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## RELS 211-01, Contemporary Theology

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## 211 - CONTEMPORARY THEOLOGY

### *SCHEDULE OF READINGS AND COURSE REQUIREMENTS*

SEMESTER I - 1998-99  
9:40 - 11:10, Tu,Th; 325 B  
PROFESSOR MICHAEL MCLAIN  
Office: 413 Clough; office hours, 3-5 Tu, W.

#### **TEXTS:**

1. C. S. Lewis, Mere Christianity (MC)
2. John Cobb and David Griffin, Process Theology: an introductory exposition.
3. Xerox materials. Purchase from Rhodes College bookstore.

#### **MOVIES:**

1. "Dead Man Walking" (View outside of class before Sept. 16)
2. "Romero" (View outside of class before

#### **ASSIGNMENTS:**

##### Orthodox Christianity and Classical Theism

<i>August</i>	27	Introduction
<i>September</i>	1	MC: Preface, BK. 1
	3	MC: BK. 2; "Christ and Salvation," "NT Christological Passages"(X)
	8	MC: BK. 2 - continued; R. Swinburne, "The Christian Scheme of Salvation"(X)
	10	MC: BK. 3
	15	Interlude: Punishment, Divine and Human
	17	MC: BK. 3 - continued
		<i>Paper Due in Class</i>
	22	MC: BK. 4 - sections 1-6; Xerox

##### Ancient and Modern Worldviews

	24	Bultmann, "Jesus Among the Historians" "Portraits of Jesus..."(X)
	29	Bultmann, "New Testament Mythology"
<i>October</i>	1	Bultmann, continued

## 6 TEST

### A Revisionist Theology

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- 8 Tillich, "The Eternal Now", "Loneliness and Solitude"(X)
  - 13 Tillich, "Being, Nonbeing, and Anxiety"(X)
  - 15 Tillich, "Symbols of Faith"(X)
  - Tillich, "You are Accepted," "The Depth of Existence"(X)

FALL RECESS OCTOBER 16-21.

### Second Christianity

- 22 Hick: Chapter 1 and Introduction(X)
- 27 Hick: Chapter 2, and pp. 102-109(X)
- 29 Hick: Chapter 5, pp. 93-102; Hick: Chapter 6, "Death"(X)
- November 3 TEST

### Process Theology and Neoclassical Theism

- 5 Cobb, chps. 1, 2, 5.
- 10 Cobb, chps. 3, 6.
- 12 Cobb, chps. 4, 7, 9

### Recent Trends

#### Biblical Literalism/Fundamentalism

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- 11 Film: *The Glory and the Power*
  - 13 "Fighting Back: Protestant Fundamentalism in the United States"
  - 15 "The Fundamentals of Fundamentalism;" Schaeffer, "The God

WhoIs

#### Latin American Liberation Theology

[The movie *Romero* must be viewed outside of class before April 12]

- 18 Discussion of *Romero* and Brown, pp. 1-50.
- 20 Gutierrez, "God's Revelation and Proclamation in History, "
- Brown, pp. 51-88
- 22 No Class
- 25 No Class
- December 2 Brown, pp. 89-127

### Feminist Theology

- 4 C. S. Lewis, "Priestesses in the Church?;" Ziegler, "Hierarchy and..."
- 6 Fiorenza, "Women in the Early Christian Movement," "Feminist Spirituality, Christian Identity, and Catholic Vision"

### Christian Uniqueness

- 9 Hick, "Christianity and Other Religions," "The Soteriological...," "Salvation/Liberation..."
- 11 Hick, continued. Review.

### Final Exam

## REQUIREMENTS FOR THE COURSE

- 1. Students are required to read all assignments. Participation in class constitutes 5% of grade.
- 2. Take two tests. Each constitutes 20% of grade.
- 3. Take a final exam. 35% of grade.
- 4. One paper, 5 pages. 20% of grade.

## ENCOURAGEMENTS

- 1. Students are required to attend class. A written notice of absence must be given. More than two (2) absences will result in a conversation with the instructor. More than three (3) absences will lower the grade by one half a letter.
- 2. Students are expected to do the readings assigned for the day before class and participate in discussions.

3. Students are encouraged to be of good cheer, stout heart.
4. You will probably impress the professor by feigning an interest in his class; you will definitely impress the professor by giving good reasons for points you make in class!

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