



# Theology & Religious Studies Department



## Course Offerings Spring 2019

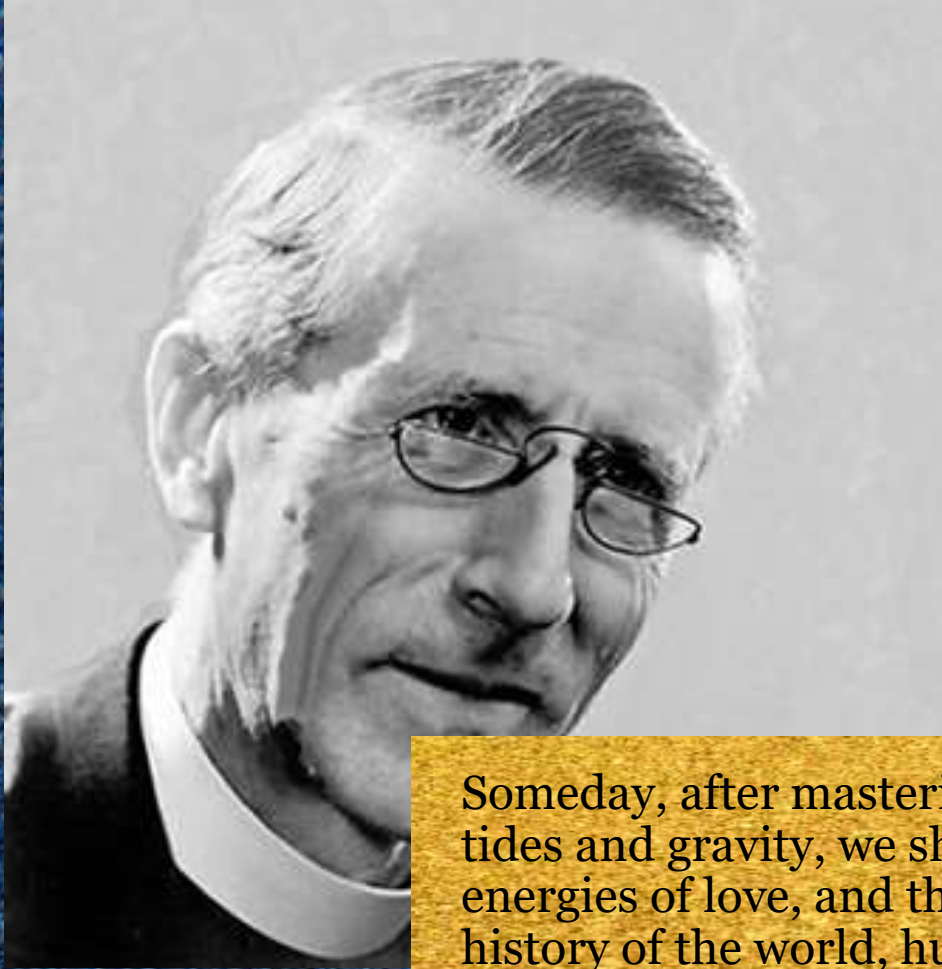


*100-200  
Level  
Courses  
(Pp. 3-5)*

*300-Level  
Courses  
(Pp. 6-9)*

*Grad-Level  
Courses  
(P. 10)*





Someday, after mastering the winds, the waves, the tides and gravity, we shall harness for God the energies of love, and then, for a second time in the history of the world, humanity will have discovered fire.

~Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, SJ -

## 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



## Cool & New Courses— 100-200 Level



TRS  
105

### Myth Matters

Shelia McGinn, PhD

TR 11:00—12:15 PM

This course introduces students to the Bible through its various literary forms or genres (e.g., history, legend, myth, parable, poetry, satire, apocalypse) as those texts were understood in their original historical-cultural contexts. Comparisons to contemporary literature and other media will be used to help students understand how these same or similar forms continue to function in our own culture today.



