Twentieth Century (mainly) Protestant Theologies  
(EMT 3542 / 6542)  
Fall 2017 / Thursdays, 2:00-4:00  
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DRAFT – a final copy will be distributed on the first day of class

Description:

This course explores key figures and movements in 20th century (mainly) Protestant Theologies. The scope of investigation broadly includes liberal, neo-orthodox, political/liberation, feminist/womanist/mujerista, postliberal, postmodern, and theologies of religions. Attention will be given to representative authors and related movements. Educational methods used include lectures, discussions, presentations, and a research paper.

Required Texts

Most of the required reading for the course is taken from the following books, available for purchase at Crux Books, Wycliffe College or online through other distributors, or available on reserve at the Emmanuel Library:

- Core Text

- Primary Texts
  - Karl Barth, Evangelical Theology: An Introduction (Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans, 1992)
  - Ada Maria Isasi-Diaz, Mujerista Theology: A Theology for the Twenty-First Century (Maryknoll, NY: Orbis, 1996)
  - Paul Tillich, ed. F. Forrester Church, The Essential Tillich (Chicago: Chicago University Press, 1999)

Other required and recommended reading will be available on reserve in the Emmanuel College library or distributed online via the Portal.

Recommended Texts

Learning Goals

Upon completion of this class, students should be able to…

1. Articulate the challenges and developments of 20th century theology.
2. Demonstrate basic knowledge of key figures in 20th century Protestant theology.
3. Identify various approaches and methods in 20th century theology.
4. Note salient features of liberal, neo-orthodox, political/liberation, feminist/womanist/mujerista, postliberal, postmodern, and theologies of religions.
5. Appreciate the importance of context for theological reflection.
6. Explore in greater analytic detail aspects of one or more authors/movements in 20th century theology.
7. Exhibit the capacity to participate as a citizen in a theological community: 
   - displaying empathetic and critical thinking in reading, speaking, and writing…
   - demonstrating initiative in research and critical appraisal of sources used…
   - communicating responsibly, carefully, and clearly…
   - framing and developing theological arguments supported with evidence…
   - showing an awareness of oneself as an interpreter…
   - exhibiting tolerance for ambiguity while remaining genuinely committed.

Class-Time Format

The basic arrangement of time in class will be that of lecture-presentation-discussion. Mainly, the course will operate in a seminar format, oriented toward discussing texts and themes in an interactive and open environment. Lectures will be offered occasionally to introduce, help clarify, and expand the context and substance of topics/materials. Class presentations from students will provide a way to introduce the readings and ask key questions to generate discussion (see Course Requirements, below, for more information).

Course Requirements and Assignments

1. Class Attendance and Participation.............................. 15%
2. Class Presentation.................................................... 15%
3. Book Analysis.......................................................... 20%
4. Research Paper.......................................................... 50%

1. Regular attendance and informed participation in class is an important part of the learning experience. More than three absences may result in loss of course credit. Because discussion is a key part of the class, nurturing an engagement with course materials, your questions and comments are valued and will be a factor in the overall grade. Readings for each class will be discussed on the basis of student questions and classroom interaction in response to presentations and/or lectures. To this end, it is expected that you will have done the readings, critically reflected upon them, and be prepared to contribute substantively. Careful reading is fundamental to informed participation, so journaling or note taking while reading is encouraged.
2. **Class Presentation.** At each class session, one or two students, by pre-arrangement with the instructor, will initiate discussion by referring to salient points in the week’s reading assignments, mainly from the primary sources, then raising two or three questions to generate conversation over important issues/themes. BD students should address the class for approximately 8–10 minutes (or 15 minutes, total, if two students present). AD students should prepare a more substantive presentation guiding the class through key elements in the readings for approximately 12–15 minutes.

3. **Book Analysis** (5 pages for BD students, and 8 pages for AD students). This assignment, due no later than October 19th, asks students to select a text (book or several key articles or essays in a book) from an important 20th century theologian NOT covered in our readings and analyze its salient argument(s) or theme(s), identifying and assessing the context for text’s relevance and intelligibility. The text must be approved by the instructor. Please consult the bibliography for options, though other texts may be selected.

4. **Final Research Paper** (10-12 pages for BD students, and 18-22 pages for AD students). This paper, due no later than December 14th, should focus on a figure(s), topic or movement germane to the course and investigate, analyze, and appraise its implications for theology in the 20th century. The assignment is both integrative and research oriented; it offers the flexibility to research a topic or issue of interest to the student, while also requiring the student to assess the relevance of the research to some of the materials read/discussed during the semester, drawing their own conclusions in the process.

Paper assignments should be clearly organized, well-documented, critical in scope, substantive in analysis and in assessing materials, careful in formulating evaluative claims, and prudent in applications. Excellent papers will not simply ‘state’ but ‘show’ their case, based upon an informed consideration of what is at stake. Excellent papers will demonstrate creative insight and provide reasons for claims, backing up these reasons with solid evidence while also noting the ranges of uncertainty and/or ambiguity in referencing evidence.

