

churches and in light of the shared Christian tradition;		
• will be able to locate theology in relation to Scripture, tradition, and the church;	Lectures, readings in weeks 1–3	MTS: 1.3 MDiv: 1.3
• will be able to articulate the basic content and “logic” of three major clusters of doctrinal issues: (1) the Trinity, (2) the person of Christ, (3) the work of Christ;	Lecture, readings in weeks 4-12, tutorials, final paper	MTS: 2.1, 2.3 MDiv: 2.1, 2.2
• will have improved their skills of theological reading, reasoning, and argumentation.	tutorials, final paper, final exam	MTS: 2.1 MDiv: 2.1

Course Resources

Required Course Texts

- David Yeago, *The Apostolic Faith: A Catholic and Evangelical Introduction to Theology, Part II: The Way of the Creature Into God*
- Stanley Hauerwas, *God, Medicine, and Suffering*
- Roger Van Harn, ed., *Exploring and Proclaiming the Apostles' Creed*

The Yeago text may be purchased at Image Xpress copy shop, 193 College Street, Toronto. The Hauerwas and Van Harn texts are all available for purchase at Crux Books. In addition, there will be several readings from:

The Oxford Handbook of Systematic Theology, ed. John Webster, Kathryn Tanner, and Iain Torrance, which is available as an on-line resource through the University of Toronto Libraries. It may be accessed via the Blackboard site for this course. A few copies will also be on hand for purchase at Crux Books.

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 Thomas Power for further help.

Class Schedule

Week 1 (January 14) Before the Beginning: Election.

Readings: Katherine Sonderegger, “Election,” in *Oxford Handbook*

Supplemental readings: We spent much of last semester on the doctrine of the Trinity. For review purposes, but also to gain a sense of developments in contemporary trinitarian theology, see the article by Fred Sanders in the *Oxford Handbook*.

Week 2 (January 21) The Beginning of the End: Eschatology.

Readings: *Apostolic Faith*, chapter 16; Richard Bauckham, “Eschatology,” in *Oxford Handbook*; Fleming Rutledge, “A Sermon: The Resurrection of the Body,” in *Exploring and Proclaiming*

Supplemental readings: On the specific question of hell, two useful places to start are George Hunsinger’s essay “Hellfire and Damnation” in *Disruptive Grace* (on reserve) and von Balthasar’s *Dare We Hope That All Men Be Saved?*

Week 3 (January 28) In the Beginning: Creation.

Readings: *Apostolic Faith*, chapter 9, pp. 1–32; Scott Hoezee, “A Sermon: The End in the Beginning,” in *Exploring and Proclaiming*

Supplemental readings: Robert Farrar Capon, *The Supper of the Lamb* (on reserve) - a great, funny, and profound Anglican meditation on creation. Plus great recipes; David Fergusson, “Creation,” in *Oxford Handbook*

Week 4 (February 4) Providence and the “Problem” of Evil.

Reading: Yeago, *Apostolic Faith*, chapter 9, pp. 33–62; Stanley Hauerwas, *God, Medicine, and Suffering*

Supplemental reading: Katherine Greene-McCreight, *Darkness Is My Only Companion* (on reserve); David Bentley Hart, *The Doors of the Sea* (on reserve).

Week 5 (February 11) The Human Person as Imago.

Readings: Yeago, *Apostolic Faith*, chapter 10, pp. 1–35

Supplemental readings: David H. Kelsey, “The Human Creature” in *Oxford Handbook*; Robert Jenson, *On Thinking the Human*; Karl Barth, *Christ and Adam in Romans 5* (also *Church Dogmatics* 3.2).

Week 6 (February 18) Reading Week.

Week 7 (February 25) The Broken Image: Sin.

