

LIDLAW COLLEGE

Te Wananga Amorangi

201.515 Theology: Introduction Course Assessment and Delivery Outline

Campus/Delivery Mode: Distance Learning

Semester 1&2, 2015
NQF Level: 5, 15 credits

CONTENT OVERVIEW

The course will define good theology and then discuss the biblical foundations and later development of the following topics:

1. Christian belief: Unity and diversity
2. Sources and norms of Christian belief: One and many
3. Divine revelation and good theology: Universal and particular
4. God: Great and good
5. God: Three and one
6. Creation: Good and fallen
7. Humanity: Creature, sinner, and new being in Christ
8. Jesus Christ: Human and divine
9. Salvation: Objective and subjective
10. Salvation: Gift and task
11. The church: Visible and invisible, worshipping and missional
12. Eschatology: Continuity and discontinuity in the Kingdom

ASSESSMENT TASKS AND DUE DATES

There are three assessment tasks:

1. Online discussion

<i>Learning Outcomes</i>	1, 4
<i>Due Date</i>	11.59pm Sunday, at end of semester weeks 1, 3, 6, 8, 11, 12
<i>Percentage Weighting</i>	30%
<i>Length</i>	As below

Online discussion topics require you to engage with various themes and topics. Typically these tasks will require you to prepare an initial post of 250 words, followed by at least one response to at least one class member of at least 50 words. Specific instructions will accompany each online discussion task. Students are required to participate in six online discussions.

2. Theological Assessment

<i>Learning Outcomes</i>	2
<i>Due Date</i>	11.59pm Sunday, at end of semester week 8
<i>Percentage Weighting</i>	30%
<i>Length</i>	1200 words
<i>Expected Sources:</i>	Minimum three (including article examined)

The goal of this assessment is that you will be able to recognise constructive theology, and so better articulate the content of the Christian faith.

Summarise the overall **theological teaching** in one of the articles given below (and available on Moodle). Do this by identifying the aspects of belief it addresses, and the sources the article draws on to make its points.

Either:

Rae, Murray. "Forgiveness as Foreign Policy." *Stimulus* 15,3 (August 2007): 7-12.

Or:

Olson, Duane. "Contextualization – Everyone's Doing It." *Word & World* 10, 4 (1990):349-355.

3. Exam

<i>Learning outcomes:</i>	1-3
<i>Percentage Weighting</i>	40%
<i>Length</i>	2 hours duration
<i>Type of questions:</i>	4 essay-type questions

The exam paper will assess students' grasp of the content of basic Christian beliefs and their ability to apply sound theological method in the expression of that content.

The exam will be open book; questions will not be known by students in advance. Students must respond to questions completely in their own words (so no referencing is required). For this reason the exam must be done online (on Moodle) to allow automated plagiarism checking.

CRITERIA FOR ASSESSMENT

1. Online discussion

Before beginning your first online discussion, please see the grading grid (rubric) on the "online discussion grading guide and mid-semester feedback" for further details on how these criteria will be applied.

- Engagement with material
- Constructive engagement with others
- Consideration of application to discipleship and ministry
- Structure and presentation
- Timeliness

2. Theological Assessment

- Comprehension: Balanced understanding of the text under critique; identification of the aspects of belief addressed
- Analysis and judgment: Employment of balanced theological method; discernment of theological sources
- Structure: Clear and logical arrangement of ideas; valid conclusions
- Communication and presentation: Clarity, format, spelling, grammar; annotation and bibliography

3. Exam

- Coverage of main points
- Shows understanding of the content, unity and diversity of basic Christian beliefs
- Clarity & development of answer

LEARNING HOURS

Core study periods (12 x 4 hours) and Reflection	60 hours
Theological assessment	30 hours
Online discussion	30 hours
Course review and exam	30 hours
	150 hours

Study periods will be centred on the course materials provided. Although this guideline regarding learning hours is not intended to be applied rigidly, it should help ensure a balanced workload.

TEXTBOOK

The **required text** is:

Olson, Roger. *The Mosaic of Christian Belief: Twenty Centuries of Unity and Diversity*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2002; Leicester and Apollos, 2002.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

In order to ensure a wide and balanced appreciation of the range of theological opinion found in the Christian community, especially recommended additional works are:

Boyd, Gregory A. and Paul R. Eddy. *Across the Spectrum: Understanding Issues in Evangelical Theology*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 2002; 2009.

