

TESP 50: CATHOLIC THEOLOGY: FOUNDATIONS
Spring 2009
MWF 9:10-10:15 a.m.

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Hours: Tues 9:30-11 a.m., and by appointment.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

An engagement with critical intellectual frameworks for understanding Catholic faith, primarily through a reading of Joseph Ratzinger's *Introduction to Christianity*. The aim of the course is to place Catholic faith in conversation with non-religious ways of knowing (e.g., the natural sciences) so that the student may emerge with an intellectually lucid posture toward Catholic faith. Topics to be explored include the possibility of belief in today's world, what it means to say that one believes in God, the classical understanding of the person and meaning of Jesus Christ within faith, the (ir)relevance of the church to faith, and the eternal destiny of the human person. We will also open up contemporary forms of theology, including feminist and liberationist perspectives.

GENERAL GOALS OF THE COURSE IN RELATION TO CORE AND RS DEPARTMENT
(please see Angel course website)

STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Students will be able to articulate the basic theological concepts of Christian faith as presented by Ratzinger
- Students will be able to relate theological concepts to non-theological forms of knowledge (e.g., philosophy, the natural sciences, aesthetics)
- Students will be able to correlate this theological knowledge with at least two contemporary problematics (e.g., the role of women in society, the prevalence of the paradigm of the natural sciences for knowledge, socio-economic injustice, racism, etc.)

REQUIREMENTS

1. Participation (30% of the final grade):
 - Regular attendance (no more than three absences without grade drop)
 - Discussion of the text and readiness to ask and entertain questions about:
 - the meaning of Ratzinger's central assertions
 - how the argument coheres (the steps of his arguments)
 - the lived implications of his theology
 - Enrolling in the course Angel page. You will receive email notification of all postings there on your SCU email account.
 - Occasional in-page quizzes or short writing assignments

2. Two in-class “mid-term” examinations. These will be bluebook essay exams. (40% of the final grade)
3. A final comprehensive examination. This will be an in-class bluebook essay exam. Sample final exams will be made available in advance of the final on Angel. (30% of the final grade)

REQUIRED TEXTS

Joseph Ratzinger. *Introduction to Christianity*. San Francisco: Communio, 2004. [R]
Elizabeth Johnson. *Consider Jesus: Waves of Renewal in Christology*. New York: Crossroad, 1992. [J]
occasional articles or documents posted on the Angel course website

COURSE POLICIES

Academic Integrity: For University policies regarding academic integrity, please consult Undergraduate Student Handbook. Plagiarism or academic dishonesty in any form (as described in the Student Conduct Code) will result in a failed grade for the assignment or exam, and possibly for the course. All allegations of academic dishonesty will be reported to the department chair and Office of Student Life. Please make sure that you properly cite all sources that you utilize in your writing, including works that are directly quoted or paraphrased, as well as works used as a source of information. This includes both print and online sources. While you are encouraged to work with other students in preparing for class discussions, and are welcome to seek the feedback on your paper drafts from the instructor or your peers, your paper submissions must consist of your own writing, and any direct quotations or paraphrasing from other works must be properly cited.

Attendance and Class Participation: Students are expected to make a commitment to the course, to attend all course meetings, and to be fully prepared to participate by responding to questions posed about the text and entering into discussion. If you have to miss a course meeting, please email Professor Crowley in advance. Because participation is so important, if you miss more than three class meetings, your grade will drop by at least an entire point (e.g., from B to C).

Disability Accommodation Policy:

To request academic accommodations for a disability, students are asked to contact Disability Resources located in The Drahnann Center in Benson, room 214, (408) 554-4111; TTY (408) 554-5445. Students must provide documentation of a disability to Disability Resources prior to receiving accommodations.

COURSE SCHEDULE

(N.B.: This schedule may be emended as circumstances warrant; check the Angel webpage for updates)

1	March 30 M	Introduction to the Course	
2	April 1 W	Belief in the world of today doubt	R 39-47
3	April 3 F	Belief in the world of today belief: dilemmas and boundaries	R 47-68
4	April 6 M	Belief in the world of today faith and reason	R 69-81
5	April 8 W	Ecclesiastical Form of Faith creed and dogma	R 82-100
<i>EASTER TRIDUUM (Thursday-Saturday)/EASTER SUNDAY</i>			
6	April 13 M	Faith in one God	R 103-115
7	April 15 W	Biblical belief in God (1)	R 116-126
8	April 17 F	Biblical belief in God (2)	R 126-136
9	April 20 M	God of faith, and philosophy of God	R 137-150
10	April 22 W	Faith in God today	R 151-161
	April 24 F	Presidential Inauguration: No Meeting	
11	April 27 M	Lecture: Trinity Nicene Creed (on Angel)	R 184-190
12	April 29 W	Midterm Exam I	

	May 1 F	No Class (Professor at Creighton University)	
13	May 4 M	Problem of faith in Jesus Christ today	R 193-202
14	May 6 W	Problem of faith in Jesus Christ today	R 202-209
15	May 8 F	Christology and Jesus of Nazareth	R 210-215 J 49-65
16	May 11 M	Lecture: Chalcedonian Definition Chalcedonian Definition (on Angel)	J 1-34 R 269-70
17	May 13 W	Jesus Christ and Justice (see also Angel)	J 67-81
18	May 15 F	Liberation Theology (see also Angel)	J 83-95
19	May 18 M	Feminist Theology (see also Angel)	J 97-113
20	May 20 W	Unicity of Salvation in Christ	J 129-144
21	May 22 F	Mid-Term Exam II	
	May 25	<i>Memorial Day holiday</i>	
22	May 27 W	Lecture: Special Topics in Christology	R 271-327 (selections)
	May 29 F	No Class (Professor in Berkeley)	
23	June 1 M	The Holy Spirit within the Church	R 331-337
24	June 3 W	“Holiness” of the Church	R 338-347
25	June 5 F	Resurrection of the Body	R 347-359