Academics - Spring 2003 Course Descriptions

DVSC 622 30300
Introduction to Constructive Studies in Religion
Tracy
This course will investigate various constructive thinkers and poets on the naming of ultimate reality as either the Void, the Open, or God. Syllabus and bibliography will be distributed in the first class.
PQ: Open only to first-year A.M.R.S. and A.M. students.
Discussion groups will be arranged at first class session.

BIBL 603 34100
Intermediate Biblical Hebrew
Lieber
PQ: BIBL 34000 or equivalent.

BIBL 603 35400
Introductory Koine Greek 3
Blanton
PQ: BIBL 35300 or one year of college-level Greek.
Ident: NTEC 35400

BIBL 603 39800
German: Lecture/Discussion Group
Klauck
In this course, German exegetical and theological literature will be read and discussed. Only German may be used in this class, which is intended to help students to gain fluency in German and to gain a better knowledge of research done in German-speaking countries.
Ident: NTEC 39800

BIBL 603 41300
Learning to be Human: the Bible and Near Eastern Mythology
Frymer-Kensky
Ident: JWSG 32300, NEHC 30430, RLST 21500

BIBL 603 42100
The Thessalonian Letters
Mitchell
An exegesis course on Paul's earliest extant letter, 1 Thessalonians, and the later pseudepigraphic text patterned on it, 2 Thessalonians, with attention to the historical, archaeological and cultural context, literary and rhetorical features, and theological and religious worldview of each. We shall also investigate the importance of these letters in the emergence of the corpus Paulinum, and their interpretation by selected patristic exegetes.
PQ: Bible 325 or equivalent; Greek not required, but there will be an extra Greek translation section.
Ident: NTEC 42100

BIBL 603 50301
Book of Micah
Sommer
PQ: Reading knowledge of Biblical Hebrew.
The "Aprocryphal Acts of the Apostles," which read like historical novels and are more comparable to the gospels than to Luke's Acts in the New Testament, were produced between the 2nd and 6th century C.E. Among the oldest are (besides the Acts of Thomas) the Acts of John and the Acts of Paul. Both are transmitted in a very fragmentary state, but even so they contain important information and make fascinating reading. Alternating between the Greek text and the English translation, we will read most of the Acts of John and the Acts of Paul (especially the section called "Acts of Paul and Thecla").

PQ: Greek
Ident: NTEC 52700

Early Christian Literature Seminar: Hero Cults and Early Christianity
Mitchell/Martinez
In the ECL seminar this year, we shall engage in a close reading and translation of an important and fascinating source on late-antique hero cults, Philostratus' Heroicus, together with such early Christian texts as the resurrection narratives (and their patristic interpretation) and patristic sources demonstrating the emergence and propagation of Christian cults of the saints (such as the Martyrium Polycarpi, de vita et miraculis s. Theclae, panegyrics by Chrysostom, Gregory of Nyssa), and pagan derision of it (Julian, contra Galilaeos). Focal questions will include: Did any early Christians conceive of Jesus as a hero? Why wasn't his tomb venerated earlier? What is the relationship between Christian and Jewish tomb commemoration of prophets and martyrs? How did early Christians defend themselves against the claim that they were just another (if somewhat odd) hero cult?

PQ: Greek
Ident: NTEC 53200

History of Christian Thought VI
Hopkins
An intellectual history of Christian thought from World War I to the present: from Karl Barth to liberation theologies.
Ident: HCHR 31000

Emily Dickinson
Tracy/Coe/Parks/Gilpin
This course will be a study of Emily Dickinson's poetry--both form and content--with some attention to her letters. David Tracy will take major
responsibility for the course, with interdisciplinary contributions from Profs. Coe, Parks, and Clark Gilpin, who will provide the full range of expertise needed for Dickinson.
Ident: SCTH 33800, DVPR 39900, HCHR 39900, RLIT 39900

THEO 604 41000
Protest and Liberation
Culp
An examination of protest and liberation as central themes in protestant theologies. Attention will be given to Luther (on Christian freedom), Calvin (on protest and the sovereignty of God), Tillich's protestant principle and H.R. Neibuhr's radical monotheism, and recent feminist and womanist liberation theologies.

