

THE CONTENT OF THIS DESCRIPTION IS NOT A LEARNING CONTRACT AND THE INSTRUCTOR IS NOT BOUND TO IT. IT IS OFFERED IN GOOD FAITH AND INTENDED AS A HELPFUL GUIDE TO THE STUDENT. THE OFFICIAL COURSE SYLLABUS WILL BE PROVIDED AT THE FIRST CLASS.

=====

**TITLE:** "CREATION, ANTHROPOLOGY, SIN"

**TERM:** F **YEAR:** 20119 [September to December 2011]

**PROFESSOR:** CHARLES ANANG

**REGISTRATION:** UNLIMITED

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

*Theology of creation; the human person in its created existence in the image of Christ; origin of humankind; doctrine of original sin.*

*This course seeks to examine more profoundly questions regarding origin, nature, place, and mission of man and of his world, and of his relationship to his Creator. Conscious of two "creations" in the plan of God, man seeks to fulfill his destiny that will be fulfilled in a second creation in Christ (see "Grace and Glory" course) in the context of the world today.*

**CLASS OBJECTIVES:**

Students are asked through the two Exams, and to a lesser extent in the Synthesis, to demonstrate an Understanding of:

- Christ as the hermeneutical key to Creation and redemption in the two creations (GS 22): created in the image of Christ; Christ as key in critical New Testament texts.
- The Key learnings of Gen 1-3 that explains the Creator, Creative activity, and creation.
- Man as the summit of creation as image of God and ruler of universe as reflected in: Genesis and 6 Constitutive elements.
- Man's unconditional and reciprocal love as preparation for communion in Trinity as developed in Pope John Paul II's Theology of the Body.
- Evolution: the current developments and the compatibility of evolution with faith; how a Christian vision, like that of T. de Chardin, could in the main reconcile Christ and evolution.
- Primordial Sin as a rupture with God that undermines all other links; Original sin as legacy that separates all from God; the meaning and role of Personal sin in its three primary dimensions, their consequences, and the need for redemption.
- Angels as the other order of creation that parallels and are intertwined with man's history.

**PREREQUISITES:**

This course presupposes that the student has either studied or is currently taking a course on Christology; other interested students should see the instructor.

**REQUIRED TEXTS:**

- Jose Morales, *Creation Theology*, Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2001.
- Hans Urs von Balthasar, *A Theology of History*, San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 1994
- [ Helpful: Joseph Ratzinger. *In the Beginning...: A Catholic Understanding of the Creation and the Fall*. Edinburgh, T & T Clark 1995 ]

## POSSIBLE ASSIGNMENTS/PRESENTATIONS/TESTS:

**Oral Exam:** 50% (15 mins, 3 Questions): (A) 2 questions from lecture Questions, (B) 1 question to demonstrate knowledge of assigned Readings - Dec 13, 2011

**Participation** 10 %

**Midterm Test** 20% (Oct 18, 2011)

**Mini-Synthesis** 20% (4 pages, due Nov 8, 2011)

Mini-Synthesis (Christ and history): Hans Urs von Balthasar, *A Theology of History* ("The Inclusion of History within the Life of Christ" & "Christ the Norm of History"), 51-111 ("Introduction" is helpful). Write a 4 page (double-spaced, 12 font) synthesis. What is his main thesis or vision, how does he demonstrate it?

## ABRIDGED BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Robinson, Daniel N., & Gladys Sweeney, Richard Gill. *Human Nature in its Wholeness: A Roman Catholic Perspective*. Washington, DC: Catholic University of America Press, 2006.

International Theological Commission. "Communion and Stewardship: Human Persons Created in the Image of God." *Origins*, 34 (15): 233, 235-248 (Sep 23 2004).

John Paul II. "Original Unity of Man and Woman: Catechesis on the Book of Genesis," in *Theology of the Body: Human Love in the Divine Plan*. Boston: Daughters of St. Paul, 1997.

Prokes, Mary Timothy, *Toward a Theology of the Body*, Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2005.

Morales, Jose. *Creation Theology*. Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2001.

von Balthasar, Hans Urs. *Theodrama II: Dramatis Personae: Man in God*. San Francisco, Ignatius Press, 1990.

von Balthasar, Hans Urs. *Theology of History*, San Francisco, Ignatius Press, 1963.

Gilkey, Langdon, *Maker of Heaven and Earth: the Christian Doctrine of Creation in Light of Modern Knowledge*, Doubleday, N.Y., 1965.

Danielou, Jean. *The Angels and their Mission according to the Fathers of the Church*, Allen, Texas: Newman Press, 1957.

Dubay, Thomas. *The Evidential Power of Beauty: Science and Theology Meet*, San Francisco, Ignatius Press, 1999.

Schmaus, Michael. *Dogma 2: God and Creation*, London: Sheed & Ward, 1988.