

PMIN 201: Theological Foundations for Ministry

Rev. Simon C. Kim, PhD

FALL 2023: September 16 - November 18

Saturday Classes 9 AM – 3 PM: September 16, October 14, and November 18 (SCU Campus)

Online: Tuesdays 6 – 8:15 PM

Office Hours Online by Appointment

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(949) 414-5352 (text only)

Course Description

This course examines the transmission and reception of the Christian faith during different moments of the lived tradition. In this introductory course, students will be exposed to different theological disciplines and the voices that emerged from various pastoral concerns while learning to reflect on the lessons of the past as well as the implications on approaches to their pastoral ministry. Thus, the exploration of diverse faith expressions and the manner of articulation in a wider context allows for a better understanding of credo developments in attempting to resolve certain pastoral challenges. Since pastoral ministry begins with the lived experience of the faith that is in constant dialogue with the culture that it inhabits, theology is necessary to better understand that encounter. Such reflections are necessary since a proper foundation is derived from ongoing reflections on the mysteries of the Triune God, Church, Sacraments, etc. as they are received and transmitted from one generation to the next. (A foundational theology course; 4 units).

Required Texts

- Fredrick C. Bauerschmidt & James J. Buckley, *Catholic Theology: An Introduction* (Wiley Blackwell, 2016).
- Alister E. McGrath, *The Christian Theology Reader*, 5th Edition (Wiley Blackwell, 2016).
 - Available online at SCU Library
- Kathleen Cahalan, *Introducing the Practice of Ministry* (Liturgical Press, 2010).
- Other Assigned Readings (pdfs) available on Camino

Expected Learning Outcomes (1: Theological Foundation, 2: Pastoral Proficiency)

- Students will demonstrate theological acumen in various disciplines by identifying the context and concerns throughout salvation history and critically evaluating specific authors for modern understanding of the tenets of the faith (1);
- Connect the historical development of the lived tradition in church teachings and pastoral concerns (1 & 2);
- Identify differences within the Christian Tradition through certain theological positioning (1);
- Embrace cultural expressions in theological reflections through the investigation of local Christian practices (2);
- Integrate a theological perspective of the poor and the marginalized on pastoral issues (2).

Topics

- Credo beliefs in a Triune God
- Theological writings of the Patristic, Scholastic, and Contemporary periods
- Theological voices within the Catholic tradition and from other faith expressions
- Cultural and religious identities based on worship and practice
- Ongoing pastoral challenges and generational implications

Course Expectations

Intellectual Engagement: 10%

This seminar-style course requires students to actively participate by reading all assigned materials before the beginning of class. Attendance is only a precondition for participation since intellectual engagement will be measured by your consistent, dynamic contributions to our class discussions, as evidenced by prompt attendance with the assigned readings completed in advance; serious and courteous discussion of assigned texts and lecture topics; and respectful engagement of classmates and instructor. A satisfactory intellectual engagement grade will not be achieved simply by offering opinions not found in the assigned readings. Thus, students are expected to prepare for classes by critically reading all assigned texts.

Student Presentations on Assigned Readings: 15%

Students will present their analysis of one of the assigned sections from McGrath's *Christian Theology Reader*. This brief (5-7 minutes) presentation should highlight the content of the selected readings as well as the rationale for why this is a concern for the wider church. In addition, a connection to today's pastoral situation should also be made (lessons applicable to ministry today).

Quaestio Disputata Paper: 25%

Theological inquiry papers are 6-8 pages in length (typed, double-spaced, 12-point Times New Roman font, Turabian citations) highlighting two differing theological perspectives/authors throughout the Christian Tradition. Paper outlines will be reviewed in class. No late paper submissions will be accepted without prior approval.

Pastoral Presentation: 25%

Students will present an issue in pastoral ministry experienced within their parish community. A rationale of why this is a pastoral challenge for the wider church, how to appeal to the Christian Tradition (based on your *Quaestio Disputata* research), and what a realistic pastoral corrective is moving forward should all be part of the class presentation.

Spiritual Autobiography Papers: 25%

Spiritual Autobiography are 6-8 pages in length (typed, double-spaced, 12-point Times New Roman font). The Spiritual/Religious Autobiography is an opportunity for you to reflect upon your personal spirituality and cultural traditions. This autobiography is an opportunity for you to articulate a personal experience using the Cahalan's text on pastoral ministry. Paper outlines will be reviewed in class. No late paper submissions will be accepted without prior approval.