Readings: Yeago, *Apostolic Faith*, chapter 10, pp. 36–60; Ian McFarland, “The Fall and Sin,” in *Oxford Handbook*

Supplemental readings: Barth, *Church Dogmatics* 4.1,2,3 (sections on sin); Cornelius Plantinga, *Not the Way It’s Supposed to Be: A Breviary of Sin*.

Week 8 (March 3) The Holy Spirit.

Readings: Walter R. Bouman, “Credo in spiritum sanctum,” in *Exploring and Proclaiming*; Wm. C. Turner, “A Sermon: I Believe in the Holy Spirit,” in *Exploring and Proclaiming*; Michael Welker, “The Holy Spirit,” in *Oxford Handbook*

Supplemental readings: Jenson’s account of the Spirit in *Systematic Theology* Part 2 is a stimulating blend of Eastern and Western insights; Frank Macchia would be a Pentecostal theologian worth exploring.

Week 9 (March 10) The Church (I).

Readings: Yeago, *Apostolic Faith*, chapter 11, pp. 115–34; Susan Wood, “The Holy Catholic Church, the Communion of Saints,” in *Exploring and Proclaiming*

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Supplemental readings: Ralph del Colle, “The Church,” in *Oxford Handbook*.

Week 10 (March 17) The Church (II).

Readings: Yeago, *Apostolic Faith*, chapter 11, 134–51, 158–77 [skim material on the pastoral office on pp. 151–8]; Thomas Long, “A Sermon: The Dream Church,” in *Exploring and Proclaiming*

Supplemental readings: Lesslie Newbigin, *The Household of God* - early 1950’s but still a classic; Stanley Hauerwas, *The Peaceable Kingdom*; Robert Jenson, *Systematic Theology* Part 2.

Week 11 (March 24) The Gospel, the Law, and Faith.

Readings: Yeago, *Apostolic Faith*, chapter 12, pp. 184–209

Supplemental readings: See the first part of this chapter in Yeago (pp. 159–84) for a more detailed argument on behalf of recovering “law” discourse in Protestantism.

Week 12 (March 31) The Christian Life (I).

Readings: *Apostolic Faith*, chapter 14, pp. 215–35; Philip Ziegler, Sermon: “If/Then versus Because/Therefore” (on course web site); Katherine Sonderegger, “The Doctrine of Justification and the Cure of Souls” (on course web site)

Supplemental readings: Dawn DeVries, “Justification,” in *Oxford Handbook*; The debate between John Piper and N.T. Wright on justification has been important in evangelical circles. See also Doug Harink’s critique of Protestant-evangelical “justification” in *Paul Among the Postliberals*.

Week 13 (April 7) The Christian Life (II).

Readings: *Apostolic Faith*, chapter 14, pp. 235–61

Supplemental readings: The Reinhard Hütter essay in *Oxford Handbook* is stimulating and useful, though it’s also fairly technical. The literature on “the Christian life” is vast. Dietrich Bonhoeffer’s *Discipleship* [aka *The Cost of Discipleship*] is of course classic.

Evaluation

Requirements

- (1) Attendance and participation. This includes both the “lecture” portion of the class and the tutorial section for a given day. Please come to class prepared with one or two questions to help spark class discussion (15% of grade).
- (2) Reading notes. See description below (25% of grade).
- (3) Essay on the church — 2000 words or 6-8 pages, double spaced. See description below (30% of grade).
- (4) Final exam (30% of grade).

Guidelines for reading notes

Character of notes. As the name suggests, reading notes should be oriented toward one or more of the assigned readings. Your notes should reflect a balance of description, constructive criticism, and exploratory testing and extending of ideas. For instance, you might propose other ways of framing a particular theological issue, or suggest the implications of a doctrine for church practice or mission. Identify what you see as the

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main points in the text, but do not spend too much time simply summarizing the material. We will be looking for evidence of your own reflective engagement with the issues raised.

Questions. As part of your notes, please identify one or two questions that were raised for you by the reading, and that you would like to see addressed in class. Be prepared to share your question(s) at tutorial session. This will provide a useful catalyst for our discussion.