Dorrien, Gary. *The Remaking of Evangelical Theology*. Louisville, KY: John Knox, 1998.

Dyrness, William A. *Learning about Theology from the Third World*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1990.

Elwell, Walter A., ed. *Evangelical Dictionary of Theology*, 2nd ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 2001.

Erickson, Millard J. *Christian Theology*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Publishing Group, 1998.
[Available at the Laidlaw Library as an **E-book**]

Erickson, Millard J. *Christian Theology*, 2nd ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 1998.

Erickson, Millard J. *Introducing Christian Doctrine*, 2nd ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 1998.

Ferguson, S.B. and D.F. Wright, eds. *New Dictionary of Theology*. Leicester: InterVarsity Press, 1988.

Grenz, Stanley. *Theology for the Community of God*. Nashville, TN: Broadman and Holman, 1994; Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2000.

Grudem, Wayne. *Systematic Theology: An Introduction to Biblical Doctrine*. Grand Rapids, MI; Nottingham: Zondervan and InterVarsity Press, 1994, 2007.

Gunton, Colin E. *The Christian Faith: An Introduction to Christian Doctrine*. Oxford: Blackwell, 2002.

Gunton, Colin E., ed. *The Cambridge Companion to Christian Doctrine*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1997.

Jenkins, Michael. *Invitation to Theology*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2001.

Jones, Gareth, ed. *The Blackwell Companion to Modern Theology*. Oxford, UK; Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishing, 2004. [Available at the Laidlaw Library as an **E-book**]

Kristiansen, Ståle Johannes and Rise, Svein, eds. *Key Theological Thinkers: From Modern to Postmodern*. Farnham, Surrey, UK; Burlington, VT: Ashgate, 2013. [Available at the Laidlaw Library as an **E-book**]

- Lacoste, Jean-Yves, ed. *Encyclopedia of Christian Theology*. New York, NY: Routledge, 2005. [Available at the Laidlaw Library as an **E-book**]
- Lewis, Gordon R. and Bruce A. Demarest. *Integrative Theology*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1996.
- McFarlane, Ian. David A.S. Fergusson, Karen Kilby, and Iain, R. Torrance, eds. *The Cambridge Dictionary of Christian Theology*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 2011. [Available at the Laidlaw Library as an **E-book**]
- McGowan, A.T.B., ed. *Always Reforming: Explorations in Systematic Theology*. Leicester: Apollos, 2006.
- McGrath, Alister E. *Christian Theology: An Introduction*. Chichester, West Sussex: Wiley, 2011. [Available at the Laidlaw Library as an **E-book**]
- McGrath, Alister E. *Christian Theology: An Introduction*, 4th ed. Oxford: Blackwell, 2007.
- McGrath, Alister E., ed. *The New Lion Handbook: Christian Belief*. Oxford: Lion Hudson, 2006.
- McGrath, Alister E. *Theology: The Basics*. Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell, 2012. [Available at the Laidlaw Library as an **E-book**]
- McKim, Donald K. *Westminster Dictionary of Theological Terms*. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 1996. [Available at the Laidlaw Library as an **E-book**]
- Migliore, Daniel M. *Faith Seeking Understanding: An Introduction to Christian Theology, second edition*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2004.
- Milne, Bruce. *Know the Truth: A Handbook of Christian Belief*, 3rd ed. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2009.
- Patte, Daniel, ed. *The Cambridge Dictionary of Christianity*. Cambridge, UK; New York: Cambridge University Press, 2010. [Available at the Laidlaw Library as an **E-book**]
- Rayment-Pickard, Hugh. *50 Key Concepts in Theology*. London, UK: Andrews UK Ltd, 2007. [Available at the Laidlaw Library as an **E-book**]
- Seitz, Christopher R, editor. *Nicene Christianity: the Future for a New Ecumenism*. Grand Rapids, MI; Carlisle: Brazos; Paternoster, 2002.
- Stone, Howard and Duke, James. *How to Think Theologically*. Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press, 2006. [Available at the Laidlaw Library as an **E-book**]
- Tennent, Timothy C. *Theology in the Context of World Christianity: How the Global Church is Influencing the Way we Think About and Discuss Theology*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2007.
- Warrington, Keith. *Pentecostal Theology: A Theology of Encounter*. London: T&T Clark, 2008.
- Willis, David. *Clues to the Nicene Creed: A Brief Outline of the Faith*. Grand Rapids, MI; Cambridge: Eerdmans, 2005.