Tenative Course Outline

9/16 Santa Clara, CA (Saturday 9 am – 3 pm)

Introduction to Practical Theology and Pastoral Ministry (*Foundational Theology*)

- Bauerschmidt & Buckley, *Nature & Sources of Catholic Theology* (Chapter 1)
- Selections from McGrath, *Introduction* (Chapter 1), *The Sources of Theology* (Chapter 2)
- Cahalan, *The Call & Practice of Christian Discipleship* (Chapter 1)

Sacred Scripture (*Biblical Theology*)

- Genesis 1-3 (NABRE); Nahum Sarna, *Introducing Genesis* (PDF on Camino)
- Bauerschmidt & Buckley, *Creation and Fall* (Chapter 3)
- Selections from McGrath, *Human Nature, Sin, and Grace* (Chapter 6)

Quaestio Disputata Introduction & Bibliography Due Sept. 22, 2023

9/26 The Church, Mary, and the Communion of Saints (*Ecclesiology*)

- Bauerschmidt & Buckley, *The Church* (Chapter 6)
- Selections from McGrath, *The Church* (Chapter 7)
- Johnson, *Communion of Saints and Mary* (PDF on Camino)
- Cahalan, *Charisms and Vocation in the Christian Life* (Chapter 2)

10/3 Triune God (*Doctrine of God*)

- Bauerschmidt & Buckley, *God* (Chapter 2)
- Selections from McGrath, *The Doctrine of God* (Chapter 3)
- Cahalan, *Leadership in the Christian Community* (Chapter 3)

10/10 Jesus of History (*Christology*)

- Bauerschmidt & Buckley, *Jesus Christ* (Chapter 4)
- Selections from McGrath, *The Person of Christ* (Chapter 4)
- Cahalan, *Jesus and the Spirit's Charism in Relationship to the Six Practices of Ministry* (Chapter 4)

10/14 **Santa Clara, CA (Saturday 9 am – 3 pm)**

Christ of Faith (*Christology*)

- Selections from McGrath, *Salvation in Christ* (Chapter 5)

Holy Spirit (*Pneumatology*)

- Bauerschmidt & Buckley, *Spirit of Holiness* (Chapter 5)
- Cahalan, *Understanding Ministry as Practice* (Chapter 5)

Quaestio Disputata Papers Due Oct. 24

10/31 **Student Presentations**

11/7 **Student Presentations**

11/14 Sacraments (*Sacramental/Liturgical Theology*)

- Bauerschmidt & Buckley, *The Seven Sacraments* (Chapter 8)
- Selections from McGrath, *The Sacrament* (Chapter 8)
- Cahalan, *Learning to Practice Ministry* (Chapter 6)

11/18 **Santa Clara, CA (Saturday 9 am – 3 pm)**

Virtue Ethics (*Moral Theology*)

- Selections from William Mattison's, *Introducing Moral Theology: True Happiness and the Virtues* (PDF on Camino)
- Cahalan, *The Practice of the Trinity* (Chapter 7)

Last Things (*Eschatology*)

- Bauerschmidt & Buckley, *The End* (Chapter 10);
- Selections from McGrath, *The Last Things* (Chapter 10)

Spiritual Autobiographies Due Nov. 19

SCU Policies

Academic Integrity

The Academic Integrity pledge is an expression of the University's commitment to fostering an understanding of – and commitment to – a culture of integrity at Santa Clara University. The Academic Integrity pledge, which applies to all students, states: I am committed to being a person of integrity. I pledge, as a member of the Santa Clara University community, to abide by and uphold the standards of academic integrity contained in the Student Conduct Code.

Students are expected to uphold the principles of this pledge for all work in this class. Violations include plagiarism, cheating, outsourcing, and destruction of library or other materials needed for a course. Students found to have engaged in any form of academic dishonesty will, at the least, receive zero points for the piece of work concerned. For more information about Santa Clara University's academic integrity pledge and resources about ensuring academic integrity in your work, see www.scu.edu/academic-integrity.

Office of Accessible Education

If you have a disability for which accommodations may be required in this class, please contact the Office of Accessible Education (OAE), Benson 216, <http://www.scu.edu/oe> as soon as possible to discuss your needs and register for accommodations with the University. If you have already arranged accommodations through the OAE, please discuss them with me during my office hours. Students who have medical needs related to pregnancy may also be eligible for accommodations. While I am here to assist you in any way I can, I am unable to provide accommodations until I have received verification from OAE. The OAE will work with students and faculty to arrange proctored exams for students whose accommodations include double time for exams and/or assisted technology. (Students with approved accommodations of time-and-a-half should talk with me as soon as possible). OAE must be contacted in advance to schedule proctored examinations or to arrange other accommodations. The OAE would be grateful for advance notice of at least two weeks. For more information, you may contact OAE at 408-554-4109.

Accommodations for Pregnancy and Parenting

In alignment with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and with the California Education Code, Section 66281.7, Santa Clara University provides reasonable accommodations to students who are pregnant, have recently experienced childbirth, and/or have medically related needs. Pregnant and parenting students can often arrange accommodations by working directly with their instructors, supervisors, or departments. In addition, the Office of Accessible Education will provide reasonable accommodations for pregnancy related impairments that impact major life activities.

Discrimination and Sexual Misconduct (Title IX)

Santa Clara University upholds a zero-tolerance policy for discrimination, harassment and sexual misconduct. If you (or someone you know) have experienced discrimination or harassment, including sexual assault, domestic/dating violence, or stalking, tell someone immediately. For more information, please consult the University's Gender-Based Discrimination and Sexual Misconduct Policy at <http://bit.ly/2ce1hBb> or contact the University's EEO and Title IX Coordinator, Belinda Guthrie, at 408-554-3043, bguthrie@scu.edu. Reports may be submitted online through <https://www.scu.edu/osl/report/> or anonymously through Ethicspoint <https://www.scu.edu/hr/quick-links/ethicspoint/>.