

Theological Foundations / THEO 100-01

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[DAY], [TIME]

[SEMESTER]

Primary Purposes:

Introduce students to theology.

Foster an environment of mutual respect and understanding.

Secondary Purpose:

Foster theological and biblical literacy.

Skills developed/acquired:

Clear communication

Understanding the viewpoints of others

Agreeing to disagree

Analytical reading

Cursory reading

Driving Questions:

What is theology?

Does God exist? If so, what is God like?

What is the meaning of life?

Who are you? (As a student? As a person? As a being in light of eternity?)

How do you deal with other people? (Your friends, your enemies)

Can anyone know the answers to the above questions? If so, how do they know?

Core Course Values: (basis for written work and presentations)

Respect

Honesty

Compassion

Readiness to listen

Clarity of self-expression

Inquisitiveness

Creativity

Relevance

Accuracy

Diligence

Texts

Mueller et al's *Theological Foundations* and the Bible. Please choose an academic study bible of a non-paraphrase translation. Examples: the NIV Study Bible, the ESV Study Bible, the Catholic Study Bible, the Harper Collins Study Bible.

Format:

Open-ended discussion

Interactive lecture

Attendance Policy:

Every absence beyond two unexcused absences will result in the loss of one full letter grade.

Coursework

10%	Reading quizzes	Given toward the beginning of <u>each course meeting</u> , the instructor will ask one question, either a) specific verbiage from the core readings for the day or b) general information (names, places, flow of narrative, main ideas) from either the core readings or from the “skim readings.” *Grade will be pass/fail each quiz. Quizzes also form the basis for determining attendance. Always bring blank paper for the quiz and write your name clearly on it for full credit.
20%	Weekly contribution	Student will contribute to class discourse every week by a) providing at least 3 comments or questions during class discussion OR b) creating at least 1 post (200+ words) and replying to at least 2 others’ on Blackboard or on a blog.
20%	Project	Student must <u>choose one of the following</u> a) produce an in-class presentation (10-15 minutes) <i>scheduled in advance on a relevant class day, counts as that week’s “contribution” as well</i> b) write a reflection paper (5-7 pages) <i>due XXX</i>
20%	Midterm	<i>Handed out XXX</i> <i>Due XXX</i>
30%	Final	<i>Handed out XXX</i> <i>Due XXX</i> The Midterm and Final will both be open note, open book, and take-home.
+0-5%	Last-minute Extra-credit	Students with a border-line final grade may qualify to do an end-of-semester project to raise their grade. Students who do not need the credit receive the reward of free time. <i>Announced XXX</i>

Reading Schedule

Core readings (+ “skim readings” in parentheses)

1. Old Testament

Genesis 1-4 (5-11), 12 (13-14), 15 (16), 17-18 (19-20), 21-22 (23-31), 32 (33-50)
Exodus (1-2), 3 (4-15), 19-20
Leviticus 16 (17-18), 19
Psalms 1, 139
Mueller Ch. 1

PROJECT PROPOSAL DUE

2. Judaism

Joshua (1-6)
Judges (1-3)
1 Samuel (3-8), (15-18)
2 Samuel 7, 11-12
1 Kings (6-11)
Isaiah 6-7, 61-65
Ecclesiastes 1-12
Mueller Ch. 8

3. – 4. New Testament / Christology

Mark 1-16
Matthew (1-3), 4-7
Luke (1-3), 4-7
John 1-3 (4-9), 20
Psalm 22, 23
Romans 1-4
Mueller Ch. 2 -3

MIDTERM

5. Church

Romans 5-8 (9-16)
Mueller Ch. 4

6. Sacraments

1 Corinthians 1-16
Psalm 139
Mueller Ch. 5
subunit: vocation

7. Morality

James 1-5
1 John 1-5
Mueller Ch. 6
subunit: suffering/Buddhism

8. Islam

John 10-17 (18-21)

Mueller Ch. 9

9. Social Justice

Malachi 1-4

Luke 8-20 (21-23), 24

Mueller Ch. 7

*subunit: ethical case-study/Hinduism

10. Global Christianity

Acts 1-4 (5-6), 7-9, 17

Revelation 1-7 (8-19), 20-22

Mueller Ch. 10

FINAL

PAPERS DUE (for students not doing presentations)