

LIDLAW COLLEGE

Te Wananga Amorangi

203.615 Theology: God and Creation Course Assessment and Delivery Outline

Campus: Distance Learning

Semester 2, 2015
NQF Level: 6, 15 credits

CONTENT OVERVIEW:

1. The Nature and Attributes of God Part 1
2. The Nature and Attributes of God Part 2
3. The Holy Spirit Part 1
4. The Holy Spirit Part 2
5. The Triune God Part 1
6. The Triune God Part 2
7. God and the World: Creation
8. God and the World: Providence
9. Providence and Theodicy
10. Humanity as Created
11. Humanity as Fallen: Sin Part 1
12. Humanity as Fallen: Sin Part 2

ASSESSMENT TASKS AND DUE DATES:

1. Participation in Online Discussion Forum

Learning Outcomes: 1, 2, 3

Due Dates: 11.59PM Sunday end of Semester Weeks 2, 4, 5, 9, 10, 12

Percentage Weighting: 20%

Word Count: As specified below

In lessons 2, 4, 5, 9, 10 and 12 you will be required to post responses of no more than 200 words to the Online Discussion Forum to a question about some aspect of that lesson. In addition to your initial posting you will be required to make at least one further response of at least 50 words which interacts with what other students and/or your tutor has said. The second posting for each assessment exercise must be within 7 calendar days of the due date for the initial posting.

2. Short Essay

Learning Outcomes: 1, 2,

Due Dates: 11.59PM Sunday end of Semester Week 6

Percentage Weighting: 30%

Word Count: 800

Write an essay on the Holy Spirit. Critically engage with a movie, or a tradition (e.g. Pentecostalism), or a book. Try to bring out the dynamism of the Trinity, and what the Holy Spirit contributes uniquely to doctrine and Christian life.

As a guideline, in your essay, refer to at least three scholarly sources such as books or academic journal articles.

3. Research Essay

<i>Learning Outcomes:</i>	1, 2, 3
<i>Due Dates:</i>	11.59PM Sunday end of Study Week 1
<i>Percentage Weighting:</i>	50%
<i>Word Count:</i>	2500

Choose one of the following three topics:

- a) Does a loving God exist? In your answer, consider the problem of evil. Refer to the witness of Israel and the Church, as well as the arguments given by philosophers and theologians. Address the views of at least one of the following groups: atheists, agnostics or pantheists.
- b) What is sin and where does it come from? In your discussion, consider Scripture, church traditions, and the work of recent theologians. Also consider individual and societal elements.
- c) What does it mean to be made in the Image of God? Discuss the issues and possibilities, both theological and biblical.

As a guideline, in your essay refer to around 8-10 resources, at least 6 of which should be scholarly sources such as books or academic journal articles (including the readings provided with your course materials). The others may be lighter sources such as news and magazine articles (or their online equivalent).

CRITERIA FOR ASSESSMENT:

1. Participation in Online Discussion Forum

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

- Engagement with material
- Constructive engagement with others
- Structure and presentation
- Timeliness

2. Short Essay

- Balanced coverage of the main points and arguments, using a variety of theological sources
- Depth of contextual insight; good articulation of why this issue matters, pastorally and practically
- Overall Presentation: readability and style with accurate use of English and grammar; correct footnote and bibliographical conventions

3. Research Essay

- Essay fulfils the requirements of the question
- Engagement with the theological issues raised through the appropriate use of Scripture, experience, reason and tradition together with a good grasp of the relationship between culture and theology
- Evidence of being able to argue for a position clearly, of understanding the opposite viewpoint, and of being able to evaluate and compare different positions
- Essay is coherent and exhibits a clear and original voice
- Overall Presentation: readability and style with accurate use of English and grammar; correct footnote and bibliographical conventions

LEARNING HOURS

Course materials, additional readings and reflection	75 hours
Participation in online discussion forum	15 hours
Short essay	20 hours
Research essay	40 hours
Total	150 hours

TEXTBOOKS:

Required text:

Either

Erickson, Millard J. *Christian Theology. 2nd Edition*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1998,

Or

Erickson, Millard J. *Christian Theology. 3rd Edition*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2013.

This is available as an E-book from the Laidlaw Library.

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General Theology and Reference.

These texts will be helpful for any other theology studies you do.

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Ferguson, Sinclair B. and David F. Wright, eds. *New Dictionary of Theology*. Leicester: IVP, 1988.

Grenz, Stanley J. *Theology for the Community of God*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2000.

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The Attributes of God

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- Johnson, Elizabeth A. *She Who Is: The Mystery of God in Feminist Theological Discourse*. New York: Crossroad, 2002.
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The Trinity

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