

**ICS Calendar Title:** God Inc.: Christology/Humanity/Incarnation

**ICS Course Code:** ICS 220806 W11

**Instructor:** Dr. Nik Ansell

**Term and Year:** Fridays, 9:30am-12:30pm, Winter 2011

**Last Updated:** January 4, 2011

### **Course Description:**

Christology is (at) the heart of Christian Theology as a whole. Jesus, as God in flesh and blood, faces us with the true relationship between God and creation. In that light, how can we make sense of the “two natures” of the “second person” of the Trinity today? In revealing (his) divinity, does Christ (also) reveal our humanity? Our explorations shall begin by asking whether the early church in its worship of Jesus separated or integrated the divine and the human. After engaging some key historical sources and looking at two different contemporary understandings of the resurrection, we shall end by exploring the implications of the Ascension for cosmology and for ‘faith re: thinking the world.’

### **Course Learning Goals:**

- a. Critical understanding of a central theme in systematic theology
- b. Ability to think creatively and constructively across areas of systematic theology, theological/philosophical anthropology and biblical theology
- c. Knowledge of leading debates in biblical studies, historical theology, contemporary christology

### **Course Requirements:**

- a. Total reading: 1250 pages total, including research for paper, of which approximately 40-60 pages per week is required to prepare for class.
- b. In-seminar leadership: Providing written and oral leadership for the class discussion of at least two texts under examination.
- c. Description of course paper: One paper (3000-5000 words, MA; 5000-7000 words, Ph.D.) that explores an issue or engages a particular work or thinker in relation to course themes.
- d. Description and weighting of elements to be evaluated:
  - Class participation: 20%
  - Seminar presentation: 20%
  - Research paper: 60%

### **Required Readings:**

Nik Ansell, “All In Good Time: Re-imagining Sexuality in God’s Future” (unpublished paper)

James D. G. Dunn, *Did The First Christians Worship Jesus? The New Testament Evidence* (Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2010) [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: BT590 .C85 D86 2010]

Douglas Farrow, *Ascension And Ecclesia: On the Significance of the Doctrine of the Ascension for Ecclesiology and Christian Cosmology* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2009) [ICS Library Reserve Shelf:

BT500 .F37 1999 ; Knox College Library: BT500 .F37 1999]

Richard A. Norris, ed., *The Christological Controversy*. Sources of Early Christian Thought series (Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1980) [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: BT198 .C44 ; Robarts Library: BT198 .C44]

William G. Rusch, ed. *The Trinitarian Controversy*. Sources of Early Christian Thought series (Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1980) [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: BT109 .T74 ; Robarts Library: BT109 .T74]

Robert B. Stewart, ed., *The Resurrection of Jesus: John Dominic Crossan and N. T. Wright in Dialogue* (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2006) [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: BT482 .C76 2006 ; Robarts Library: BT482 .C76 2006]

### **Recommended Readings:**

Richard Bauckham, *Jesus And The God Of Israel: God Crucified and Other Studies on the New Testament's Christology of Divine Identity* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2008) [St. Michael's College Library: BT216.3 .B38 2008]

Marcus Bockmuehl, ed. *The Cambridge Companion To Jesus* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2002) [Knox College Library: BT301.2 .C36 2001]

Gerald Bray, *Creeds, Councils And Christ* (Downers Grove, IL: Inter-Varsity Press, 1984) [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: BT25 .B74 1984]

Douglas Farrow, *Ascension Theology* (Edinburgh: T and T Clark, 2011)

Colin E. Gunton, *Christ And Creation* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1992) [Robarts Library: BT202 .G858 1992]

Jan-Olaf Hendriksen, *Gift, Desire And Recognition: Christology and Postmodern Philosophy* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2009) [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: BT203 .H47 2009]

Larry W. Hurtado, *How On Earth Did Jesus Become A God? Historical Questions about Earliest Devotion to Jesus* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2005) [Knox College Library: BT198 .H86 2005]

———, *Lord Jesus Christ: Devotion to Jesus in Earliest Christianity* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2003) [Robarts Library: BT198 .H87 2003X]

David Jenkins, *The Glory Of Man* (London: SCM Press, 1967) [Robarts Library: BT250 .J4]

John Macquarrie, *Jesus Christ In Modern Thought* (Philadelphia: Trinity Press International, 1990) [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: BT198 .M295 1990]

Alister E. McGrath, *The Making Of Modern German Christology, 1750-1990* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1994) [Robarts Library: BT198 .M399 1994X]

Jurgen Moltmann, *The Crucified God: The Cross of Christ as the Foundation and Criticism of Christian Theology*. Translated by R. A. Wilson and John Bowden. (London: SCM Press, 1974) [Knox College Library: BT453 .M6 1974]

———, *The Way Of Jesus Christ: Christology in Messianic Dimensions*. Translated by Margaret Kohl (London: SCM Press, 1990) [Robarts Library: BT202 .M55213 1990]

Jean-Luc Nancy, *Noli Me Tangere: On the Raising of the Body* (New York: Fordham University Press, 2008) [Robarts Library: N8053.7 .N36132 2008X]

Paul W. Newman, *A Spirit Christology: Recovering the Biblical Paradigm of Christian Faith* (Lanham: University Press of America, 1987) [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: BT202 .N48 1987]

John A.T. Robinson, *The Human Face Of God* (London: SCM Press, 1973) [Robarts Library: BT202 .R59]

Elisabeth Schüssler Fiorenza, *Jesus: Miriam's Child, Sophia's Prophet. Critical Issues in Feminist Christology* (New York: Continuum, 1994) [Knox College Library: BT205 .S324 1994]

Jon Sobrino, *Christology At The Crossroads: A Latin American Approach*, trans. John Drury (Maryknoll, NY: Orbis, 1978) [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: BT202 .S6213]

Kathryn Tanner, "Jesus Christ" in Colin E. Gunton, ed., *The Cambridge Companion To Christian Doctrine* (Cambridge: University of Cambridge Press, 1997), chap. 13. [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: BT80 .C29 1997X]

N.T.Wright, *Jesus And The Victory Of God: Christian Origins and the Question of God*, volume 2. (London: SPCK; Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1996) [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: BS2398 .W75 J4]

———, *The Resurrection Of The Son Of God: Christian Origins and the Question of God*, volume 3. (London: SPCK; Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2003) [ICS Library Reserve Shelf: BS2398 .W75 R4 2003]

Frances Young, *The Making Of The Creeds* (London: SCM, 2002 [1991]) [Knox College Library: BT993.2 .Y68 1991]

——— with Andrew Teal, *From Nicaea To Chalcedon: A Guide to the Literature and its Background* Second Edition (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2010) [Emmanuel College Library: BR205 .Y68 2010]