THEO 604 42601
Theology and Epistemology
Lacoste
Knowledge-language is commonly used in theology alongside faith-language. The first aim of the course will be conceptual clarification. Does the theologian use "knowledge" with the same intentions as the philosopher? Is there, or is there not, a purely theological concept of knowledge? We will then try to identify the elements of a common language and of a common theory of truth, and therefore of a common epistemological basis. We will then pose our questions (and the parallel questions on faith) to various texts: the Bible (Hosea on idol making vs. the knowledge of God, gnōsis in the Johannine corpus, etc.), the Alexandrine theorists of an intellectual spiritual life, the pseudo-Macarian theology of affection, the mediating enterprise of Diadocus of Photike, the monastic theoreticians ("to know is to love"), down to pietistic theology or Great Awakening theology (J. Edwards' Religious Affections) and on to modern theories of faith (Newman, Rousselot) and of knowledge (americana vulgata, Marion, Nussbaum, etc.). We shall also scrutinize key passages of Pope John Paul II's Fides et ratio. At the end of the course, we certainly will not have availed ourselves of a ready-made theological epistemology. But hopefully we will have some ideas about the sort of theory it ought to be, and of the sort of theoretical work which here is either useful or useless.

THEO 604 43401
Faith and Revelation in Hans Urs von Balthasar
Lacoste
Through a detailed reading of the introductory volume of Hans Urs von Balthasar's (1905-1988) The Glory of the Lord, entitled Seeing the Form (1961), the class will strive toward two goals. (a) We will aim at an introductory understanding of the key Christian and Biblical doctrines of faith of revelation, as well as the mystical doctrine of the "spiritual senses" in the interpretation of the meaning of sacred scripture. (b) Through our in-depth reading of Seeing the Form we will discover hints and concepts that will allow us a first look at the architecture of Balthasar's magnum opus, the trilogy composed of The Glory of the Lord, Theodramatik, and Theologik. As we read Balthasar, we will try to spell out the theory of theology at work in his thought (reading the programmatic article on "Theology and Sanctity" will be useful here, too). Along the way, we will have to evaluate Balthasar's use of the
ontology of the transcendentalia entis (the three transcendentals of being): "the True, the Good, and the Beautiful." Does Balthasar's use of the transcendentals obey internal necessities or functions as a merely heuristic device? Finally, we will raise the question of the philosophical influences at work in Balthasar—if any.

THEO 604 43900
Luther and the Old Testament
Schreiner
This course analyzes the exegesis of that book Luther loved the most; the "Old Testament." We will be examining his commentary on Genesis, particularly the stories of Cain and Abel, Noah, Abraham, Abraham and Isaac. We will also be reading his commentary on Isaiah, selected Psalms, and sections from 2nd Samuel. These texts will provide us with central themes in Luther's thought: justification by faith, the nature of prophecy, the trials of faith, the deceptions of idolatry, and the hiddenness of God. Equally important, we will be studying Luther's texts in the context of the history of exegesis, examining his exegetical method and his unique contribution to the view of the ancient Israelites as the model for faith in the present.
Ident: HCHR 43900

THEO 604 46602
Mysticism in the 16th and 17th Centuries II
McGinn
Ident: HCHR 46602

THEO 604 50300
Seminar: Luther, Montaigne, and Shakespeare
Schreiner
This course examines three of the major figures of early modernity regarding questions about the relationship between appearance and reality, the possibility of finding truth, the knowledge of evil, the authority of experience, and the path to reality. By juxtaposing Luther, Montaigne, and Shakespeare, we will look beyond technical epistemological questions about reality in order to inhabit instead a world where questions about appearances and uncertainty are questions of experience, experience not only about what the mind can know but how the whole human being-heart, mind, will, and intellect-can understand and react to the world in which he or she lives. Each of these authors is concerned with our "experience" and how our emotions, beliefs, and actions are affected by our distance from reality. Combining these three very disparate thinkers and genres allows the student of this age to see a shared concern with reality, perspective, and truth.
Ident. HCHR 626 50200 / ENGL 225 52301

