# **Course Syllabus**

# WYT 2101H – The Bride of the Lamb: Systematic Theology II Wycliffe College Toronto School of Theology Fall 2019

# **Instructor Information**

Instructor: Jonathan Slater, PhD

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# **Course Identification**

Course Number: WYT 2101H F

Course Format: Online

Course Name: The Bride of the Lamb: Systematic Theology II

Course Location: Class Times:

Prerequisites: WYT1101—The God of the Gospel: Systematic Theology I, or equivalent

# **Course Description**

An introduction to those loci (topics) within systematic theology having to do with the relationship between the LORD God and the world, especially to human beings as created, fallen, and transformingly engaged by divine grace. More specifically, we will be covering the themes of (1) creation and providence, (2) the human person, (3) sin, (4) the church, (5) justification, (6) the new life, and (7) eschatology.

#### **Course Resources**

### **Required Course Texts/Bibliography**

- David Yeago, The Apostolic Faith: A Catholic and Evangelical Introduction to Christian Theology, Part II: The Way of the Creature into the Life of God (unpublished MS, contracted to Wm. Eerdmans Publishing). Available through the course website, or it can be purchased in three-ring binder format at the front desk at Wycliffe.
- Additional readings will be available online through the course website.

#### **Course Website**

Quercus: <a href="https://q.utoronto.ca/">https://q.utoronto.ca/</a>

This course uses Quercus for its course website. To access it, go to the UofT Quercus login page at <a href="https://q.utoronto.ca/">https://q.utoronto.ca/</a> and login using your UTORid and password. Once you have logged in to Quercus using your UTORid and password, look for the **My Courses** module, where you'll find the link to

the website for all your Quercus-based courses. (Your course registration with ACORN gives you access to the course website in Quercus.) Information for students about using Quercus can be found at: <a href="https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10701">https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10701</a>. Students who have trouble accessing Quercus should ask jhocking@wycliffe.utoronto.edu for further help.

# **Course Learning Objectives/Outcomes**

Course Outcomes	Course Element	Program Outcomes
By the end of this course students will:	This outcome will be achieved through these course elements:	This course outcome corresponds to these aspects of Wycliffe's statements of outcomes (MTS, MDiv)
Articulate the basic content and "logic" of the doctrines of creation and providence, the human person, sin, the church, justification, the new life, and eschatology	Course notes Discussion forums Short papers	MTS: 1.2, 2.1 MDiv: 1.3, 2.1
Articulate an awareness of their own ecclesial tradition in relation to the ecumenical faith of the church.	Course notes Discussion forums Short papers	MTS: 3.1 MDiv: 1.5
Engage in critical and respectful discussion of assigned readings in an online learning environment.	Discussion Forums Reading Responses Short Papers	MTS: 3.1; MDiv: 2.2
Gather, analyze and assess material from both primary and secondary literature	Reading Responses Short Papers	MTS: 2.1, 2.2; MDiv: 2.1
Express themselves effectively both orally and in writing	Reading Responses Short Papers	MTS: 2.1, 2.2 MDiv: 2.1

## **Evaluation**

## Requirements

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

- (1) <u>Reading Responses</u> (20%) You will submit a reading response of 500 700 words for each module. The reading responses should be oriented toward the assigned readings, including the course notes. While you are welcome to underscore important points from the readings, your response should not simply consist of a summary. Rather, in your response you are invited to raise questions, express curiosity or puzzlement, and flag things you strongly agree or disagree with. You are encouraged to relate themes in the reading to your own experience, as well as to issues and questions raised in other courses, so long as this does not detract from the primary focus on the text. You are not trying to come up with definitive answers to theological questions, simply to respond to the things you've read with as much critical intelligence and sensitivity as you can muster. You will be graded on the basis of the quality and not simply the quantity of your notes.
- (2) <u>Online Conversation</u> (30%) Participating in online discussion will form a key element of the course, providing opportunity for students to learn from one another and to clarify their thinking as they engaging with one another and with the course material. Students will be assigned to discussion groups of 5 to 7 persons. For each module, one of the group members will initiate discussion. The post should identify and briefly develop two or more questions for discussion. Initiating discussion will rotate between group members.
  - Each member of the group will be responsible to contribute at least two substantive comments of between 250 and 300 words to the discussion. One of these comments must be a response to the initial post. The person who makes the initial post only needs to make one other post that week. The other comment must be a response to one of the other students in the group..
- (3) Two Short Papers (1800 words; 25% each) You will submit two credo papers. The first one will be on one of the topics addressed in the first five course modules (creation, providence, evil, the human person, sin), and the second will be on one of the topics addressed in the remaining seven modules (the church, justification, the Christian life, baptism, eucharist, eschatology). The point of these papers is for you formulate and defend a thesis in which you have some personal investment; hence the name credo, "I believe." Your task is to identify some question or issue within the given doctrine and argue for or against some particular way of thinking about that question or issue. The paper should consider possible objections to your own viewpoint, and it should seek to shed light on the doctrine as a whole, i.e. you should try to identify an issue that is of broad interest and is not narrow or idiosyncratic. While the paper may engage the course notes and/or readings, it should do so in ways that help to clarify and advance your own position. Paper 1 is due November 3, Paper 2 is due December 6. You should consult with the instructor at least two weeks before the paper is due concerning their paper topic.

