



Theology & Religious Studies Department



Course Offerings

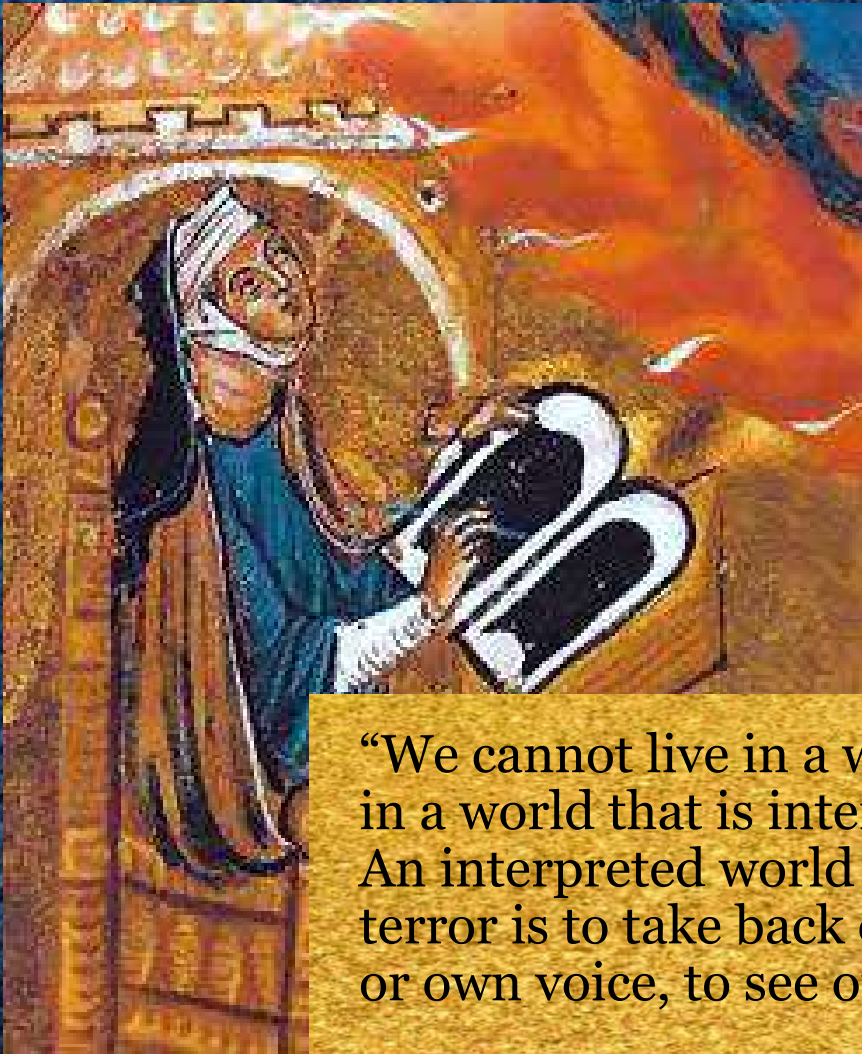
Fall 2018



200-Level
Courses
(Pp. 3-4)

300-Level
Courses
(Pp. 5-8)

Grad-Level
Courses
(P. 10)



“We cannot live in a world that is not our own,
in a world that is interpreted for us by others.
An interpreted world is not a home. Part of the
terror is to take back our own listening, to use
our own voice, to see our own light.
- Hildegard of Bingen

Key:



CAPA:
Creative and Performing Arts

LINK:
Linked course

ISJ:
Issues in Social Justice

SLC:
Service Learning Component

BSI:
Borromeo Seminary course

CS:
Catholic Studies

EGC:
Engaging Global Community

Hebrew Bible

Rev. Anthony J. Marshall, MA

TR 9:55—11:10 AM

Historical and cultural environment of the Jewish Bible (the collection of scriptures in the Torah, Nebi'im, and Kethubim, or “Tanakh,” which Christians call the “Old Testament”), its nature and composition, and its religious and theological developments



Intro to Judaism

Reb. Michael Oppenheimer, MAHL, DD

MW 3:00—1:50 PM

To understand modern Judaism, one needs to understand the historical span of the Jewish experience. This course will examine: the major literature of Judaism from the Bible to today; the major movements and personalities of Jewish history; holidays and rituals and ceremonies; Jewish beliefs and theology; the Holocaust; Zionism and modern Israel; the American Jewish experience.



