

TS 2207F: Introduction to Systematic Theology Fall 2021

Course Information (BA)

Class Location: See Course Calendar for classroom allocation.

This class will be offered in-person. However, certain students may have been approved for distance learning this semester due to travel restrictions and other considerations. To access Zoom, please login through the OWL portal (owl.uwo.ca).

Note: If you are having technical problems with Zoom, please visit the Huron IT HelpDesk (JIRA) at https://jira.uwo.ca/plugins/servlet/desk/portal/16

The OWL portal is also the place to go to easily access readings, read announcements from the professor, and submit assignments.

Scheduled Class Times: Thursdays 8:30-11:00

Prerequisites/Antirequisites: n/a

Instructor: Dr. Brett Potter

Contact Information:

The best way to get in touch with me is via email at brett.potter@uwo.ca
I will do my best to respond to emails in a timely manner.

Office: A219 (in the Faculty of Theology building)

Office Hours:

I am available for course-related meetings by appointment, usually on Tuesday afternoons. Please send me an email if you would like to set up a time. Online meetings can also be arranged!

Course Description

This course is an introduction to systematic theology in the Christian tradition. We will study historical and contemporary approaches to central questions about God, creation, humanity, and redemption, paying close attention to the philosophical and cultural contexts in which these ideas have developed.

Course Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, students will:

- Demonstrate a deeper understanding of the theological foundations of the Christian tradition, as mediated through a range of global, historical, and contemporary voices;
- Become familiar with the discipline of systematic theology as distinct tradition of inquiry;
- Engage Christian theological topoi in constructive, creative, and critical ways through research and writing;
- Express connections between theological studies and contemporary social issues, particularly those related to justice, human flourishing, and integrative ecology.

Textbooks and Course Materials

1) A required text for this course is Athanasius' classic book *On the Incarnation*. It is recommended that students purchase this edition (approx. \$29.00) in the Popular Patristics series:

Saint Athanasius, On the Incarnation (Greek/English edition). St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, 2012. ISBN 0881414093

However, a free version of the text (although of a different translation) is also available from the Christian Classics Ethereal Library (ccel.org):

https://ccel.org/ccel/athanasius/incarnation/incarnation.ii.html

There are also countless versions of this book in the Huron library!

2) A second required textbook for this term is available as a free electronic resource from the Huron library:

Daniel F. Migliore, Faith Seeking Understanding: An Introduction to Christian Theology. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2014.

Library Permalink:

https://ocul-uwo.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01OCUL_UWO/r0c2m8/alma991044576867305163

3) Other assigned readings will be available as PDFs via the course page and/or via the library Course Readings application in OWL, as per the schedule below.

Making readings easily accessible to students is important. If you are ever having trouble accessing a reading, please email me ASAP and I will make sure it is available to you.

Methods of Evaluation

Evaluation is based upon the completion of the following assignments:

| Weekly Participation | 15 % |
|---|------|
| Short Assignment #1: Christology Reflection | 30 % |
| Short Assignment #2: Book Review | 30 % |
| Short Assignment #3: Integration | 25 % |
| TOTAL | 100% |

1. Weekly Participation (15%)

Active participation and engagement with the course material, particularly during our class time, is essential to the learning experience. In order to get the most out of this course, it is important to complete weekly readings; come to class ready to engage the lecture material; and be open to listen and learn from the contributions of others.

Participation will subsequently be measured by i) attendance (whether in-person or by Zoom), which indicates that you are present and ready to learn; ii) actively contributing to discussions in class, which also includes allowing space to listen to others; and/or iii) actively contributing to our online forum on OWL. Here are some guidelines around each of these elements.

- i) <u>Attendance</u>: Students should be present, whether in-person or over Zoom, for all class sessions. Please make sure you let me know via email if you will need to miss a class for a significant reason.
- ii) <u>Active contributions in class</u>: There is no prescribed metric to measure active participation in class, but in general this would take the form of asking and responding to questions, contributing to discussions, modelling hospitality in engaging the ideas of others, and so on.
- iii) Online forum: Online forums provide an opportunity for all students, not just those comfortable speaking out loud in a group classroom setting, to participate fully by informally asking questions, bringing up points of interest, and engaging the ideas of others.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Students that are frequent contributors during class time do <u>not</u> need to feel as if they have to post in the online forum as well, as their participation grade will be based on their in-class contributions. On the other hand, some students may post a lot of thoughtful responses and questions in the online forum and never speak up in class. Either option is fine! I just want to see regular, thoughtful engagement with the material from all students over the course of the semester.

This is not a weekly assignment that is "due" or has specific parameters around length. If there are some weeks where you don't post anything or speak up in class, that is fine. But overall, by the end of the

semester, I should be able to look back and see that you participated in the class: i.e. that you posted in the forum at least 3-4 times OR that you were a regular and enthusiastic contributor to our in-class discussions.