TRS  
130

CS

### World of Grace

David Buhrow, MA

MWF 10:00—10:50 AM

Exploration of the Christian vision of the entire world as grace-filled, resonant with the Holy. Humanity is innately attuned to this Transcendent Mystery; the hallmark of the Christian spiritual life is finding and honoring "God in all things" (St. Ignatius Loyola). This world of grace grounds the possibilities of human freedom, trust, and hope, fostered by life in the community of graced seekers (i.e., the church), and flowing into a life of compassion and justice in the world today.



TRS  
205

BSI

CS

### New Testament

(Rev.) Anthony J. Marshall, SSS, MDiv, MA

MF 2:00—3:15 PM (JCU); TR 8:30—9:45 AM (BSI)

Development and composition of the New Testament; the historical, cultural, and religious environments out of which it arose; and the various theological perspectives found within it.

## Intro to Judaism

Noah Bickart, PhD

MWF 9:00—9:50 AM; 10:00—10:50 AM

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.

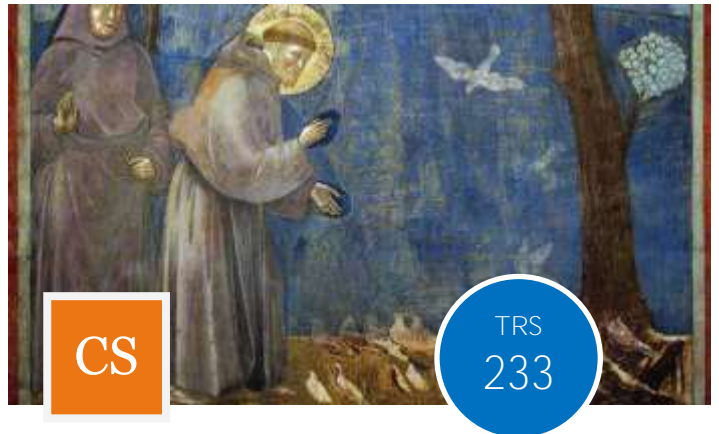


## Saints & Society

Edward Hahnenberg, PhD

MWF 10:00—10:50 AM

The theological significance of saints in the Roman Catholic tradition. Topics include the origins of the cult of the saints, changing models of sanctity, ritual and devotional practices, the process and politics of canonization, and the implications of the veneration of saints for a theological treatment of God, the church, and the human person.

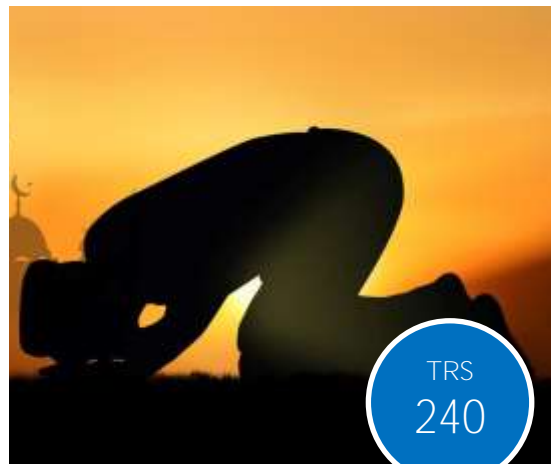


## Introduction to Islam

Zeki Saritoprak, PhD

TR 11:00—12:15 PM

Surveys the history of Islam, impact of Islamic belief and culture on global social and political development, and fundamental tenets and practices of Islam. Includes a modern interpretation of the Islamic tradition



## 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.



## Religions of India

Paul Nietupski, PhD

MWF: 9:00—9:50; 10:00—10:50

Study of interpretation of India's religions and cultures, including the discussion of methods and cultural biases in the study of foreign religions and cultures. Focus on Hinduism and Buddhism in the Indian sub-continent and how these were transmitted to other Asian countries.