DVPR 605 34200
The Saturated Phenomenon
Marion
Beginning with Husserl and Heidegger, there will be a general exposition of the determination of any phenomenon as given, and of some of them as saturated. Consequences will be drawn for the approaches to some particular issues (the event, the self, the possibility of revelation, etc.).
This course will be a study of Emily Dickinson's poetry—both form and content—with some attention to her letters. David Tracy will take major responsibility for the course, with interdisciplinary contributions from Profs. Coe, Parks, and Clark Gilpin, who will provide the full range of expertise needed for Dickinson.

Ident: SCTH 33800, DVPR 39900, HCHR 39900, RLIT 39900

We will review the transformations of the self: from the theoretical ego (Meditation II) and the union of mind and body (Meditation VI) to the third primitive notion (Letters to Elisabeth) and the ego as generosity (Passions of the Soul). Texts: Descartes, Philosophical Works, ed. Cottingham, 2 vols. Marion, Cartesian Questions.

Ident: PHIL 24100/34100/SCTH 34500

Do not register for this course.

PQ: 1st year M.Div. students only.

This course will involve the close reading of sermon texts as practical theological discourse. In addition, students will write and deliver sermons regularly, with an emphasis on developing a variety of styles and themes.

PQ: CHRM 35600, Arts of Ministry: Preaching

An intellectual history of Christian thought from World War I to the present: from Karl Barth to liberation theologies.
HCHR 626 39900
Emily Dickinson
Tracy/Coe/Parks/Gilpin
This course will be a study of Emily Dickinson's poetry--both form and content--with some attention to her letters. David Tracy will take major responsibility for the course, with interdisciplinary contributions from Profs. Coe, Parks, and Clark Gilpin, who will provide the full range of expertise needed for Dickinson.

HCHR 626 40600
Religion in Early National and Antebellum America
Brekus
This course is a survey of American religious history from the American Revolution to the Civil War. Topics include church and state, revivalism, reform, ethnicity, and immigration, slavery, and new religious movements. Requirements: two short papers (2-3 pages each) on the weekly readings, and a final 15-page review essay. All students are also required to lead class discussion once during the quarter.

HCHR 626 42100
The Enlightenment in America
Brekus
This course examines the history of the Enlightenment in eighteenth- and nineteenth-century America. We will explore many different facets of Enlightenment thought, including new attitudes toward reason, human nature, God, social reform, and original sin. Besides the works of philosophers and clergymen, we will read lay memoirs and diaries. All students are required to write one research paper (20-25 pages) and lead class discussion once during the quarter.

HCHR 626 43900
Luther and the Old Testament
Schreiner
This course analyzes the exegesis of that book Luther loved the most; the "Old Testament." We will be examining his commentary on Genesis, particularly the stories of Cain and Abel, Noah, Abraham, Abraham and Isaac. We will also be reading his commentary on Isaiah, selected Psalms, and sections from 2nd Samuel. These texts will provide us with central themes in Luther's thought: justification by faith, the nature of prophecy, the trials of faith, the deceptions of idolatry, and the hiddenness of God. Equally important, we will be studying Luther's texts in the context of the history of exegesis, examining his exegetical method and his unique contribution to the view of the ancient Israelites as the model for faith in the present.

HCHR 626 44200
Brauer Seminar: The Western Legal Traditions and Religious Diversity
Sullivan / Kippenberg
This seminar will explore the complex and changing intersection between Western legal traditions and plural religious communities and practices. We will combine an examination of the history of the intersection and its main cases with real attention to contemporary contexts in which issues surrounding the legal regulation of religion are particularly salient. Students will be required to choose a case study of their own to complement the joint work of the seminar.

Ident. AASR 44200/HREL 44200
PQ: By application only.

HCHR 626 46602
Mysticism in the 16th and 17th Centuries II
McGinn
Ident: THEO 46602

HCHR 626 48100
The English Reformation
Gilpin
Religion in relation to English culture and politics during the sixteenth century.