2. Short Assignment #1: Christology Reflection Paper (30%) Due Week 5 (Saturday Oct. 9th at 11:59pm)

In this short paper (3-4 pages, double-spaced) you will respond thoughtfully to a particular theologian's approach to the issue of christology. This is a reflection assignment, so you are encouraged to write in the first person and draw connections to your own understanding and/or experiences.

Only <u>one</u> bibliographical source is required for this short essay: a primary text by a major theologian (see below). Use of 1-2 secondary sources is permitted, but not required.

The following is a list of suggested theologians along with one of their major texts that would work well for this reflection assignment. Many of these books can be accessed either for free online (particularly in the case of patristic authors) or electronically through the Huron library. [You can pick a different major theologian, but please talk to me about your choice before you dive in!]

Athanasius, On the Incarnation (our course text)
Irenaeus, Against Heresies (esp. Book V)
John Calvin, Institutes of the Christian Religion (esp. Book II, XII-XVII)
Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Christ the Center
Jürgen Moltmann, The Crucified God
Kelly Brown Douglas, The Black Christ
Raimon Pannikkar, Christophany: The Fullness of Man
Kathryn Tanner, Christ the Key

Elizabeth Schüssler Fiorenza, Jesus: Miriam's Child, Sophia's Prophet: Critical issues in Feminist Christology

In your response, you will want to consider some of the following questions: What insights did you gain from engaging with this particular christological text? Did it challenge, alter, or deepen your understanding of the topic? Did a particular concept or metaphor from the book resonate with insights from art, film, or a work of music? Do you see any connections to spirituality or liturgy, in Christianity or a different spiritual tradition? Or did your study of christology spur you on to thinking about human beings, the world, the nature of theology, or God in a new way? What areas were left out that ought to be filled in?

Note: By "Christology" what is simply meant is: How does this theologian answer the question, "Who is Jesus Christ?" Thus in exploring a particular theologian's approach to christology, some things to keep in the back of your mind are:

- What does this theologian contribute to theological accounts of the Incarnation; Jesus' mission and ministry; death; resurrection; ascension; the church as "Body of Christ"; and/or the eschaton?
- How does the christology to be found in the work of this particular theologian illuminate the ecumenical creeds in their affirmations of Christ as fully human and fully divine?

3. Short Assignment #2: Book Review (30%) – Due Week 9 (Saturday, November 13th at 11:59pm)

In this assignment, you will write a critical book review (3-4 pages) of a contemporary book dealing with a particular topic within systematic theology. A good review should:

- include a summary of the book, focusing in particular on its overall argument;
- assess its contribution to the field, and its place in the context of the broader scholarly discussion it is a part of (for example, was this book written to argue against another view? is it part of a larger conversation or debate over an important theological topic?);
- point out its strengths, and areas of particular insight or innovation;
- point out any weaknesses or potential areas of oversight/omission (although please remember you can't fault an author for not covering every single topic in every book!)

It is suggested that you select one of the books listed below based on your interests and/or library availability. However, if there is another, recent (post-2010) book which you are extremely keen to read and review, it may be possible but the approval of the instructor is required.

- Anatolios, Khaled. *Deification Through the Cross: An Eastern Christian Theology of Salvation*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2020.
- Carnes, Natalie. *Image and Presence: A Christological reflection on iconoclasm and iconophilia*. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 2018.
- Castillo, Daniel. *An Ecological Theology of Liberation: Salvation and Political Ecology*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 2019.
- Griffiths, Paul. Christian Flesh. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 2020.
- Karkkainen, Veli-Matti. *Pneumatology: The Holy Spirit in Ecumenical, International, and Contextual Perspective*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2018.
- Kim, Grace Ji-Sun. *The Holy Spirit, chi, and the Other: a Model of Global and Intercultural Pneumatology*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2011.
- Rutledge, Fleming. *The Crucifixion: Understanding the Death of Jesus Christ*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2015.
- Sonderegger, Katherine. *Systematic Theology, Volume 1: The Doctrine of God*. Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press, 2015.

Tonstad, Linn. Queer Theology: Beyond Apologetics. Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, 2018.

Williams, Rowan. Christ the Heart of Creation. London: Bloomsbury, 2018.

4. Short Assignment #3: Integration (25%) – Due Week 12 (Saturday, December 4th at 11:59pm)

In this final writing assignment, you are encouraged to consider how a systematic theology is a "cohesive theology" – one that accounts for a number of different themes in ways that intersect and complement each other.

In essence, I am looking for a very short paper (2-3 pages, double-spaced) that outlines how two areas of Christian theology are related to each other. How does your understanding of one affect the way you think about the other? You will pick from one of the following comparisons:

Trinity and ecclesiology Christology and pneumatology Soteriology and the doctrine of creation Eschatology and soteriology

Other combinations are possible as well, but most students will want to stick to one of these four options.

In this short paper, you should try to cite 2-3 articles, all of which may be drawn from our course readings.