## Moral Decision Making

Besty Mesard, PhD or Paul Lauritzen, PhD (Honors)

MWF 1:00—1:50 PM; MW 3:30—4:45 PM (Honors)

Examination of contemporary moral issues with a focus on methods for analyzing and evaluating moral problems; sources from the Christian tradition that form moral identity and ethical decisions







TRS  
261

## African-American Christian Social Ethics

Rev. Bertrice Wood, PhD

TR 2:00—3:15 PM

Nature, origins, and functions of African-American ethical response as related to social, political, and religious belief systems. Emphasis on historical and social translation of values dictated by African-American religion and theology.



TRS  
272

LINK

## Soul Food: Food for the Soul

(Rev.) Cory Wilson, PhD

MWF 12:00—12:50 PM

African-American spirituality, religion, and identity formation through religious and food experiences within the family and the greater African-American cultural group. History of food availability and preparation. Film portrayals of African-American family unity maintained through cultural traditions related to food. Involves experiential learning.



TRS  
274

CAPA

CS

## Artful Spirituality

Mary Coffey, MA

MW 3:30—4:45 PM

Exploration of the intersection of spirituality and creative expression, the evolution of Christian spirituality, and its expression through the arts. Imaginative expression through art-making can enrich spirituality, facilitating deep, authentic encounters with God. A CAPA course in the Integrated Core Curriculum.

### Other Courses:

**TRS 268 Catholic Moral Theology**— (Rev.) Joseph Koopman, MDiv, STD—T 11:20-12:35 , R 1:30 — 2:45 BSI, CS

**TRS 271 Christian Spirituality**— Joan Carney, MA— TR 8:00—9:15 CS



## Synoptic Gospels

David Sloan, PhD

TR 12:30—1:45 PM

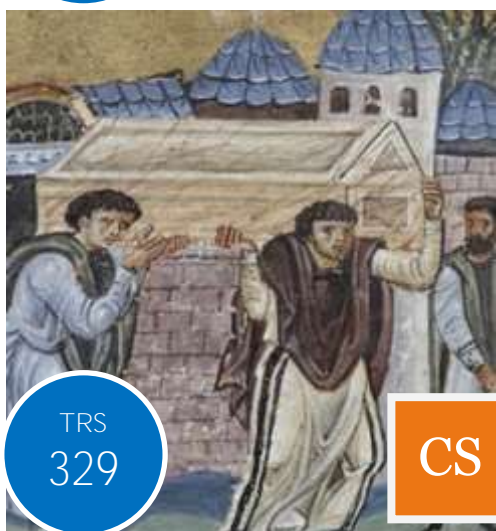
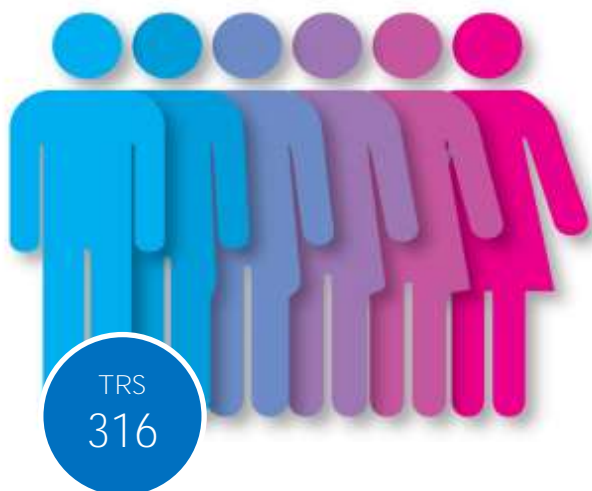
This course introduces students to the current research on the Synoptic Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke. Careful reading and group discussion of key studies that dominate the current debate will focus on issues such as: theories of synoptic relations; the relationship of the synoptics to non-canonical texts; and the literary and theological characteristics of each of the three synoptics.

## The Rabbis on Sex & Gender

Noah Bickart, PhD

M 5:00—7:45 PM (Gender, Sexuality & Women's Studies)

In this course we will explore both legal and narrative sections from Talmudic tractate on the subjects of "Kiddushin" (lit. setting aside or betrothals) and Nissuin (lit. nuptials), marshalling a wide variety of reading strategies including Legal, text and form critical methods as well as Feminist literary criticism and Queer theory. We will study these passages in English translation, with links to these passages in their original languages provided.



