

## Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago Course Profile - Spring Term 2009

**Course:** T 306-B: Systematic Theology II

**Instructor:** Monica A. Coleman

### Statement of Goals

- To survey selected Christian doctrines
- To develop students' articulation and expression of their own theological positions which are both personally compelling and responsible to Christian traditions and Christian theology
- To offer a range of contemporary perspectives on traditional Christian doctrines
- To situate contemporary theologies among historical discussions of selected Christian doctrines

### Outline and content of course:

Locus I: Christology

Locus II: Ecclesiology

Locus III: Eschatology

### Required work for course:

Reflection Papers. Each student will write a one-page reflection paper on the week's reading assignment. The paper should address the following questions: What is the author's thesis? How does the author structure her or his argument? What is at stake? OR Why is this perspective so important to the author? What is your personal response to this reading? Each student is expected to write eight out of twelve (8/ 12) possible papers.

Papers. Each student will write one paper at eight to ten (8-10) pages in length responding to the questions at the end of the designated loci. Students should engage content from the lectures, readings and independent research in completing the assignment.

Quizzes. Each student will take three in-class quizzes based on lectures. Study sheets are provided.

Oral Exam. Each student will have a meeting with the instructor and teaching assistant giving an oral summary of theology on particular loci – responding to the questions and the end of the loci.

### Bibliography:

Bonhoeffer, Dietrich. Life Together. Trans. John W. Doberstein. New York: Harper and Row, 1954.

Crossan, John Dominic. Jesus, a Revolutionary Biography. San Francisco: Harper San Francisco, 1994.

Eiseland, Nancy. The Disabled God: Toward a Liberatory Theology of Disability. Nashville: Abingdon, 1994.

LaHaye, Tim and Jerry B. Jenkins. Left Behind: a Novel of the Earth's Last Days. Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, 1995.

McLaren, Brian. A New Kind of Christian: A Tale of Two Friends on a Spiritual Journey. New York: Jossey-Bass, 2001.

Rossing, Barbara R. The Rapture Exposed: The Message of Hope in the Book of Revelation. Boulder, CO: Westview, 2004.

Sugirtharajah, R. S. Asian Faces of Jesus. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis, 1993.

Terrell, Joanne Marie. Power in the Blood?: The Cross in the African American Experience. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis, 1998.

Tillich, Paul. Systematic Theology Vol. 2: Existence and the Christ. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1957.

Tillich, Paul. Systematic Theology Vol. 3: Life and the Spirit: History and the Kingdom of God. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1965.

Westhelle, Vitor. The Scandalous God: The Use and Abuse of the Cross. Minneapolis: Fortress, 2006.

**E-Reserve:** SELECTIONS FROM: (1) Crossan, John Dominic. The Historical Jesus: The Life of a Mediterranean Jewish Peasant. Harper San Francisco, 1991. (2) Thompson, Deanna A., "Becoming a Feminist Theologian of the Cross." Cross Examinations: Readings on the Meaning of the Cross Today. Ed. Marit Trelstad. Fortress, 2006. 76-90. (3) Kairos Theologians. The Kairos Document: Challenge to the Church: A Theological Comment on the Political Crisis in South Africa. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdsman, 1986.