

**Department of Theology and Religious Studies**  
**GRADUATE COURSES FOR SPRING 2017**

**TRS 405:**  
**Rejected Books of the Bible**

Thursdays 6:30–9:15pm  
 Dr. Sheila E. McGinn



*Fresco of Paul & Thecla (6th c.) Ephesus*

What besides the Bible gave shape to Christianity and formative Judaism in the first centuries CE? This course provides an introduction to those non-Biblical writings, studying such texts as *1–3 Enoch*, *The Gospel of Judas*, *The Acts of Pilate*, *The Acts of Thecla*, *The Shepherd of Hermas*, *The Proto-Gospel of James*, *The Infancy Gospel of Thomas*; selections from the Mishnaic and later Talmudic literature; and the writings of early Christian authors such as Barnabas, Clement, Justin Martyr, and the Montanist Oracles.

**NB:** This seminar satisfies the biblical studies requirement for the TRS MA degree.

**TRS 430:**  
**Introduction to Systematic Theology**

Tuesdays 6:30–9:15pm  
 Dr. Elizabeth Antus



*St. Patrick's Cathedral, New York City*

This course explores the meaning of and interrelationship among important doctrines within the Catholic tradition, studying key concepts like revelation, faith, scripture, tradition, community, and method, and how these play out in a few significant theologians from the pre-modern, modern, and post-modern periods (featuring Thomas Aquinas, Karl Rahner, and Johann Baptist Metz and various liberation theologians respectively).

**NB:** This required course for the TRS MA degree should be taken prior to any other course in systematic theology.

**TRS 550:**  
**Interreligious Dialogue**

Mondays 3:30–6:15pm  
 Fr. Thomas Chillikulam, S.J., with  
 Drs. Paul Nietupski and Sheila McGinn

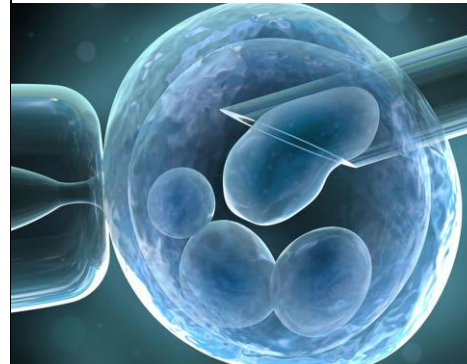


The USA is the most religiously diverse country in the world and the most religiously active country in the West, yet many Americans live in an insular bubble that prevents them knowing and understanding people who follow religious traditions other than their own. Students explore basic features of the main Cleveland area religions and gain the tools for respectful dialogue across difference. The culminating course project includes a structured exercise in interreligious dialogue among seminar members and representatives of key religious communities.

**NB:** This seminar satisfies the world religions requirement for the TRS MA degree.

**TRS 563:**  
**Bioethics**

Mondays 6:30–9:15pm  
 Dr. Paul Lauritzen



This course examines the ethical principles and forms of moral reasoning that typically guide decisions in health care and frame public policy debates generated by contemporary biomedicine. It includes materials from both religious and secular traditions of thought, with particular attention given to Catholic teaching on bioethical issues. Issues addressed will include: assisted reproductive technology, euthanasia, and stem cell research.

**NB:** This seminar satisfies the religious ethics requirement for the TRS MA degree.

**TRS 589:**  
**Liturgy and the Art of Ritual**

Wednesdays 6:30–9:15pm  
 Dr. Edward Kaczuk



*Christ with Medicine of Immortality*

A holistic approach to celebrating the Rites of the Catholic Church, faithful to its Tradition and in service to the common spiritual good of its faith communities. Special emphasis is given to preparing for parochial liturgies, the roles of liturgical music and art, liturgical ministries, liturgical law and pastoral issues.

**NB:** This seminar serves as a 500-level elective for the TRS MA degree.