Religions of Ohio and Western Reserve

Kristen J. Tobey, PhD

TR 2:00—3:15 PM

Investigates the rich religious history of Ohio and the Western Reserve, which has served as an incubator for several well-known religious groups and significant religious modes, from the ancient mound builders to the present day. Case studies raise broader theoretical concerns about the role of place in the religious lives of individuals and communities.



Other Courses:

TRS 230 Contemporary Catholic Theology — MWF 1:00—1:50 PM, TBA

Cool & New Courses— *200 Level*



Catechism of the Catholic Church

Rev. Mark Latcovich, PhD

TR 8:30—9:45 PM

Overview of Roman Catholic theology, based on the Catechism of the Catholic Church, as well as a look at various themes and issues since the Second Vatican Council that find their roots and explanation in the Catechism. Emphasis on scripture, grace, sacraments, sin, redemption, the role of Jesus, the Church Magisterium, ethical norms, and morality. Offered at the Center for Pastoral Leadership.



Religion, Freedom, & Law

Kristen J. Tobey, PhD

TR 3:30—4:45 PM (Honors)

What does “religious freedom” mean and how is it put into practice in America, where it is generally taken to be at the heart of what it means to be a democracy? We will examine the history of “religious freedom” as it has been imagined and applied, from the 17th century to the present. We will focus especially on Supreme Court cases that have been instrumental in creating and refining the category of “legal religion,” and on the ways that legal activity operates within the larger religious worlds of several different religious groups. We will see that interactions between different interpretations of religious freedom illuminate a host of tensions that underlie America’s sense of itself.



Theology in Music

Jerome Andrews, MA

MWF 1:00—1:50 PM

Broad survey of church music as a carrier of theology and spirituality, from the early church to Vatican II. Examines the history of western church music to understand the relationships between music, worship, theology, and spiritual life, within the cultural and historical settings of the church. Involves experiential learning. A CAPA course in the Integrated Core Curriculum.

Reading the Bible Thru the Eyes of the Hungry

Shelia McGinn, PhD

M 5:00—7:45 PM (Honors)

The biblical story centers on a marginal people in the ancient Near East who, in the overarching narrative, spend much of their time in slavery, exile, or under some other form of sociopolitical and economic oppression. The history of interpretation of the Bible, however, often has blunted its edge and ignored this strong element of socio-economic critique. This course is designed to help students recover a vivid sense of the Bible's critique of the dynamics of food scarcity, displacement, exile, drought, despair, and other basic hungers of the human race.



Gospel of John

David Sloan, PhD

TR 12:30—1:45 PM

This biblical book is remarkable for its ability to explain deep theological concepts in simple terms. This course explores the historical, literary, social, and theological world of the Gospel of John, allowing students to gain competence in the study of Jesus, the Bible, and Christian theology.

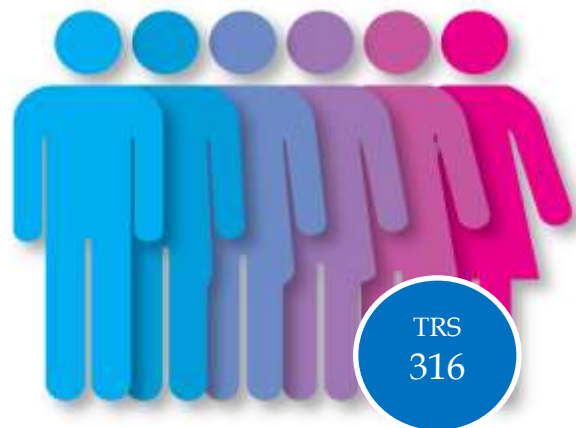


The Rabbis on Sex and Gender

Reb. Noah Bickart, PhD

TR 8:00—9:15 AM (Gender, Sexuality & Women's Studies)

The Rabbis of late antiquity devoted substantial attention to the relationship and rituals of marriage, both during the betrothals and in couple's ensuing married life. Mishnaic tractate *Kiddushin* provides a prime location for investigating Rabbinic attitudes towards marriage as well gender and sexuality more broadly construed.



