

ST512: THEOLOGICAL ANTHROPOLOGY AND THE REVELATION OF GOD (4-units).

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DESCRIPTION:

This course is designed to introduce students to the nature of theological study, developing a structure of divine revelation as fundamental to our knowledge of God as well as the human person. Central to the course will be a unit on theological anthropology, showing how the true order of humanity is determined by divine revelation, and then taking into consideration practical matters of human existence such as male and female role relationships, human sexuality, death and dying, and therapeutic approaches to pastoral care.

RELEVANCE FOR MINISTRY: The course objectives are:

- Application of theoretical course content to ministry situations will take place through case-style exam questions.
- Each question will provide an opportunity to create an appropriate ministry response to a case situation, incorporating theological reflection.
- This course will enable those in ministry to understand the theological issues present in basic human questions about the reality of God, the authority of Scripture, human sexuality, and the spiritual/psychical dynamics of the human person.

COURSE FORMAT:

The class will be conducted on the Internet, using a 10-week lesson program aligned with Fuller's academic calendar. Each week, students and the instructor will interact with the material and with each other through journaling, threaded discussions, live Internet "chats," and web-based research. Lectures for each lesson will be available online.

REQUIRED READING: Students will read a minimum of 1,500 pages, including:

- Becker, Ernest. *The Denial of Death*. Macmillan, Free Press, 1973, 285pp.
- Anderson, Ray S. *On Being Human: Essays in Theological Anthropology*. Eerdmans, 1982. Fuller Seminary Reprint, 226pp.
- Pinnock, et al. *The Openness of God: A Biblical Challenge to the Traditional Understanding of God*. InterVarsity, 1994, 176pp.
- Jinkins, Michael, *Invitation to Theology*, InterVarsity 2001, 260pp.
- Bloesch, Donald, *Holy Scripture: Revelation, Inspiration and Interpretation*, InterVarsity, 1994
- Expanded Lecture Syllabus, available online
- Essays by the Professor available online through document sharing including: "Evangelical Theology," "Natural Theology," Narrative Hermeneutics," "Does God Allow Evil?" "Sexuality and Sin," "Sin: The Third Dimension of Human Spirituality."

RECOMMENDED READING:

- Anderson, Ray S. *The Shape of Practical Theology*. Fuller Seminary Press, 1999
- Dorrien, Gary. *The Remaking of Evangelical Theology*, Westminster John Knox, 1999
- Jewett, Paul K. *Who We Are: Our Dignity as Human*. Eerdmans, 1996
- Jewett, Paul K. *God, Creation and Revelation*. Eerdmans, 1991
- Weber, Otto. *Foundations of Dogmatics*. Vol. I

ASSIGNMENTS:

1. Weekly threaded discussions (20%) and journaling (10%).
2. A reading list of books and pages read for the course must be turned in with the final exam question.
3. There will be no quizzes and no term papers. A set of case-type exam questions will be available from the beginning of the course, which will require essay-type answers. Students will select four case questions on which to write, spread out over the ten-week course. These essays should incorporate material from the assigned reading as well as from the course lectures (70%).

PREREQUISITES: None

RELATIONSHIP TO CURRICULUM: This course fulfills the M.Div. core area STA; MAT core ST/CH; MACL core ST; Ministry Focus Elective in MA in Global Leadership program

FINAL EXAMINATION: Take-home style exam.

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