## Dying for God

Nathaniel Morehouse, PhD

TR 9:30—10:45 AM

This course seeks to discuss and explore the history of martyrdom in early Christianity, as well as the various ways in which martyrs were used (post mortem) to influence the development of the Church. We will focus the majority of our attention on the activities of (and surrounding) martyrs from the early third century through the late fifth century.

## Globalization, Theology, & Justice

Krista Stevens, PhD or Deborah Zawislan, PhD

MW 3:30—4:45 PM; TR 3:30—4:45 PM

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.



ISJ

CS

TRS  
337

## Islam in America

Zeki Saritoprak, PhD

TR 2:00—3:15 PM; 3:30—4:45 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  
341

## Religions of Tibet

Paul Nietupski, PhD

MWF 1:00—1:50 PM

A chronological survey of the religions of Tibet, from the seventh century imperial period to the present day. The course will explore the Tibetan vision of unity of religion and politics. It will explore the central role of monastic institutions in religion and politics, the theories and practices of Mahāyāna Buddhas and bodhisattvas, and tantric vehicles and visions.



TRS  
359

Other Courses:

**TRS 338 Catholicism in a Digital Age**— See description on page 10.





## Christian Sexuality

Jessica Merugu, MA

MWF 11:00—11:50 AM

Study of human sexuality, its meaning and mystery, and ethical issues related to sexual behavior and attitudes, all from a Christian perspective. Christian wisdom and wisdom of the ages in light of human experience and contemporary theories of the meaning and significance of sexuality. Special attention to the inherent relationship between spirituality and sexuality.



## Social Justice and the Economy: Morality & Money

Megan Wilson-Reitz, MA

MWF 12:00—12:50 PM

Explores the relationships between religious ethics and economics by critically examining the religious, moral, and ethical assumptions underlying various economic systems. Employs the liberation hermeneutic of “human flourishing” as a lens to read and interpret relevant economic and theological texts. Involves service-learning. PJHR course.



## Religion, Terror, Culture Wars

Michele Stopera Freyhauf, MA, ABDiss

MWF: 8:00—8:50

Ethical and practical issues regarding the importance of cultural memory and the destruction, recovery, and protection of cultural assets in a politicized global environment. Examination of past and present national and international threats to cultural assets.

### Catholic Social Teaching

Krista Stevens, PhD

T 5:00—7:45 PM

Examination of Catholic social teachings that contribute to a social ethics. Special focus on political, economic, and cultural problems, including war and peace, poverty, and prejudice.

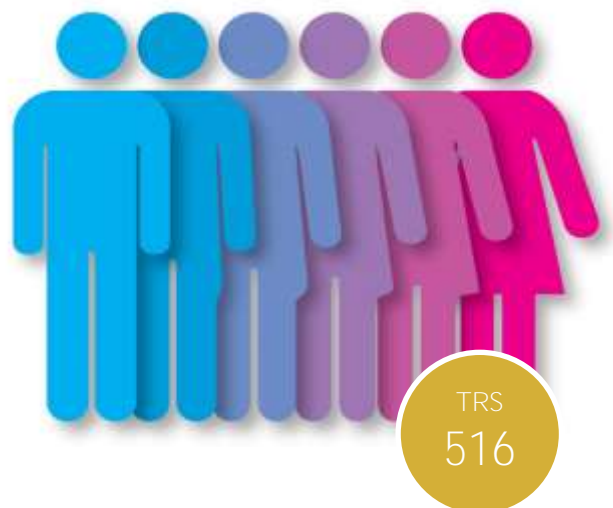


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### Catholicism in a Digital Age

Edward Hahnenberg, PhD

W 5:00—7:45 PM

This course studies the theological significance of the digital revolution for Catholic experience of faith. We will explore several theological topics currently being rethought in light of technological change, including: the nature of religious practice and ritual, new forms of religious authority, and new ethical questions arising out of an increasingly interconnected world.

