REL 333: Contemporary American Christian Theology  
Fall 2003  
TTh 1:40 - 3:10 p.m.  
Eaton 207

Professor: Douglas R. McAughey  
Office: Eaton 116

Teaching Schedule:  
MWF 1:50 - 2:50 Intro. to the Study of Religion  
MW 3:00 - 4:30 History of Christianity I: 100-700 CE  
TTh 1:50 - 3:20 Contemporary American Theology

Office Hours: W, Th 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.  
OTHER TIMES BY APPOINTMENT

Phones:  
Office (375)-5415  
Home 566-8944  
E-mail: dougm@willamette.edu

REQUIRED TEXTS  
(Listed Alphabetically)


COURSE DESCRIPTION

REL 333: Contemporary American Christian Theology introduces the student to some of the intellectual issues that have shaped Christian theology in the last century. The course does not presume to undertake an exhaustive analysis of critical theology in this period but is a selective investigation of issues that and individuals who have come to shape the contemporary critical discussion in Christian theology.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Attendance at all class sessions! Students are responsible for all information given at all class sessions.

2. Reading assignments according to the course outline (or as modified by the professor).

3. 2 Mid-term tests (@ 30% each)

4. Final exam (40%) - comprehensive final with extra credit option
STRUCTURE OF THE COURSE

The course is meant to be a conversation based on the readings. Students are expected to have the reading completed in advance. The professor will lecture to the extent that background information and explanation is necessary.

INCOMPLETES:

An incomplete is possible in the course only in the case of serious illness documented by a physician. In any event, arrangements must be made for an incomplete no later than the date of the final exam (Saturday, December 16th at 2:00 p.m.).

STUDENT DISABILITIES

Any student eligible for and desiring academic accommodation due to a disability should provide documentation to Disability Services located in the Bishop Wellness Center within the first two weeks of the semester.

COURSE OUTLINE

Weeks 1 and 2:
September 2, 4, 9, 11:

On Models in Theology and the Relationship Between Science and Religion

Reading Assignments

For Thursday, Sept. 4: Tracy, chapters 1 - 2 (pages 3-42)
For Tuesday, Sept. 9: Tracy, chapters 4 - 5 (pages 64-118)

Weeks 3 and 4:
September 16, 18, 23, 25:

Being’s Priority Over Non-Being

Reading Assignments

For Tuesday, Sept. 16: Tillich, chapters 2 and 4 (pages 32-57; 86-112)
For Tuesday, Sept. 23: Tillich, chapters 5 and 6 (pages 113-190)

Tuesday, September 30: Test 1

Weeks 5 through 8:
September: 30, October 2, 7, 9, 14, 16, 21, 23:

Process Theology

Reading Assignments

For Thursday, Oct. 2: Hosinski, chapters 1 and 2 (pages 1-45)
For Tuesday, Oct. 7: Hosinski, chapters 3 - 5 (pages 46-127)
For Tuesday, Oct. 14: Hosinski, chapters 6 - 7 (pages 138-180)
For Tuesday, Oct. 21: Hosinski, chapters 8 and 10 (pages 181-250)
Weeks 9 through 11:
October 28, 30, Nov. 4, 6, 11, 13

Feminist Theory and Theology

Reading Assignments

For Tuesday, Oct. 28: Schüssler Fiorenza, Part I (pages 19-76)
For Tuesday, Nov. 4: Schüssler Fiorenza, Part II (pages 79-163)
For Tuesday, Nov. 11: Schüssler Fiorenza, Part III (pages 167-217)

Tuesday, Nov. 18: Test 2

Weeks 12 through 15:
November 18, 20, 25 (Nov. 27 is Thanksgiving Break), Dec. 2, 4, 9, 11:

Deconstruction and Negative Theology

Reading Assignments

For Thursday, Nov. 20: Caputo, Part I and chapter 1 (pages 3-48)
For Tuesday, Nov. 25: Caputo, chapters 2 and 3 (pages 49-105)
For Tuesday, Dec. 2: Caputo, chapters 4 and 5 (pages 106-155)
For Tuesday, Dec. 9: Caputo, chapters 6 and 7 as well as “A Concluding Amen” (pages 156-202)

FINAL EXAM: Friday, December 19, 8:00 - 11:00 a.m. (Eaton 207)