Length. You should aim for two (certainly no longer than three) pages double-spaced, assuming a standard font and size, e.g. Times New Roman 12, as well as a standard one-inch margin. You will be graded on the basis of the quality and not simply the quantity of your notes.

Frequency of submission. To receive full credit for this requirement you must submit notes in at least eight of weeks of the course. It is for you to decide. This gives you some latitude to balance your work in Systematics with requirements in other courses, and to deal with issues arising at home, your field placement, etc. Your reading notes must be submitted in person, on paper, at your tutorial meeting. Electronic submissions will not be accepted. Tutorial leaders will make an honest effort to return notes one week after you submit them, although this may not always be possible.

Credo Paper - "I Believe in the Church"

Write an essay in which you articulate and defend a conviction concerning the Christian church. The essay should make some reference to your own Christian tradition and/or the particular congregation where you worship, although it should not be limited to this. Possible topics include: primary metaphors for the church, the role of the church in salvation, questions of authority or polity, the relation of the individual congregation to the church universal, or the character of Christian disunity—a scandal, or a welcome diversity? This list is not exhaustive; please consult with your tutorial leader for guidance on framing your topic. Your essay should be well-organized, have a clearly-stated thesis, and engage viewpoints and positions in tension with your own.

Grading System

Letter Grade	Numerical Equivalents	Grade Point	Grasp of Subject Matter
A+	90–100%	4.0	Profound & Creative
A	85–89%	4.0	Outstanding
A-	80–84%	3.7	Excellent
B+	77–79%	3.3	Very Good
B	73–76%	3.0	Good
B-	70–72%	2.7	Satisfactory
FZ	0–69%	0	Failure

Grades without numerical equivalent:

- CR Designates credit; has no numerical equivalent or grade point value
- NCR Designates failure; has no numerical equivalent, but has a grade point value of 0 and is included in the GPA calculation
- SDF Standing deferred (a temporary extension)

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INC	Permanent incomplete; has no numerical equivalent or grade point value
WDR	Withdrawal without academic penalty
AEG	May be given to a final year student who, because of illness, has completed at least 60% of the course, but not the whole course, and who would not otherwise be able to convocate; has no numerical equivalent and no grade point value

Policy on Assignment Extensions

Basic Degree students are expected to complete all course work by the end of the term in which they are registered. Under **exceptional circumstances**, with the written permission of the instructor, students may request an extension (SDF = “standing deferred”) beyond the term. An extension, when offered, will have a mutually agreed upon deadline that does not extend beyond the conclusion of the following term. An SDF must be requested no later than the last day of classes of the term in which the course is taken. The request form is available on the college website or from the Registrar’s office.

One percentage point per day will be deducted on the course grade if an extension has not been requested by the stated deadline.

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/Assets/Governing+Council+Digital+Assets/Policies/PDF/grading.pdf>) 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/academic/resources-forms/handbooks> and the University of Toronto *Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters* <http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm>), 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).

Classroom protocol Roughly the first hour of each class (10:00-11:00) will be spent in tutorial session. The point of the tutorial is to explore the readings. The second and third hours will involve a mix of lecture and free discussion, as well as the occasional “break-out” exercise.

The use of laptop computers or other electronic device is not permitted during class sessions of this course. You will not need stenographically accurate notes in any case. It is my practice to post the notes, outline, or full text of a lecture on the course web site. These will generally be made available the day after the class in question.

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Good notes are important, but so is closely tracking the flow of the lecture and discussion. If you find that you are not following something in a lecture, by all means ask the instructor or your TA. That is what they are there for!

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>).

Writing Style. The writing standard for the Toronto School of Theology is Kate L. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses and Dissertations*, 7th edition (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2007), which is available at Crux Books.

Bibliography

List here any bibliographic resources that will be helpful to students, both within the course and for further study.

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