapter 9. The Logic of Scarcity
- Chapter 12. Climate Change and What to Do About It

Postmodern Perspectives on Human Rights and Policy

Guest Presenter: Marianne Farina (DSPT-GTU)

- Selections from: Joseph Runzo & Nancy M. Martin, eds., *Human Rights and Responsibilities in the World Religions* (Oneworld Publications, 2003)
 - 1. Secular Rights and Religious Responsibilities / Joseph Runzo
 - 5. Rats, Cockroaches, and People Like Us: Views of Humanity and Human Rights / Gerrie ter Haar
 - 9. A Universal Declaration of Human Rights by the World's Religions
 - 10. A Universal Declaration of Human Rights by the World's Religions: A Jewish Perspective / Charlotte Elisheva Fonrobert
 - 11. A Christian Response to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by the World's Religions / Jerry Irish
 - 12. "This Tremor of Western Wisdom": A Muslim Response to Human Rights and the Declaration / Amir Hussain
 - 19. Rights, Roles, and Reciprocity in Hindu Dharma / Nancy M. Martin
- Selections from: John B. Cobb, *Postmodernism and Public Policy: Reframing Religion, Culture, Education, Sexuality, Class, Race, Politics, and the Economy* (SUNY, 2001)
 - TWO. Religious Pluralism and Truth
 - THREE. Culture and Education
 - SEVEN. Race and Class
 - EIGHT. Ethics and Pluralism
- Selections from: Gloria Anzaldua, *The Gloria Anzaldúa Reader* (Duke Univ. Press, 2009)
 - Speaking in Tongues: A Letter to Third World Women Writers
 - Metaphors in the Tradition of the Shaman

Week 14 – Dec 12

SUMMATION AND STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

POLICIES

GTU and Course Policies

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is the presentation of another's ideas, methods, research, or words without proper acknowledgement. It runs the gamut from failing to cite a reference (sloppy scholarship), to passing off another's work as one's own. It includes close paraphrasing as well as lifting of entire lines nearly verbatim without acknowledgement. As the effects of the plagiarism will be

the same regardless of intent, intent will not be construed as essential to the act, although it may be considered in determining whether the charge of plagiarism should be pursued or what the penalty may be. For general requirements for proper acknowledgement in written work, see the most current edition of Kate Turabian, *Manual for the Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations* and *The Chicago Manual of Style*.

Arrangements in Cases of Documented Disability

If you will need special arrangements for meeting course requirements for reasons of documented disability, please speak to one of the instructors very early in the term so that appropriate arrangements can be made. A description of the GTU policy regarding accommodation for differently abled students is online at: <http://gtu.edu/admissions/life-at-gtu/students-with-disabilities>

Honor Code

Students in all courses and phases of the Doctoral Program are subject to the GTU Honor Code, described on p. 15 of the on-line Student Handbook. Please note: “Documented evidence that a student has violated the honor code may result in immediate expulsion from the program.”

Other GTU Policies

Students and faculty in required Doctoral Seminars are also subject to GTU Institutional Policies, detailed on pp. 54 ff. in the on-line Student Handbook, including: Non-discrimination, AIDS non-discrimination, and Drug Free Environment (52), Inclusive Language (54), Plagiarism (55 ff.), Exceptions and Accommodations (63 ff.), and Sexual Misconduct (65 ff.).

Course Policy

- Assignments without assignment numbers and title-description (e.g. Critical Essay #1. Essay on Contrasting Classical and Constructive Approaches) will be returned for correction.
- No ‘incompletes’ are available for this course unless there is a documented emergency.