

## POLITICAL THEOLOGY: PROMISE AND PROSPECTS

### *Travel/Lodging Scholarship Application and Conference Schedule*

In recent years political theology has garnered much interest in the world of theology and religious studies; it has made a name for itself as an area worthy of separate attention and requiring or mobilizing specific interdisciplinary skills and qualifications. Current developments in the US and across the globe have only made scholars more aware of the need to reflect on the intersection of religion and politics, theology and justice. This richness of the field, which not only draws on multiple religious traditions but also allows for a shake-up of center and margin inside individual traditions, is part of its great appeal for current and future scholars of religion. Its openness to fields outside of religious studies combined with its commitment to the informed public understanding of religion makes it an area of wide scholarly appeal while allowing at the same time for meaningful debates with religious leaders. Political theology's innovative strengths are on full display in the journal *Political Theology*, in the work of the newly founded AAR session on Political theology, and in the lively Political Theology Network (<https://politicaltheology.com>).

Given its decades long commitment to the public understanding of religion, the Martin Marty Center is pleased to announce that it will hold a conference on political theology from Wednesday November 7 through Friday November 9. The conference will bring together scholars from different universities, nationalities and religious backgrounds. Among the conference's distinguished presenters, there is: Jeffrey Stout, David Nirenberg, Ebrahim Moosa, Mona Siddiqui, Rev. Kelly Brown Douglas, and Hent de Vries. Keen to avoid traditional paradigms and fixed ideologies, this University of Chicago conference asks each speaker to formulate from their specialty and perspective what they think political theology is and can be, including how it ought to be studied and how the field could develop further.

Registration for the conference is free, and all sessions will be held in the Divinity School's Swift Hall.

Thanks to the generous support of the Lumen Christi Institute, the Martin Marty Center is pleased to offer limited travel scholarships and/or affordable lodging opportunities to students planning to attend the conference.

**Eligibility:** Scholarships are available to current PhD students and advanced Master's students in a relevant field.

**To apply:** please submit (1) your current CV, (2) a 500-word personal statement discussing how the subject of the conference relates to your work, and (3) a letter of recommendation from a faculty member at your current institution (optional).

**Deadline:** Please email your completed application to [politicaltheology@uchicago.edu](mailto:politicaltheology@uchicago.edu) by September 15, 2018. Please include "Political Theology Travel/Lodging Scholarship Application" in the subject line of the email. Recipients will be notified by September 27.

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## *Conference Schedule*

All presentations will be given in the Swift Hall Third Floor Lecture Room.

The opening reception (open to the public) and midday luncheons (for speakers only) will be held in the Swift Hall Common Room.

### **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7TH**

OPENING ADDRESS

**5:00 - 6:30 PM**

**Jeffrey Stout** (Princeton University)  
"Religion within the Bounds of Justice"  
*Reception to follow.*

### **THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH**

PREMODERN AND MODERN TENSIONS

**8:30 – 10:00 AM**

**Augustine on the Personal, the Public, and the Political**  
Matthew Drever (University of Tulsa), *The Body of Christ and the Body Politic in Augustine*  
Sean Hannan (McEwan University), *Love as an Anti-Political Force in Augustine and Hannah Arendt*

**10:15 – 11:45 AM**

**E. Kantorowicz and the Body Politic**  
David Nirenberg (University of Chicago), *The Judaism of Politics (with a nod to Kantorowicz)*  
Ryan Coyne (University of Chicago), *Dignity and the Mystical Body: Kantorowicz's Response to Political Theology*

**12:00 – 1:30 PM**

**Political Augustinianism: De Lubac and Gilson**  
Florian Michel (Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne), *Étienne Gilson on Political Theology: the Metamorphoses of the City of God (1930s-1950s)*  
Emilie Tardivel-Schick (Institut Catholique de Paris), *Henri de Lubac and the Critique of "Political Augustinianism"*

*Lunch (1:30 – 2:30 PM)*

ISLAMIC CONFIGURATIONS

**2:30 – 4:00 PM**

**Islamic Legal History**

Junaid Quadri (University of Illinois at Chicago), *Religion, Secularity and Islamic Law: Conceptual Reconfigurations in Colonial Egypt*

Jawad Qureshi (Zaytuna College), *The Political Thought and Practice of a Syrian Religious Scholar: Said Ramadan al-Buti (1929-2013) on Jihad and the Baathist State*

**4:30 – 6:30 PM**

**Politics, Religion and Authority in Islam**

Mona Siddiqui (University of Edinburgh), *Doing God in Europe: The Limits of Law and Pluralism*

Ebrahim Moosa (University of Notre Dame), *Rereading Shari'a: Political Theology of the Public Good*

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9TH**

HUMAN RIGHTS, RACE, AND POLITICAL  
THEOLOGY

**8:30 – 10:00 AM**

**Perspectives in Latin-American Theology**

Santiago Piñón (Texas Christian University), *The God Who Fails Los Desaparecidos: A Political Theology of Migration*

Peter Casarella (University of Notre Dame), *Reinterpreting the Political latinamente: Communion and the Common Good*

**10:15 – 11:45 AM**

**The Phenomenology of Race**

Andrea White (Union Theological Seminary), *Sanctified Violence and Liturgies of Race*

Vincent Lloyd (Villanova University), *God the Black Father*

**12:00 – 1:30 PM**

**Theology Amidst Global Political Pressures: A Panel Discussion**

Dwight Hopkins (University of Chicago)

Rev. Kelly Brown Douglas (Episcopal Divinity School at Union Theological Seminary)

*Lunch (1:30 – 2:30 PM)*

CONCLUDING LECTURE

**2:30 – 3:30 PM**

**New Horizons in Political Theology: Beyond the Critique**

Hent de Vries (New York University), *From Divine Economy to Political Spirituality*