## **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**. Basic Degree students are expected to hand in assignments by the date given in the course outline. The absolute deadline for the course is the examination day scheduled for the course or the last day of exam week for the semester in which the course is taught, whichever is sooner.

This penalty is not applied to students with documented medical or compassionate difficulties or exceptional reasons (e.g., a death in the family or a serious illness); 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 and request an SDF. The absolute deadline for obtaining an SDF for the course is the examination day scheduled for the course or the last day of examination week, whichever is sooner. An SDF must be requested from the registrar's office in the student's college of registration no later than the last day of exam week 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 to ACORN. Grades are not official until they are posted to ACORN. Course grades may be adjusted where they do not comply with University Assessment and Grading Practices Policy found at <a href="https://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/Assets/Governing+Council+Digital+Assets/Policies/PDF/grading.pdf">www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/Assets/Governing+Council+Digital+Assets/Policies/PDF/grading.pdf</a>, policies found in the TST conjoint program handbooks, or college grading policy.

#### **Policies**

**Accessibility**. Students with a disability or health consideration, whether temporary or permanent, are entitled to accommodation. Students in conjoint degree programs must register at the University of Toronto's Accessibility Services offices; information is available at <a href="http://www.accessibility.utoronto.ca/">http://www.accessibility.utoronto.ca/</a>. 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 and the Graduate program Handbooks (linked from <a href="http://www.tst.edu/academic/resources-forms/handbooks">http://www.tst.edu/academic/resources-forms/handbooks</a> and the University of Toronto Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters <a href="http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/AssetFactory.aspx?did=4871">http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/AssetFactory.aspx?did=4871</a>. A student who plagiarizes in this course will be assumed to have read the document "Avoidance of plagiarism in theological writing" published by the Graham Library of Trinity and Wycliffe Colleges <a href="http://www.trinity.utoronto.ca/Library Archives/Theological Resources/Tools/Guides/plag.htm">http://www.trinity.utoronto.ca/Library Archives/Theological Resources/Tools/Guides/plag.htm</a>.

**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 in conjoint programs are required to have a valid utoronto email address. Students must have set up their utoronto email address which is entered in the ACORN system. Information is available at <a href="https://www.utorid.utoronto.ca">www.utorid.utoronto.ca</a>. 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. Students in non-conjoint programs should contact the Registrar of their college of registration.

**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 in conjoint programs must 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 for students in conjoint programs. Students in non-conjoint programs should only use the email address they have provided to their college of registration.

### Course Schedule

#### Module 1

Sept 9 – 15 Before the Beginning: Election

- Yeago, Apostolic Faith, 1-2
- Yeago, Apostolic Faith (Part I), Preface, 91
- Amy Planginga Pauw, "Election", Cambridge Dictionary of Christian Theology (CDCT)

## Module 2

Sept 16 - 22 In the Beginning: Creation

- Yeago, Apostolic Faith, 2 29
- David Fergusson, "Creation," Oxford Handbook of Systematic Theology (OHST)

## **Module 3**

Sept 23 - 29 Providence and the "Problem" of Evil

- Yeago, Apostolic Faith, 29 54
- Lois Malcolm, "Theodicy", CDCT

Module 4

Sept 30 - The Human Person as Imago Dei

Oct 6 Yeago, Apostolic Faith, Chapter 10, 55 -84

Ian McFarland, "Theological Anthropology", CDCT

Module 5

Oct 7-13 The Broken Image: Sin

Yeago, Apostolic Faith, Chapter 10, 85 - 106

Joy Ann McDougall, "Sin", CDCT

Ian McFarland, "The Fall and Sin," OHST

Module 6

Oct 14-20 The Israel of God: The Church

Yeago, Apostolic Faith, Chapter 11, 107 – 130

Ralph del Colle, "The Church," OHST

Reading Week: October 21 - 27

Module 7

Oct 28 – A Holy People: The Church and the World

Nov 3 Yeago, Apostolic Faith, 130 - 164

Paper 1: Due November 3

Module 8

Nov 4-10 The Righteousness of God: Justification

Yeago, Apostolic Faith, 212 – 235, selections from chapter 12

Ian McFarland, "Gospel" and "Grace", CDCT

Module 9

Nov 4-10 Eccentric Existence: The Christian Life

Yeago, Apostolic Faith, 235 – 256

Katherine Sonderegger, "The Doctrine of Justification and the Cure of Souls"

Module 10

**Nov 11 – 17** Beginning with Baptism

Yeago, *Apostolic Faith*, 257 – 292 Bryan Spinks, "Sacramentology," *CDCT* 

Karl Barth, Church Dogmatics IV/4 (fragment), selections

Module 11

*Nov 18 – 24* The Supper of the Lamb: Eucharist

Yeago, *Apostolic Faith*, 292 – 342 Kevin Irwin, "Eucharist," *CDCT* 

Module 12

Nov 25 – The Beginning of the End: Eschatology

Dec 1 Yeago, Apostolic Faith, 343 – 386

Richard Bauckham, "Eschatology," in Oxford Handbook

Paper 2: Due December 6