Papers should observe Emmanuel College academic regulations and policies, and note the “Other Qualities Expected of Students” in “The T.S.T. Grading Scale Used at Emmanuel College” for criteria for evaluation of assignments (found in 2006-07 edition of Handbook of Information for Basic Degree Students). More information about writing papers can be found at the web site “Writing at the University of Toronto” at www.utoronto.ca/writing/.

**Specific Policies**

---**Email assignments:** Emailed assignments will **not** be accepted except in cases with the prior permission of the instructor

---**Accessibility and disability policy:** Students with diverse learning styles are welcome in this course. If you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, please feel free to approach me and/or the Accessibility Office as soon as possible. It takes time to put disability related accommodations in place. The sooner you meet with a Disability Counselor at Accessibility Services, the quicker s/he can assist you to achieving your learning goals in this course. See the UT web site: http://www.sa.utoronto.ca/details.php?wscid=4.
Course Schedule

Week 1 / September 14  Introduction—Thoughts on the 19th Century Theology Background

Week 2 / September 21  Liberal Theology and Radical Historicity—Ernst Troeltsch
- Required Reading
  o Livingston & Fiorenza, *Modern Christian Thought*, ch. 1
  o E. Troeltsch, “The Place of Christianity among the World’s Religions,” in *Christian Thought: Its History and Application*
- Recommended Reading

Week 3 / September 28  The Birth of Neo-Orthodoxy (Dialectical Theology)—Karl Barth
- Required Reading
  o Livingston & Fiorenza, *Modern Christian Thought*, ch. 3, pp. 62-84; and ch. 4, pp. 96-111
  o K. Barth, *Evangelical Theology*, chs. 1-5, 9, 15
- Recommended Reading
  o K. Barth, *Evangelical Theology*, entire text

Week 4 / October 5  Worldly and Wordly Theology—Dietrich Bonhoeffer
- Required Reading
  o Livingston & Fiorenza, *Modern Christian Thought*, ch. 4, pp. 111-128
- Recommended Reading
  o D. Bonhoeffer, *A Testament to Freedom*, chs. 50-52, 62

Week 5 / October 12  Theology in an Existential Key—Paul Tillich
- Required Reading
  o P. Tillich, *The Essential Tillich*, chs. 1-4, 8, 11, 14, 16, 19
- Recommended Reading
  o P. Tillich, *The Essential Tillich*, chs. 5-7, 9-10, 12-13, 17-18, 20, 25, 28
Week 6 / October 19

Existential De-mythologizing—Rudolph Bultmann

- Required Reading

- Recommended Reading
  - Roger Johnson, ed., *Rudolph Bultmann* (Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, 1991), chs. 3 and 5

October 23-27: Reading Week

Week 7 / November 2

A Canadian Context for Theology—Some 20th Century Currents

- Required Reading

- Recommended Reading
  - Douglas John Hall, *Thinking the Faith*, chs. 2-4

Week 8 / November 9

Political and Liberation Theologies—Transforming Theology

- Required Reading
  - Livingston & Fiorenza, *Modern Christian Thought*, ch. 9
  - J. Moltmann, “Theology in the Project of Modernity,” in *God for a Secular Society: The Public Relevance of Theology* (Minneapolis: Fortress, 1999), ch. 1

- Recommended Reading
Week 9 / November 16  Feminist, Womanist, and Mujerista Theologies

- Required Reading
  - Ada Maria Isasi-Diaz, *Mujerista Theology*, chs. 3-5

- Recommended Reading
  - Ada Maria Isasi-Diaz, *Mujerista Theology*, chs. 1-2

Week 10 / November 23  Process Theologies—A Relational Model

- Required Reading
  - Livingston & Fiorenza, *Modern Christian Thought*, ch. 10

- Recommended Reading

Week 11 / November 30  Theologies of Religions—Engaging Interreligious Contexts

- Required Reading
  - Livingston & Fiorenza, *Modern Christian Thought*, ch. 15
Paul Knitter, “Toward a Liberation Theology of Religions,” in *The Myth of Christian Uniqueness*, ch. 11


- **Recommended Reading**
  - *The Myth of Christian Uniqueness*, chs. 4-5, 9
  - *Christian Uniqueness Reconsidered*, chs. 2, 6, 9-10

**Week 12 / December 7**

**Postmodern Theology—Liberal and Postliberal Models**

- **Required Reading**
  - Livingston & Fiorenza, *Modern Christian Thought*, ch. 16
  - G. Kaufman, *God, Mystery, Diversity* (Minneapolis: Fortress, 1996), ch. 2

- **Recommended Reading**
  - Gustafson, James M. *An Examined Faith: The Grace of Self-Doubt* (Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, 2003), chs. 1-3
  - G. Kaufman, *God, Mystery, Diversity* (Minneapolis: Fortress, 1996), ch. 6
Select Bibliography: 20th Century Protestant Theology

Critical Surveys and General Works


Smith, David L. A Handbook of Contemporary Theology: Tracing Trends and Discerning

**Selected Primary and Secondary**


_____ . Christianity and the Encounter of the World Religions. New York: Columbia


