All precourse assignments should be emailed to the Course of Study office by January 27, 2014.

Please note this course will be meeting for two weekends (Friday/Saturday) instead of the typical three Saturday we would meet during the winter!

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**


**Pre-Assignment**

Please submit assignment #1 below via email to the COS Office by January 27, 2014.

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.**

- “The Legacy of Modernity”, Livingston, pp. 1-10 (2 page summary)
- “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 *(read but no summary required)* & H. Richard Niebuhr, pp. 165-191 *(read but no summary required)*
- “Vatican II”, pp. 237-247 *(read but no summary required)*
- “Political Theology”, pp. 273-77 *(read but no summary required)* pp. 288-302 (2 page summary)
- “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.**

**Reading assignment. Read** the “Introduction” and “Theological Method”, pp. 1-24. **Read and be prepared to discuss at least 3** of the reading assignments below. The chapters assigned below are articles and are very brief readings. Choose **one Liberation Theology** on which to write a **4-5 page paper** (typed, double spaced, 12 pt font) or a power point presentation. You will lead an in class discussion/presentation on this liberation theology. Your discussion paper and 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.** If you do a paper bring 2 copies, 1 for yourself and one to turn in to me for a grade. Power Point presentations must be emailed to me a 1 day before your in class presentation.

**Liberation Theologies readings from Thistlethwaite:** Go to Blackboard to sign up for your presentation – contact the COS Office to access your user ID and password if you don’t know it. (Read at least 3 of these assignments for dialogue purposes).

- 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)

**Guidelines for Written Assignments**

- All papers should be typed, double-spaced, on 8 ½” by 11” paper, unless the instructor has asked for a different format specifically within the precourse work. Font should be Times New Roman or something similar and no larger than size 12. Margins are to be 1” on all four sides of each page.
- All papers must include a page number and the last name of the student in either the header or footer of every page.
- You should note the question you are answering at the beginning of each new section of materials.
- All papers should provide citations for all quoted material. You may use MLA, Turabain, APA or Chicago Style.
- Punctuation should be consistent; clarity of meaning is the primary purpose of punctuation. Edit and retype material as needed and check spelling in a standard dictionary.
- All papers should attempt to eliminate discriminatory language— for example: racism, ageism, sexism, classism, and prejudicial usage concerning handicapping conditions.

**Inclusive Language Covenant**

The faculty of Emory Course of Study School has adopted a covenant statement encouraging inclusiveness in the use of language, as follows:

The Inclusive Language Covenant is designed to create a linguistic environment in which all students, staff, and faculty can grow in understanding and appreciating the rich diversity of God’s people. The COS faculty commits itself—through continued discussion, reflection, and exploration—to using language in such a way that we respond to the fullness of God’s presence among us as much by our choice of words as by our care for one another. Recognizing that our experience with inclusive language is an integral part of theological formation, we invite students and others to share as partners with us in this learning process.
We understand “covenant” more in terms of its biblical and theological meaning than in a legal or contractual context. Covenant signifies the common commitment of a community of faith in response to God’s revelation and in partnership with one another. The values implied in the covenant have morally persuaded us to try to generate patterns of speech and behavior that bond the members of the community in mutual respect. We expect all members of the community to address issues of diversity constructively. The entire Inclusive Language Covenant can be found on the COS website, and you are encouraged to read the whole covenant.

Directions to Email Precourse Assignments

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 instructors precourse assignments.
2. Email must be received no later than 11:59pm on the deadline of January 13, 2014.
   1. Please note that the cut off time is EASTERN STANDARD TIME zone, so email your assignments accordingly.
   2. Any precourse work received after January 13th at 11:59pm will be subject to a late penalty.
      • Precourse work received between January 14 – January 19th is 1 letter grade deduction.
      • Precourse work received between January 20 – January 25th is 2 letter grade deductions.
      • You will be drop from any course for which precourse work has not been received after June 20th. No precourse work will be accepted at check-in.
3. The course number and the phrase “precourse work” should be the subject of your email:
   Example - Precourse Work 113
4. Precourse work must be sent as an attached document and not in the body of the email.
   1. Any version of Microsoft Word will be accepted; PDF and Mac-Pages documents will not be accepted.
   2. All assignments for each course must be in one document, multiple documents are not acceptable. You should send only one attachment with all course assignments.
5. Your FULL name, phone number and email, should all be clearly included at the beginning of your email. See Example
6. Plagiarism Policy and Plagiarism Defined
   The plagiarism Policy and Defined paragraphs below 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 (which is a requirement). 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 the cover sheet for your precourse assignments, because it has the verification of date and time received, and your agreement to the plagiarism policy and definition.
   **Plagiarism Policy** - I have read the plagiarism definition below and verify that this assignment represents my own work, except where credit is given.
   **Plagiarism Defined:** “You plagiarize when, intentionally or not, you use someone else’s words or ideas but fail to credit that person, leading your readers to think that those words are yours. In all fields, you plagiarize when you use a source’s words or ideas without citing that source. In most fields, you plagiarize even when you do credit the source but use its exact words without using quotation marks or block indentation” (201-202). Booth, Wayne C. Booth, Gregory G. Colomb, and Joseph M. Williams. *The Craft of Research, Second Edition*. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press, 2003.

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