



Course Syllabus Wycliffe College Toronto School of Theology

This description is intended to assist in the course approval process and to assist students in determining whether this course will help them achieve their educational objectives and the learning goals of their program. It is not a learning contract. The details of the description are subject to change before the course begins. The course syllabus will be available to the class at the beginning of the course.

Course Identification

Course Number : WYT5321HF
Course Name: Ferment in Pneumatology in unfolding modernity, or, Profound Ignorance:
Pneumatology and the truth to come
Campus: St. George

Instructor Information

Instructor: Ephraim Radner Teaching Assistant:
E-mail: e.radner@wycliffe.utoronto.ca E-mail:
Office Hours:

Course Prerequisites or Requisites

Give the course code and title of any pre-requisite or requisite courses.

Course Description

This course will focus on the crucial developments of the 18th century in pneumatology as a way of examining the radical innovations in pneumatology of the modern era in contrast to early- and pre-modern understandings of the Holy Spirit. In particular, the shift of interest in the 18th-century to “pneumatic” religion, both among Christian and anti-Christian apologists, will be studied in the context of the Church’s own specific historical challenges in this era. The course will examine a contrastive and (arguably) more traditional pneumatology that relies on a basic apophatic approach to the Holy Spirit and to human life that is built upon a historical focus on the incarnate and scriptural forms of Christ.

Course Methodology

Seminar format, with presentation of personal research and focused discussion of texts. Weekly search for and discussion of a research article; research paper.

Course Outcomes

COURSE OUTCOMES	COURSE ELEMENT	PROGRAM OUTCOMES
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By the end of this course, students	This outcome will be demonstrated through these course elements:	This course outcome corresponds to these aspects of Wycliffe's statements of outcomes (MTS, MDiv)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • will be able to describe, compare and contrast the distinctive content of each of the four Gospels; 	Participation in discussion (online and in tutorials) for lectures 7, 9, 10, 12; final exam	MTS: 1.1 MDiv: 1.1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • will be able to summarize the gospel proclaimed by the earliest believers and to assess its similarities and differences with the Nicene Creed; 	Assignments 1 and 2; final exam	MTS: 1.1; 1.3 MDiv: 1.1; 1.3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • will be able to describe the historical and cultural context in which Jesus lived and the Christian movement emerged 	Participation in discussion (online and in tutorials) for lecture 4; assignment 3; final exam	MTS: 1.1 MDiv: 1.1

5000- and 6000-level Courses For courses at this level, this section of the syllabus should be formatted in the same manner as Basic Degree outcomes. The statement of learning outcomes for the conjoint PhD program are found in Appendix A (second column) in the Graduate Conjoint Degree Handbook. (The MA outcomes statement will appear once the conjoint MA program has been fully approved.)

Course Resources

Required Course Texts

All readings will be online through Blackboard, except the Levering, which is to be purchased, available at Crux Bookstore. See Bibliography below.

- Matthew Levering, *Engaging the Doctrine of the Holy Spirit: Love and Gift in the Trinity and the Church* (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 2016)

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 (Sept 12) Knowledge and ignorance: modern pneumatology's turn from its Christological center

Readings: Radner: "Early Modern Pneumatology"; *Spirit and Nature*, final chapter.

Week 2 (Sept 19) Some traditional limitations on pneumatology articulation.

Readings: Levering – selected chapters; Basil and Aquinas; Marshall – functionalism, and fittingness as Scriptural givenness.

Week 3 (Sept 26) Time, Part I.

Readings: Joachim, Boehme, Herder, Hegel, Pannenberg, Moltmann.

Week 4 (Oct 3) Time, Part II. Figural time and spiritual ruptures: Scriptural discussion

Week 5 (Oct 10) Life/death/creation, Part I.

Readings: Bruno (Cassirer), Boehme (revisit), More, Whitman, Yong

Week 6 (Oct 17) Life/death/creation, Part II. Creation in Christ, death in Christ, judgment and ex and ad nihilo: Scriptural discussion

Week 7 (Oct 24) Reading Week, no classes.

Week 8 (Oct 31) Human Motivations, Part I.

Readings: Foxe, Wesley

Week 9 (Nov 7) Human Motivations, Part II. Mystery of the soul: Jesus and motivation – Scriptural discussion.

Week 10 (Nov 14) Human embodiedness, Part I.

Readings: Conway, (Herder revisited), Whitman, Raven, Rogers

Week 11 (Nov 21) Human embodiedness, Part II. Mystery of differentiation and diversity, communication and solidarity: Jesus and the nations, Christic love –Scriptural discussion

Week 12 (Nov 28) Human dispositions: Beauty, horror, sorrow, joy – fear, Part I.

Readings: Lowth and the sublime; Cusanus

Week 13 (Dec 5) Human dispositions: Beauty, horror, sorrow, joy – fear, Part II.

Readings: The spirit of fear: Bunyan’s “Fear of God”; Radner on Pascal. Job and the fear of the Lord: living in divine ignorance; docta ignorantia – Scriptural discussion

Evaluation

Requirements

Grading:

Participation (30%)

Research and constructive weekly assignments (30%)

Final paper (40%).

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)
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).

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*, 8th edition (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2013), which is available at Crux Books.

Course Evaluations. At the end of the course students are expected to complete a course evaluation. The evaluation is done online and instructions will be contained in an e-mail message that will be sent out by the Wycliffe College registrar.

Devices. Laptops are permitted for the use of notes, e-texts, and note-taking. No cell-phones/smartphones permitted.

Bibliography

Ephraim Radner, “Early Modern Pneumatology: The Invention of a Genre” (unpublished paper); *Spirit and Nature*, Conclusion (copy).

Matthew Levering, *Engaging the Doctrine of the Holy Spirit* (Baker)

Basil of Caesarea, *On the Holy Spirit*

Thomas Aquinas, *Summa Theologiae*, I, questions 27-32; 36-38 and 39-43; 1a2ae 62-70 and 2a2ae 71-78

Bruce Marshall, “What Does the Holy Spirit Have To Do?”, in *Reading John with St. Thomas Aquinas*, ed. Dauphinais & Levering, Washington: CUA Press, 2005, pp. 62-77.

Joachim of Fiore, in Bernard McGinn (ed.), *Apocalyptic Spirituality* (1979), 113-34

J. Boehme: *The Way to Christ* (Paulist) and xeroxes

Herder: *Another Philosophy of History and Selected Political Writings* (Hackett)

Hegel – *Lectures on the Philosophy of History*

W. Pannenberg, “The Doctrine of the Spirit and the Task of a Theology of Nature” *Theology*, 75:1 (1972)

J. Moltmann, *The Spirit of Life* (selections)

Giordano Bruno, “On the Infinite Universe and Worlds”

Ernst Cassirer, “The Subject-Object Problem in the Renaissance” (copy)

Henry More, *On the Immortality of the Soul* (selections)

Walt Whitman, *Leaves of Grass*

Amos Yong, *The Spirit of Creation* (selections)

George Fox et al in *Quaker Spirituality: Selected Writings* (Paulist)

John Wesley, selections ed. Outler

Anne Conway, *The Principles of the Most Ancient and Modern Philosophy* (Selections)

C. Raven, *The Creator Spirit*

E. Rogers, *After the Spirit* (selections)

R. Lowth, *Lectures on the Sacred Poetry of the Hebrews* (online)

Nicholas of Cusa (Cusanus), *Learned Ignorance*, Books 1 (1-4; 23-26) and 3.

John Bunyan, *The Fear of God* (selections)

E. Radner "The Fear of God: Pascal and His Friends"