HCHR 626 50200
Seminar: Luther, Montaigne, and Shakespeare
Schreiner
This course examines three of the major figures of early modernity regarding questions about the relationship between appearance and reality, the possibility of finding truth, the knowledge of evil, the authority of experience, and the path to reality. By juxtaposing Luther, Montaigne, and Shakespeare we will look beyond technical epistemological questions about reality in order to inhabit instead a world where questions about appearances and uncertainty are questions of experience, experience not only about what the mind can know but how the whole human being-heart, mind, will, and intellect-can understand and react to the world in which he or she lives. Each of these authors is concerned with our "experience" and how our emotions, beliefs, and actions are affected by our distance from reality. Combining these three very disparate thinkers and genres allows the student of this age to see a shared concern with reality, perspective, and truth.
Ident. THEO 604 50300 / ENGL 225 52301

HREL 628 31000
Islam from the Muslim World to America: Religion, Politics, and the Dynamics of Integration
Zeghal
This course concentrates on the origins and establishment of Muslim communities in the United States and its consequences on Muslim communities themselves as well as on religious life in America. Since September 11, 2001, Islam has become an object of scrutiny and discussion in American society, especially in relationship with politics. The first part of the course introduces the discourse and ideologies of modern political Islam as it was shaped in the Middle East and India-Pakistan, and on the way the relationship between Islam and Politics was designed by different ideologies (nationalism, secularism, fundamentalism, radical Islam). The second part of the course focuses on the real (or imagined)
origins of Islam in the United States, on the ethnic diversity of Muslim immigrants, and the mechanisms through which religious communities become part of "the new religious America." How do these religious communities— which have been developing through the process of immigration—fit in the religious landscape as defined by the American principle of the "wall of separation" between church and state? How does the process of migration and accommodation transform one's religious views and practices? How do the ideologies described in the first part of the course, and founded in the countries of origin, get transformed in America? How do Muslims organize their religious lives in America today and how do they define their role in the American public square?

Ident. NEHC 20910/30910

HREL 628 33600
Introduction to Chinese Buddhism: Foundational Texts and Cultic Practices
Chun-fang Yu
This course introduces students to the Chinese Buddhist tradition by focusing on some foundational scriptures and distinctive cultic practices. While this is not intended as a survey of the entire two millennia history of Chinese Buddhism, the course will provide an overall picture of the tradition by examining its major developments chronologically. It will begin with the introduction of Buddhism into China in the Latter Han and end with contemporary Buddhist revival in modern Taiwan.

HREL 628 36100
Second Year Sanskrit III: Readings in Philosophical Sanskrit
Arnold
Ident: SANS 20300

HREL 628 44200
Brauer Seminar: The Western Legal Traditions and Religious Diversity
Sullivan / Kippenberg
This seminar will explore the complex and changing intersection between Western legal traditions and plural religious communities and practices. We will combine an examination of the history of the intersection and its main cases with real attention to contemporary contexts in which issues surrounding the legal regulation of religion are particularly salient. Students will be required to choose a case study of their own to complement the joint work of the seminar.
Ident. HCHR 44200/AASR 44200
PQ: By application only.

RLIT 635 30000
Introduction to Religion and Literature
Rosengarten
This seminar first studies the specific twentieth-century phenomenon denominated variously as "Religion and the Arts," "Theology and Literature," and "Religion and Literature." It then juxtaposes specific works of art with particular critical perspectives to understand the fuller history of religion and literature and its future prospects and possibilities. The 2003 version will include major units on drama (tragic and comic), satire, lyric poetry, the novel, and the visual arts (painting, film, pictographic narrative).
This course will be a study of Emily Dickinson's poetry--both form and content--with some attention to her letters. David Tracy will take major responsibility for the course, with interdisciplinary contributions from Profs. Coe, Parks, and Clark Gilpin, who will provide the full range of expertise needed for Dickinson.