Great Jewish Thinkers

Reb. Noah Bickart, PhD

TR 12:30—1:45 PM

From Moses and Jesus to Maimonides, Baruch Spinoza, Karl Marx, Sigmund Freud, Niels Bohr, and Albert Einstein, the Jewish community has produced a wide range of influential— even world shaking— philosophers, theologians, and other great thinkers. Meet the great ideas and works of some of these significant thinkers throughout the centuries, from over 1000 BCE through the present day.



Life, Times, & Theology of MLK, Jr.

Rev. Bertrice Wood, PhD

TR 2:00—3:15 PM

An introduction to the life, career, and theology of the civil-rights leader and Christian theologian, the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., through his speeches and writings. Exploration of King's relationship to other thinkers (e.g., Paul Tillich, Mohandas K. Gandhi) and his influence on issues of peace and justice.



History of Christmas

Nathaniel Morehouse, PhD

MWF 12:00—12:50 PM

Origins of the feast; gospel infancy narratives; apocryphal traditions; Christology; Christmas in Medieval art and drama; cult of Saint Nicholas; origins and growth of Christmas music; Puritan attack on the feast; decline of the feast in 18th century; impact of the Industrial Revolution; the establishment of modern Christmas; modern commercialization; contemporary developments.



Cool & New Courses— *300 Level*



TRS
325

LINK

Religious Enthusiasm

Kristen J. Tobey, PhD

TR 9:30—10:45 PM

This course is a sociological inquiry into religious fervor in twentieth- and 21st America. Religious “enthusiasm,” a term that has long been used to refer to public, loud, otherwise unruly religious convictions or behaviors, in many ways is at odds with how religion is typically practiced in the contemporary United States. In this course we will examine several modern religious revitalization movements, paying particular attention to the discrepancy between the appeal they exert over adherents, versus the fear and mistrust they often excite in society at large. This class will explore topics such as UFO religious and New Age spiritualities



TRS
331

CS

Sin, Grace, & Wholeness

TBA

MWF 8:00—8:50 AM

Introduction to theological anthropology, the study of the human being in relation to God and in conflict with evil, in order to provide a doctrinal foundation for understanding Christian spirituality. Readings include Hebrew and Christian Scriptures, St. Paul, Augustine, and St. Ignatius, Dorothy Day, Pope Francis and others with emphasis on environmental and feminist theology to conclude the semester.



TRS
333

CS

Understanding Church

Edward Hahnenberg, PhD

TR 9:30—10:45 AM

Origin, nature, and mission of the Church in light of its evolution from the preaching and mission of Jesus and his disciples, through its developing history, to its current self-understanding since Vatican II.



TRS
337

CS

SLC

ISJ

Globalization, Theology, & Justice

TBA

MWF 10:00—10:50 AM; 11:00—11:50 AM

Analyzes contributions of contemporary Catholic theologians and Roman Catholic tradition on issues related to globalization, such as economics, ecology, consumerism, migration, human trafficking, and interreligious conflict. Approaches these issues through Catholic social teaching and evaluates responses based on the principle of the common good and the potential impact upon the most vulnerable members of society. Involves service learning.



TRS
341

Islam in America

Zeki Saritoprak, PhD

TR 11:00—12:15 AM; 12:30—1:45 PM

Introduction to the history of Islam and its arrival in the New World. Focus on the experience of American Muslims, including African-American Muslims, immigrant Muslims, and new American converts. Considers all levels of the Muslim public sphere in the U.S. and current U.S. relations with Muslim countries.



TRS
342

Islam and the Environment

Zeki Saritoprak, PhD

TR 3:30—4:45 PM

Overview of environmental issues and Islamic approaches to these challenges based on the major sources of Islam: the Qur'an and the Hadith. Islamic principles regarding the natural world and humanity's place within it, and Islamic legal strictures to protect the environment. Special emphasis on contemporary Islamic activism to protect the natural world.

