Instructor Information

Instructor: Jonathan Slater, PhD
Office Location: 
Telephone: 
E-mail: jonathanp.slater@gmail.com
Office Hours: 

Course Identification

Course Number: TRT3221H F
Course Name: God the Holy Spirit: Christian Pneumatology
Course Location: 
Class Times: 
Prerequisites: TRT1101 or other Introduction to Theology

Course Description

This course will explore the identity and mission of the Holy Spirit through engagement with patristic and contemporary voices from both Eastern and Western theological traditions. Class time will be divided between seminar discussion of the assigned readings, and short lectures introducing the topic and readings for the following week. Students will write weekly reading responses, participate in class discussion, and complete a summative project, which may be a major research paper, or two shorter position papers.

Course Resources

Required Course Texts/Bibliography
- Other readings will be available through the course’s Blackboard website.

Course Website(s)
- Blackboard https://weblogin.utoronto.ca/
  This course uses Blackboard for its course website. To access it, go to the UofT portal login page at http://portal.utoronto.ca and login using your UTORid and password. Once you have logged in to the portal using your UTORid and password, look for the My Courses module, where you’ll find the link to the website for all your Blackboard-based courses. (Your course registration with ROSI gives you access to the course website at Blackboard.) Note also the information at http://www.portalinfo.utoronto.ca/content/information-students. Students who have trouble accessing Blackboard should ask [xxx] for further help.
- Personal Website http://individual.utoronto.ca/jsmith
Course Learning Objectives

BD Level
Students successfully completing this course will be able to demonstrate the following learning outcomes.

(A) IN RESPECT OF GENERAL ACADEMIC SKILLS
1. Express themselves effectively both orally and in writing.
2. Gather, analyze and assess material from both primary and secondary literature.
3. Engage in critical and respectful discussion of assigned readings.

(B) IN RESPECT OF THE UNDERSTANDING OF THE CONTENT OF ONE OR MORE THEOLOGICAL DISCIPLINES
1. Identify significant theological moves in patristic and contemporary discussions of pneumatological questions.
2. Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of different approaches to various pneumatological issues.

Evaluation

Requirements
The final grade for the course will be based on evaluations in three areas.

1. Class Participation (15%). Students are expected to have read the assigned texts prior to the class meeting in which they are to be discussed and to participate in seminar discussions. (Outcomes A1, A3, B1, B2)

2. Reading Responses (35%). Students will submit reading responses for ten of the weeks of the course. The purpose of these responses is to prepare to engage in discussion. They should consist of six bullet-points responses to one or more of the assigned readings. Three bullet points should be descriptive, identifying particularly significant aspects of the reading. The other three should be evaluative, identifying problematic areas or questions arising from the reading. Both descriptive and evaluative bullet points should be points—a couple of sentences at most, not full-blown paragraphs or mini-essays. (Outcomes A1, B1, B2)

3. Summative Project (50%). Students will complete a summative project on a topic chosen in consultation with the instructor. This may be a major research paper (15 pages or so), two shorter position papers or sermons (8 pages or so each). (Outcomes A1, A2, B1, B2)

Grading System

- A+ (90-100)
- A (85-89)
- A- (80-84)
- B+ (77-79)
- B (73-76)
- B- (70-72)
- Failure
Please see the appropriate handbook for more details about the grading scale and non-numerical grades (e.g. SDF, INC, etc).

**Late work (BD).** Basic Degree students are expected to hand in assignments by the date given in the course outline. [The instructor should stipulate the penalty for late work.] This penalty is not applied to students with medical or compassionate difficulties; students facing such difficulties are kindly requested to consult with their faculty adviser or basic degree director, who should make a recommendation on the matter to the instructor. The absolute deadline for the course is the examination day scheduled for the course. Students who for exceptional reasons (e.g., a death in the family or a serious illness) are unable to complete work by this date may request an extension (SDF = “standing deferred”) beyond the term. An SDF must be requested from the registrar’s office in the student’s college of registration no later than the last day of classes in which the course is taken. The SDF, when approved, will have a mutually agreed upon deadline that does not extend beyond the conclusion of the following term. If a student has not completed work but has not been granted an SDF, a final mark will be submitted calculating a zero for work not submitted.

**Course grades.** Consistently with the policy of the University of Toronto, course grades submitted by an instructor are reviewed by a committee of the instructor’s college before being posted. Course grades may be adjusted where they do not comply with University grading policy (http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/grading.htm) or college grading policy.

**Policies**

**Accessibility.** Students with a disability or health consideration are entitled to accommodation. Students must register at the University of Toronto’s Accessibility Services offices; information is available at http://www.accessibility.utoronto.ca/. The sooner a student seeks accommodation, the quicker we can assist.

**Plagiarism.** Students submitting written material in courses are expected to provide full documentation for sources of both words and ideas in footnotes or endnotes. Direct quotations should be placed within quotation marks. (If small changes are made in the quotation, they should be indicated by appropriate punctuation such as brackets and ellipses, but the quotation still counts as a direct quotation.) Failure to document borrowed material constitutes plagiarism, which is a serious breach of academic, professional, and Christian ethics. An instructor who discovers evidence of student plagiarism is not permitted to deal with the situation individually but is required to report it to his or her head of college or delegate according to the TST Basic Degree Handbook (linked from http://www.tst.edu/content/handbooks) and the University of Toronto Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/AssetFactory.aspx?did=4871. A student who plagiarizes in this course. Students will be assumed to have read the document “Avoidance of plagiarism in theological writing” published by the Graham Library of Trinity and Wycliffe Colleges (http://www.trinity.utoronto.ca/Library_Archives/Theological_Resources/Tools/Guides/plag.htm).