The course is an introduction to the major varieties of philosophical feminism: Liberal Feminism (Mill, Wollstonecraft, Okin, Nussbaum), Radical Feminism (MacKinnon, Dworkin), Difference Feminism (Gilligan, Held, Noddings), and Postmodern "Queer" Feminism (Rubin, Butler). After studying each of these approaches, we will focus on political and ethical problems of contemporary international feminism, asking how well each of the approaches addresses these problems.

This is a seminar/workshop most of whose participants are faculty from seven area institutions. It admits approximately ten students by permission of the instructors. Its aim is to study, each year, a topic that arises in both philosophy and the law and to ask how bringing the two fields together may yield mutual illumination. There are ten to twelve meetings throughout the year, always on Mondays from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Half of the sessions are led by local faculty, half by visiting speakers. The leader assigns readings for the session (which may be by that person, by other contemporaries, or by major historical figures), and the session consists of a brief introduction by the leader, followed by structured questioning by the two faculty coordinators, followed by a general discussion. Students write two-page papers for each meeting and a 20-25 page seminar paper at the end of the year. The course satisfies the Law School Writing Requirement. The Schedule of meetings will be announced by mid-September, and students should submit their credentials to both instructors by September 20. Past themes have included: practical reason; equality; privacy, autonomy; global justice; pluralism and toleration. The theme for the next year is War. Issues to be discussed include the justification of conflict, civil liberties during wartime, the moral psychology of conflict, and others.
Rewriting the Past: Narrative, Ritual, and Monument
Homans / Cohler
This course focuses on the manner in which we make use of the past, the personal past, the collective past, and the place of social and historical change in retelling and rewriting life-history and history. The course begins with a discussion of memory, conceptions of the personal and historic past, and such related issues as nostalgia, mourning, and the significance of commemoration in monument and ritual. These issues are explored in a number of topics including the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, high school and college reunions, the Holocaust and its representation in contemporary European society, the construction of the Israeli national tradition and the construction of Abraham Lincoln as an American story of loss and renewal. The course requirement is a paper designed in consultation with the instructors.
Ident: HUDV 27100

Introduction to Max Weber
Riesebrodt/Kippenberg
The class will offer an introduction to Weber's most important writings from all periods of his academic life. We will focus on four major themes: (1) the early texts on the decline of the Roman Empire and the agrarian question in Germany, (2) the methodological writings, (3) the Economic Ethics of the World Religions, and (4) major sections of Economy and Society.
Ident: SOCI 40110

Brauer Seminar: The Western Legal Traditions and Religious Diversity
Sullivan / Kippenberg
This seminar will explore the complex and changing intersection between Western legal traditions and plural religious communities and practices. We will combine an examination of the history of the intersection and its main cases with real attention to contemporary contexts in which issues surrounding the legal regulation of religion are particularly salient. Students will be required to choose a case study of their own to complement the joint work of the seminar.
Ident. HREL 44200/HCHR 44200
PQ: By application only.

ENGL 225 37300
(also 17200)
The Religious Lyric in England and America
Richard Strier
This course will survey the development of the religious lyric in English from Donne to Roethke or Ginsburg (and maybe beyond). Poets to be read will include: Donne, Herbert, Vaughan, Crashaw, An Collins, Ann Bradstreet, Edward Taylor, Emily Dickinson, G. M. Hopkins, T. S. Eliot, and Theodore Roethke. A mid-term explication and a final paper will be required.
ENGL 225 62200
Renaissance Intellectual Texts: Petrarch to Descartes
Richard Strier
This course will read some of the major political, religious, and philosophical texts of the Renaissance, the Protestant and Catholic Reformations, and the early seventeenth century. We will read texts by (at least) Petrarch, Leonardo Bruni, Pico della Mirandola, Erasmus, Luther, Calvin, Ignatius Loyola, St. Teresa, Montaigne, Galileo, and Descartes. The texts will be read in modern English translations, but students will be encouraged to look at Renaissance (or "early modern") translations when available, and will be encouraged to consult the texts in the original languages. All members of the class will be expected to present at least one oral report, to keep a reading journal, and to do an analytical paper.
Related Links
*