Islam & Islamism

Betsy Mesard, PhD

TR 9:30—10:45 AM

This course will introduce students to Islamic political thought, with a focus on the last two centuries. We explore key ethical norms and principles that shape Muslim reflection on topics such as social justice, the modern state, and whether and when force may be used and other human beings may be harmed. We begin with a look at the role of Muhammed, the central prophet of Islam, as an exemplar of ethical action. We will also examine additional authoritative sources for making judgements about just and appropriate action.



LINK

TRS
345

Silk Road Religions

Paul Nietupski, PhD

MWF 10:00—10:50 AM; 11:00—11:50 AM

Focuses on religion, art, and politics on the international trade routes of East, Central, and South Asia, from the second through the twentieth centuries. Representative examples are presented chronologically and carefully situated within their political and religious contexts. Interdisciplinary methodology includes consideration of histories, religions, arts, and politics of the times.



EGC

TRS
351

Pilgrimage

Paul Nietupski, PhD

W 5:00—7:45 PM (Honors)

This course will use the phenomena of pilgrimage as a unifying theme in the study of world religious and consider it as a “perspective on the unity of the spirit, mind, and body” and an expression of “the inseparability of solitary and communal” orientation towards religion. We will use pilgrimage as a point of departure for investigations of symbols, rituals, myths, laws, doctrines, faiths, and visions manifested in world religions. Art, architecture, and visible objects will be used as tools, a language for understanding religious and social messages.



EGC

TRS
352

Other Courses:

TRS 430 Systematic Theology — R 5:00-7:45 (see p. 10), Ed Hahnenberg, PhD, CS

TRS 493 Senior Seminar — M 2:00-4:45 PM, Sheila McGinn, PhD, SLC

Systematic Theology

Edward Hahnenberg, PhD

R 5:00—7:45 PM

Consideration of concepts key to understanding how theology works: faith, revelation, scripture, symbol, tradition, community, and method. Explores how these concepts work in the writings of significant theologians. Places these thinkers within their historical and cultural worlds to help students reflect on what it means to do theology out of their unique commitments, contexts, and life experiences.



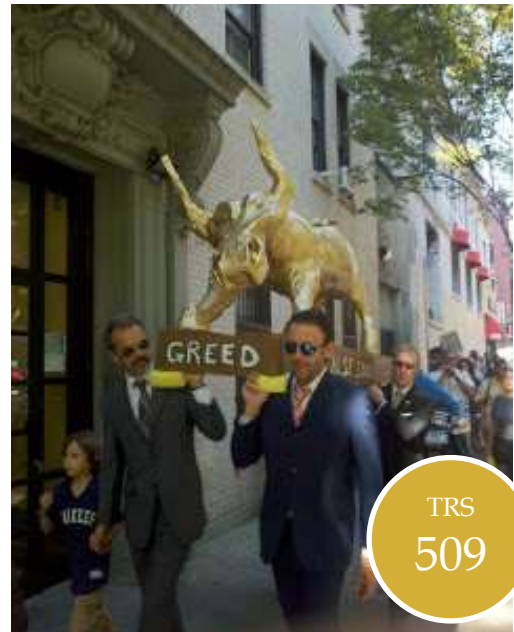
TRS
430

Reading the Bible Thru the Eyes of the Hungry

Shelia McGinn, PhD

M 5:00—7:45 PM

The biblical story centers on a marginal people in the ancient Near East who, in the overarching narrative, spend much of their time in slavery, exile, or under some other form of sociopolitical and economic oppression. The history of interpretation of the Bible, however, often has blunted its edge and ignored this strong element of socio-economic critique. This course is designed to help students recover a vivid sense of the Bible's critique of the dynamics of food scarcity, displacement, exile, drought, despair, and other basic hungers of the human race.



TRS
509

Pilgrimage

Paul Nietupski, PhD

W 5:00—7:45 PM

This course will use the phenomena of pilgrimage as a unifying theme in the study of world religious and will isolate the theme of pilgrimage and consider it as a “perspective on the unity of the spirit, mind, and body” and as an expression of “the inseparability of solitary and communal” orientation towards religion. The course will use pilgrimage as a point of departure for investigations of symbols, rituals, myths, laws, doctrines, faiths, and visions manifested in world religions. Art, architecture, and visible objects will be used as tools, or a visible language for understanding religious and social messages.



TRS
552



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Religious Studies**

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