RELIGIOUS ETHICS I
RELIGIOUS AND THEOLOGICAL ETHICS

This examination has three parts constituted by three major periods of the history of Religious and Theological ethics. Its principal focus is on the relationship between religion and morality. The core of the examination bibliography is Western and thus the development and differentiation of Christian moral thinking is dominant. However, classic texts are set within and compared with other traditions (philosophical, Jewish, Islamic) that intersect and often collide throughout the centuries of Western ethics. The examination thereby has a comparative dimension and purpose.

The student is responsible for all parts of the examination. Part I and Part II A-D are set exams. Questions on authors in Part II.E. and Part III will be developed in accordance with the student's choice of readings and long-term scholarly interests in consultation with the faculty examiners.

Required Texts:

PART I: CLASSICAL RELIGIOUS AND THEOLOGICAL ETHICS

Bible: Hebrew: Exodus 19:17-23:33; Leviticus 19; Amos
New Testament: Matthew 5-7; Luke 6:20-49; Romans 12:1-15:13; I John
Qur'an: Surah 17 "The Children of Israel;" Surah 23 "The True Believers;" Surah 5 "The Feast"

Plato, *Euthyphro*

Aristotle, *Nicomachean Ethics*, bks 1, 2, 10.

Epicurus, "Epicurus to Menoeceus;" "Principal Doctrines;" "Vatican Sayings"

Epictetus, *Enchiridion*

Cicero, "On Duties (II)" in *On the Good Life*

The Didache, in *Early Christian Fathers*

Clement, "The Rich Man's Salvation;" "On Spiritual Perfection" (Stromateis, VII) in *Alexandrian Christianity*

Justin, *First Apology* in *Early Christian Fathers*

Augustine, *On the Morals of the Catholic Church*
The City of God, Books XIV and XIX.
On Grace and Free Will
On the Good of Marriage

Abelard, *Ethics*

Thomas Aquinas, *Summa Theologica*, I, qq. 5-6 (goodness and God); I-II, qq. 6 and 8, 12-13 (human acts), 26 (love), 54-55 (virtue), 61-62 (cardinal and theological virtues), 90-95, 100 (law), 106-108 (new law); II-II, qq. 25-26 (charity), 40 (war), 63 (respect), 64 (murder), 154 (sex).

al-Ghazzâlî, *Confessions*

Maimonides, *Guide to the Perplexed* in *Ethical Writings*, pp. 129-154; "Laws Concerning Character Traits" in *Ethical Writings*, pp. 27-58; Maimonides, "Eight Chapters" in *Ethical Writings*, pp. 59-104

PART II: EARLY MODERN RELIGIOUS AND THEOLOGICAL ETHICS

A. Sixteenth Century:

Martin Luther, "Sermon on the Mount" (Mt. 5:27-48), in *Luther's Works*, American ed., vol. 21:83-129; "Lectures on Galatians" (1535) (3:2), *Works*, 26:202-216; (3:16-29), 26: 298-358; "The Estate of Marriage," *Works*, 45:17-49; "The Freedom of a Christian," *Works*, 31: 337-377; "On Temporal Authority," *Works*, 45:81-129.

Thomas Müntzer, "Sermon Before the Princes," in G.H. Williams and A.M. Mergal, eds., *Spiritual and Anabaptist Writers*, pp. 47-70.

Schleitheim Confession, in John H. Leith, ed., *Creeds of the Churches*, pp. 282-292.

Menno Simons, "On the Ban," in *Spiritual and Anabaptist Writers*, pp. 261-271

John Calvin, *Institutes on the Christian Religion*, Book I chapter 2; Book II, chapters 7-9 (laws); Book III, chapter 2. i-vii, 6-8, 19 (the Christian life), Book IV, 20 (civil government).

Jesuit Moral Theology, excerpts in George Forell, ed., *Christian Social Teachings*, pp. 204-213.

B. Seventeenth Century:

B. Pascal, *Provincial Letters*, 4-15.

B. Spinoza, *Ethics* Part I (Concerning God); Part V (On the Power of Understanding, or of Human Freedom)

C. Eighteenth Century:

Joseph Butler, *Sermons.*

Jonathan Edwards, *The Nature of True Virtue*

Immanuel Kant, *Critique of Practical Reason*

D. Nineteenth Century:

F.D.E. Schleiermacher, *Christian Ethics*, selections, trans. James Brandt

Søren Kierkegaard, *Works of Love*

F. D. Maurice, *Social Morality*

Leo XIII, *Rerum Novarum*

E. Twentieth Century: Select Three

Walter Rauschenbusch, *Theology for The Social Gospel*

Pius XI, *Quadragesimo Anno*

John XXIII, "Mater et Magistra," "Pacem in Terris," and "Gaudium et Spes" in *Renewing the Earth: Catholic Documents on Peace, Justice and Liberation*, David O'Brien and Thomas Shannon, eds.

Kenneth Kirk, *Conscience and Its Problems*

Karl Barth, *The Humanity of God*

Karl Rahner, "On the Question of a Formal Existential Ethics," and "The Dignity and Freedom of Man," *Theological Investigations II*; "The 'Commandment' of Love in Relation to the Other Commandments," *Theological Investigations V;* "Reflections on the Unity of the Love of Neighbor and the Love of God," *Theological Investigations VI*.

Martin Buber, *I and Thou*

Georgia Harkness, *The Remaking of a Liberal Theologian* (selected essays, ed. Rebekah Miles)

Abdolkarim Soroush. *Reason, Freedom, and Democracy in Islam*

H. Richard Niebuhr, *The Responsible Self*

Reinhold Niebuhr, *Moral Man and Immoral Society*

Paul Tillich, *Morality and Beyond*

Martin Luther King, Jr., *Strength To Love* and "Letter from Birmingham Jail"

Beverly Harrison, *Making the Connections*

Katie Cannon, *Black Womanist Ethics*

John Paul II, *Veritatis Splendor*

Holmes Rolston, *Environmental Ethics: Duties to and Values in the Natural World*

PART III: CONTEMPORARY RELIGIOUS AND THEOLOGICAL ETHICS

The following names are only suggestions; students are to identify two authors in consultation with the faculty. Students may also draw from authors listed in Part IIE.

Stanley Harakas, Bernard Häring, Gustavo Gutierrez, Joseph Fuchs, K.E. Kirk, James Gustafson, John Howard Yoder, Paul Ramsey, Margaret Farley, John Courtney Murray, Stanley Hauerwas, Rudolf Bultmann, James Cone, Emmanuel Levinas, Charles Curran, Richard McCormick, Ronald Green, Seyyed Hossein Nasr, Benedict XVI

Recommended Texts and Surveys:

Albert Jonsen and Stephen Toulmin, *The Abuse of Casuistry: A History of Moral Reasoning*
G. F. Hourana, *Reason and Tradition in Islamic Ethics*
Kenneth E. Kirk, *The Vision of God*
John Mahoney, *The Making of Moral Theology*
Peter Paris, *The Social Teaching of the Black Churches*
Servais Pinckaers, *Les sources de la moral chrétienne*
Ernst Troeltsch, *The Social Teachings of the Christian Churches*
Robert Bellah, *Religion in Human Evolution*