

**ST. NORBERT COLLEGE
FALL 2017
ALBUQUERQUE, NM**



SYLLABUS:

Christology (THEO 505N))

Fridays, 6-9 p.m. Sept. 15, 29, Oct. 6, 27

Saturdays, 9-4 p.m. Sept 16, 30, Oct 7, 28

Santa Maria de la Vid Abbey, The Norbertine Library Seminar Room

INSTRUCTORS:

Rev. Dr. Frank Yates, D.Min

Home Phone: 822-8234

Cell Phone: 681-0625

frankyatesnm@gmail.com

GUEST LECTURER:

Howard Ebert, Ph.D.

Office Phone: (920) 403-3956

Home Phone: (920) 339-8305

E-mail: howard.ebert@snc.edu

REQUIRED TEXTS

Borg, Marcus J. and N.T. Wright. **The Meaning of Jesus: Two Visions**

New York: HarperCollins, 2007, second edition.

(Also acceptable is the first edition published in 1999)

Fiorenza, Francis Schussler and Galvin, John P. **Systematic Theology.**

Vol I. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1991.

(Also acceptable is the 2011 edition)

Johnson, Elizabeth A. **Consider Jesus.** New York: Crossroads, 1990.

Levine, Amy-Jill, **Short Stories by Jesus: The Enigmatic Parables of a Controversial Rabbi.** New York: HarperOne, 2014.

Migliore, Daniel L. **Faith Seeking Understanding.** Grand Rapids, Michigan: William Eerdmans, 2004, second edition.

OPTIONAL TEXTS

The New Oxford Annotated Bible, NRSV, An Ecumenical Study Bible

Catechism of the Catholic Church, Second Edition, 2003.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The central question of all Christian theology is Jesus' challenge to his disciples, "Who do you say that I am?" The Christian community in every age has explored that question and attempted to answer it in light of Scripture, Tradition, and human experience. This course will examine answers ancient and modern that the church has given to that question through her two thousand years of history.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course will:

- *Examine the distinctive characteristics of and the interrelationship between the Earthly Jesus, the Jesus of History, and the Christ of Faith.
- *Examine various Scriptural, confessional and dogmatic presentations of Christology
- *Investigate the sources, characteristics and controversies of ancient and contemporary Christological thought
- *Encourage participants to articulate a personal Christology to inform their ministry in their particular context

ACADEMIC HONOR CODE

The learning process succeeds only when students perform honestly on assignments and examinations. All students are expected to abide by the Academic Honor Code. It defines academic dishonesty and sets forth the responsibilities of faculty and students in the event of alleged dishonesty. Possible penalties for dishonesty include reduction of a grade, failure in the course, failure and suspension, or failure and dismissal from the program. Please refer to the St. Norbert College Student Handbook for the text of the Academic Honor Code.

SERVICES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

In keeping with the St. Norbert College mission to help students develop their full potential and in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the College provides supportive services to students with disabilities. For inquiries and further details, contact the Coordinator of Services to Students with Disabilities by visiting the website listed below:

www.snc.edu/academicssupport/disabilities.html.

CLASS STRUCTURE AND ATTENDANCE

This course is structured primarily along the lines of a seminar. Active participation of all students is required. The emphasis on discussion in this class is meant to provide a forum for critical analyses and for interaction among the students and professor. There will be lectures and discussions led by the professors and presentations led by students of selected material.

Attendance is extremely important in such a compressed schedule. If the student absolutely must miss class time, the student needs to notify the professor by email of the reason for the absence. Please make every effort to attend all the sessions of this seminar.

READING ASSIGNMENTS

Sept. 15-16 Jesus: Historical Foundation

Johnson Chapters 2-3 (pp. 19-47)
Borg/Wright pp. vii-107
Fiorenza/Galvin pp. 258-264, 279-291
Levine pp. 1-76

Assignment:

1. Before class complete the above listed readings.
2. Write a three-page summary/reflection paper on the major themes in the readings and bring it to class. Use approximately two pages to give an overview of the major ideas of the four assigned readings and one page for your analysis and opinion of this work.
3. Be prepared to write a one to two page reflection paper at the conclusion of the Saturday class on how your Christology has been shaped by our weekend of reflections together.

Sept. 29-30 Jesus: Resurrection and Early Christian Understanding

Borg/Wright pp. 111-204
Fiorenza/Galvin pp. 291-303
Levine pp. 117-212, 267-305
Migliore pp. 191-196, 370-383

Assignment:

1. Before class complete the above listed readings.
2. Write a three-page summary/reflection paper on the major themes in the three readings and bring it to class. Use approximately two pages to give an overview of the major ideas of the assigned readings and one page for your analysis and opinion of this work.
3. Be prepared to write a one to two page reflection paper at the conclusion of the Saturday class on how your Christology has been shaped by our weekend of reflections together.
4. Students will give 10-15 minute presentations on particular chapters from the Borg/Wright or Levine readings.

Oct. 6-7 Jesus in Classical and Contemporary Perspectives

Johnson pp. ix-17, 67-146
Fiorenza/Galvin pp. 264-278
Levine pp. 213-265
Migliore pp. 209-212

Assignment:

1. Before class complete the above listed readings.
2. Write a three-page summary/reflection paper on the major themes in the four readings and bring it to class. Use approximately two pages to give an overview of the major ideas of the assigned readings and one page for your analysis and opinion of this work.
3. Be prepared to write a one to two page reflection paper at the conclusion of the Saturday class on how your Christology has been shaped by our weekend of reflections together.
4. Students will give 10-15 minute presentations on particular chapters from the Levine readings.

Oct. 27-28 Jesus in Contemporary Perspectives

Borg/Wright pp. 207-250

Fiorenza/Galvin pp. 303-312

Special Reading on Contemporary Catholic Perspectives-TBA

Migliore pp. 197-209, 212-222

Assignment

1. Before class complete the above listed readings.
2. Write a three-page summary/reflection paper on the major themes in the assigned readings and bring it to class. Use approximately two pages to give an overview of the major ideas of the assigned readings and one page for your analysis and opinion of these works.
3. Be prepared to write a one to two page reflection paper at the conclusion of the Saturday class on how your Christology has been shaped by our weekend of reflections together.
4. Students will give 10-15 minute presentations on the chapter in Borg/Wright.

FINAL PAPER DUE NOV. 27

A 10-12 page paper, typed, double spaced (using the format outlined in the Chicago Manual of Style) focusing on either:

1. A particular issue in Christology raised in our course this fall. You can pursue an issue of interest to you with the approval of the professor.

OR

2. A book review of a particular text on Christology agreed upon with the professors. (Many possible texts on Christology are referred to at the end of each chapter in Elizabeth Johnson's **Consider Jesus**. Furthermore, the professors will bring many

books for you to choose from. If you have a text in mind, email the text to us at the above address and we will be glad to consider it. It would be wise to decide upon this book as soon as possible. Please do email us with your choice of a text.) A book review format will be provided for you at our first class.

EVALUATION:

Participation and Attendance..... 8% (1% per class)

Four Summary/Reflection Papers.....36% (8% per paper)

Four In class Reflection Papers.....16% (3% per paper)

One Classroom Presentation..... 5%

Final Paper.....35%

GRADING:

Grades will be awarded using the St. Norbert system of: A, AB, BC, C, DC, F. As a student you have a right to receive an explanation of your grade.