**Other academic offences.** TST students come under the jurisdiction of the University of Toronto Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm).

**Back-up copies.** Please make back-up copies of essays before handing them in.
**Obligation to check email.** At times, the course instructor may decide to send out important course information by email. To that end, all students are required to have a valid utoronto email address. Students must have set up a utoronto email address which is entered in the ROSI system. Information is available at [www.utorid.utoronto.ca](http://www.utorid.utoronto.ca). The course instructor will not be able to help you with this. 416-978-HELP and the Help Desk at the Information Commons can answer questions you may have about your UTORid and password. **Students should check utoronto email regularly** for messages about the course. **Forwarding** your utoronto.ca email to a Hotmail, Gmail, Yahoo or other type of email account is not advisable. In some cases, messages from utoronto.ca addresses sent to Hotmail, Gmail or Yahoo accounts are filtered as junk mail, which means that emails from your course instructor may end up in your spam or junk mail folder.

**Email communication with the course instructor.** The instructor aims to respond to email communications from students in a timely manner. **All email communications from students should be sent from a utoronto email address.** Email communications from other email addresses are not secure, and also the instructor cannot readily identify them as being legitimate emails from students. The instructor is not obliged to respond to email from non-utoronto addresses.

**Course Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 1</th>
<th>Day, Date</th>
<th>Course introduction</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>Day, Date</td>
<td>Speaking of the Spirit: Person and Gender</td>
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<td>Castelo, 1-19</td>
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<td>Sarah Coakley, “Femininity’ and the Holy Spirit?”</td>
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<td>Michael Welker, “The Holy Spirit”</td>
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<tr>
<th>Week 3</th>
<th>Day, Date</th>
<th>The Lord, the Giver of Life: The Spirit in the Eastern Fathers</th>
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<td>Castelo, 45-57</td>
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<td>Athanasius, <em>Letters to Serapion on the Holy Spirit</em> (Selections)</td>
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<td>Basil, <em>On the Holy Spirit</em> (Selections)</td>
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<td>Gregory of Nazianzus, <em>On Holy Baptism</em> and <em>On Pentecost</em> (Selections)</td>
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<th>Week 4</th>
<th>Day, Date</th>
<th>Love and Gift: The Spirit in Augustine</th>
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<td>Castelo, 57-64</td>
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<td>Augustine, <em>The Trinity</em> (Selections)</td>
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<td>Augustine, <em>Homilies on the First Epistle of John</em> (Selections)</td>
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<tr>
<th>Week 5</th>
<th>Day, Date</th>
<th>The Spirit in Creation</th>
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<td>Castelo, 65-80</td>
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Pannenberg, *Systematic Theology* (Selections)
Denis Edwards, “The diversity of life and the Trinity”

**Week 6**
*Day, Date*
The Spirit and Salvation: Sacramental, Evangelical, Charismatic models

Castelo, 81-116
Coakley, “The charismatic constituency: embarrassment or riches?”

**Week 7**
*Day, Date*
The Spirit of the Word: Karl Barth’s Pneumatology

Karl Barth, *Church Dogmatics* (Selections)

**Week 8**
*Day, Date*
The Spirit in the Church: Eastern Resources

Pavel Florensky, *The Pillar and Ground of the Truth* (Selections)
Vladimir Lossky, *In the Image and Likeness of God* (Selections)
Dumitru Staniloae, *Theology and the Church* (Selections)
John Zizioulas, *Being as Communion* (Selections)

**Week 9**
*Day, Date*
The Spirit and Jesus Christ: Spirit Christology and the Fileoque

Ian McFarland, “Spirit and Incarnation: Toward a Pneumatic Chalcedonianism”
David Coffey, “The Roman ‘Clarification’ of the Doctrine of the *Fileoque*
Kathryn Tanner, “Beyond the East/West Divide”

**Week 10**
*Day, Date*
Discerning the Spirit

Castelo, 117-134
Kathryn Tanner, “The Working of the Spirit”

**Week 11**
*Day, Date*
The Spirit and Spirituality

Rowan Williams, “Word and Spirit”

**Week 12**
*Day, Date*
Eschatological Spirit

Michael Welker, *God the Spirit* (Selections)
Jurgen Moltmann, *Trinity and the Kingdom, and Spirit of Life* (Selections)
Select Bibliography:

Karl Barth, *Church Dogmatics* (Edinburgh: T&T Clark)


David Coffey, “The Roman ‘Clarification’ of the Doctrine of the *Fileaque*” IJST 5.1 (2003),


Vladimir Lossky, *In the Image and Likeness of God* (Crestwood: St. Vladimir’s Seminary Press, 1974)


Dumitru Staniloae, *Theology and the Church* (Crestwood: St. Vladimir’s Seminary Press, 1980)


Kathryn Tanner, “The Working of the Spirit,” in *Christ the Key* (Cambridge: Cambridge University, 2010), 274-301.

Michael Welker, “The Holy Spirit,” in *The Oxford Handbook of Systematic Theology*


John Zizioulas, *Being as Communion* (Crestwood: St. Vladimir’s Seminary Press)