All precourse assignments should be emailed to the Course of Study office by January 14, 2013.

Course Description
This course critically reflects on significant individuals, movements, events, and fundamental tenets of the Christian faith that have shaped contemporary theologies in the past century or so. Through study of varied theological expressions in the modern and postmodern decades, the student enters into the church’s enduring task of interpreting, articulating, and enacting the gospel for contemporary life. Attention will be given to selected primary sources and contemporary liberation theologies.

Course Objectives
- Consideration of nineteenth-century theological issues that form the backdrop for twentieth-century developments
- Examination of the liberal-conservative split of the late-nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, as well as ensuing neo-evangelical movements, orthodox theologies, and liberal developments
- Analysis of the Barthian/neo-Orthodox traditions
- Interpretation of theologies of history and eschatology (for example, Niebuhr, and Moltmann)
- Reflection upon the various liberation theologies – Latin American, Black, feminist, womanist, mujerista, gay, Asian, and class expressions
- Exploration of other significant theological movements, such as contemporary Roman Catholic, post-Enlightenment, postmodern, evangelical, and process theologies

Required Textbooks

Supplementary Textbooks
Precourse Assignment

1. **Read** the assigned passages in *Modern Christianity* by Livingston. **Write a 2 page summary** of the indicated assignments below. **Highlight** the tenets (main beliefs or principals) of the theology, important shifts in theological thinking for the period, key theologians of the movement and the primary theological emphasis of the theologian or school of thought. Page limit requires you to distill the information for its critical content. **Read all the pages assigned below.**

   - Livingston, “The Legacy of Modernity”, pp. 1-10 (read but no summary required)
   - “Dialectical Theology”, Barth, pp. 62-76 (2 page summary)
   - “Christian Existentialism”, pp. 133-153 (2 page summary)
   - “Christian Realism: A Post-Liberal American theology”, Reinhold Niebuhr, (2 page summary) and H. Richard Niebuhr, pp. 165-191 (2 page summary)
   - “Vatican II”, pp. 237-247 (read but no summary required)
   - “Political Theology”, pp. 273-77 (read but no summary required)
   - “Theology of Hope”, Moltmann, pp. 283-287 (read but no summary required)
   - “Process Theology”, pp. 309-10, Cobb, 327-336 (read but no summary required)
   - “Feminist Theology”\*; “Black Theology” pp. 417-466 (read but no summary required). You may also use these pages to assist you with your assignment below for liberation theologies.

2. Thistlethwaite, *Lift Every Voice and Sing.*


   **Read and be prepared to discuss at least 3 of the following reading assignments.** The chapters assigned below are articles and are very brief readings.

   **Write a paper on one of the liberation theologies below** (typed, double spaced, 12 pt font). Choose one Liberation Theology on which to write a 4-5 page paper, and an outline or power point presentation. You will lead an in class discussion/ presentation on this liberation theology. Your discussion paper / presentation must include the following:
   
   1. What is the social / political context for the development of this theology (what is happening in the world or community that contributed to the development of this theology);  
   2. What is its point of departure (a pivotal issue that is central to its development – like racism, sexism, heterosexism, ageism, etc. – the isms of life);  
   3. What are its main tenets (beliefs or principals);  
   4. Discuss at least one theologian and their work from this liberation theology (Your Livingston reading above, pp. 417-466, will assist you with this, or you may refer to an outside source. Be sure to cite any sources referenced. NOTE Wikipedia is not an academic source – do not use as a reference).  
   5. You will be graded on your paper/ in-class presentation. Bring your paper/ presentation to class with you – do not send with your precourse work. Have 2 copies, 1 for yourself and one to turn in to me for a grade.

**Liberation Theologies readings from Thistlethwaite:**

- Latin American Liberation Theology, chapters 2, 10  
- African Liberation Theologies, chapters 1, 17  
- Black Liberation Theology, chapter 7  
- Feminist Theology, chapters 11, 12, 13  
- Womanist Theology, chapter 14  
- Mujerista Theology, chapter 18  
- Native American Liberation Theology, chapter 5  
- Gay Liberation Theology, chapter 16  
- Asian Liberation Theologies, chapters 6, 19  
- Caribbean Liberation Theology (in class)
DIRECTIONS FOR EMAILING PRECOURSE WORK

Please read all the directions below before emailing your assignments to the COS Office, any emails received that do not follow the directions below will not be accepted. You will receive an email confirmation of receipt and if your email is not submitted correctly an email indicating you will need to resend your assignments.

1. Email only michelle.levan@emory.edu, do not email the instructor your assignment.
2. Emails must be received no later than 11:59pm on the January 14, 2013 deadline.
   a. Please note that the cut off time is EASTERN STANDARD TIME zone, so email your assignments accordingly.
   b. Any precourse work received after January 14th at 11:59pm will be subject to a late penalty.
      1. Precourse work received between January 15th – January 20th is 1 letter grade deduction.
      2. Precourse work received between January 21st – January 26th is 2 letter grade deductions.
3. The course number and the phrase “precourse work” should be the subject of your email:
   Example - Precourse Work 113
      a. You will need to send a separate email for each course you are registered to attend.
4. Precourse work must be sent as an attached document and not in the body of the email.
   a. Any version of Microsoft Word or WordPerfect documents will be accepted; PDF and Mac-Pages documents will be accepted.
   b. All of your assignments for each course must be in one document, multiple documents are not acceptable. You should send only one attachment with course all assignments.
5. Your FULL name, phone number and email, should all be clearly included at the beginning of your email:
   Example: Michelle Levan
            404.727.4587
            michelle.levan@emory.edu
6. Plagiarism Policy and Plagiarism Defined paragraphs must be included in the body of your email (both are below), not within your precourse work. The inclusion of the policy and definition in the body of the email, verifies that you agree to it and your email will represent your signature. If the email does not include the plagiarism policy and definition it will not be accepted. Your email, with the plagiarism policy and definition will be printed and used as cover sheet for your precourse work, because it has the verification of date and time received, and your agreement to the plagiarism policy and definition, and your contact information.
   
   Plagiarism Policy
   I have read the plagiarism definition below and verify that this assignment represents my own work, except where credit is given. I have also made copies of this assignment and I will bring them with me to class in the event that any of my work is misplaced.

   Plagiarism Defined
   “You plagiarize when, intentionally or not, you use someone’s words or ideas but fail to credit that person. You plagiarize even when you do credit the author but use his exact words without so indicating with quotation marks or block indentation. You also plagiarize when you use words so close to those in your source, that if your work were placed next to the source, it would be obvious that you could not have written what you did without the source at your elbow. When accused of plagiarism, some writers claim I must have somehow memorized the passage. When I wrote it, I certainly thought it was my own. That excuse convinces very few.” From page 167 of The Craft of Research by Wayne C. Booth, Gregory G. Colomb, and Joseph M. Williams, published in 1995 by The University of Chicago Press in Chicago.

7. If you do not follow the procedure your precourse work WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED!!!!!!!