Tentative Class Schedule/Syllabus

Unless marked otherwise, all readings other than the textbook will be available as PDFs (or as library-accessible course readings) on the course website.

| Week 1 (Sept. 9): Prolegomena | Textbook: |
|---|--|
| | Migliore ch. 1, "The Task of Theology," pp. 17-34. |
| The nature and task of theology; Christian | |
| theology as a practice of the church; the | Articles: |
| nature of public theology in the contemporary | Stanley Grenz, "The Nature and Task of Theology," |
| world | from Theology for the Community of God, 1-13. |
| | Karl Barth, "The Word," ch. 2 of <i>Evangelical</i> |
| | Theology (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1979). |
| | [PDF] |
| | M. Shawn Copeland, "Turning Theology: A |
| | Proposal," Theological Studies 80:4 (2019), pp. |
| | 753–73. doi:10.1177/0040563919874510. |
| | |
| | |
| Week 2 (Sept. 16): Sources | Textbook: |
| | Migliore ch. 2, "The Meaning of Revelation"; ch. 3, "The |
| Introducing the "Wesleyan quadrilateral"; | Authority of Scripture" |
| Scripture as the un-normed norm of theology; | |
| the animating role of tradition, reason, and | Articles: |
| experience | Gustavo Gutierrez, "Speaking About God" [PDF] |

Stephen Bevans, "Mystery and Revelation," from An Introduction to Theology in Global Perspective (Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 2009), pp. 9-26.

Yves Congar, "Tradition and Traditions," from *The Meaning of Tradition*. [PDF]

Pope Paul VI, *Dei Verbum* (1965) available from https://www.vatican.va/archive/hist_councils/i i_vatican_council/documents/vatii_const_19651118_dei-verbum_en.html

Week 3 (Sept. 23): God

Is God personal or impersonal; divine attributes; the oneness of God; the problem of evil and theodicy

Textbook:

Migliore ch. 6 "The Providence of God and the Mystery of Evil"

Articles:

Origen, *De Principiis*, Book I, Chapter 1, available from

https://www.newadvent.org/fathers/04121.ht m

Thomas Aquinas, ch. 1 of *Shorter Summa*, 9-34. [PDF]

Katherine Sonderegger, "The Perfect Oneness of God," ch. 1 of Systematic Theology, vol. 1.

Matthew Levering, "Introduction: Why Think About Divine Simplicity?" *Modern Theology* 35:3 (2019), pp. 411-417.

Dennis W. Wiley, "God," in Dwight N. Hopkins, and Edward P. Antonio, *The Cambridge Companion to Black Theology* (Cambridge University Press, 2012), pp. 75-93.

Week 4 (Sept. 30): Creation

Knowledge of God; models of revelation; the nature of theological language; the doctrine of creation and ecology

Textbook:

Athanasius, ch. 1

Migliore, ch. 5 "The Good Creation," pp. 102-124

Articles:

Colin Gunton, "Establishing: the Doctrine of Creation," in *The Christian Faith*.

Whitney Bauman, "Ecology and Contemporary Christian Theology." *Religion Compass*, vol. 5, no. 8, Blackwell Publishing Ltd, 2011, pp. 376–88, doi:10.1111/j.1749-8171.2011.00297.x.

Denis Edwards, "Key Issues in Ecological Theology: Incarnation, Evolution, Communion," chapter 4 of Celia Deane-Drummond and Rebecca

Artinian-Kaiser, eds. Theology and Ecology Across the Disciplines: on Care for Our Common Home. T&T Clark, 2018.

Pui-lan, Kwok. "Ecology and the Recycling of Christianity." *The Ecumenical Review*, vol. 44, no. 3 (1992), pp. 304–07. doi:10.1111/j.1758-6623.1992.tb02788.x.

Pope Francis, Laudato Si' (2015), available from https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/ encyclicals/documents/papafrancesco_20150524_enciclica-laudato-si.html

Week 5 (Oct. 7): Christology | Incarnation

Christ as fully divine and fully human; from Nicaea to Chalcedon; the eternality of the Son and the redemption of human flesh

Short Assignment #1: Christology Reflection Due (30%, due Week 5 – Saturday, Oct. 9th at 11:59 pm)

Textbook:

Athanasius, *On the Incarnation*, ch. 2-3 Migliore, ch. 8 "The Person and Work of Jesus Christ," pp. 167-199.

Articles:

Khaled Anatolios, "Christology in the Fourth Century," in Francesca Aran Murphy, ed. *The Oxford Handbook of Christology*. Oxford University Press, 2015.

Irenaeus, *Against Heresies*, Book III Chapter XVIII [PDF]

John Calvin, *Institutes* Book II Chapter XIV [PDF]
Victor Ezbigo, "Jesus as God's Communicative and
Hermeneutical Act: African Christians on the
Person and Significance of Jesus Christ," in *Jesus without Borders: Christology in the Majority World,* ed. Gene L. Green, Stephen T.
Pardue, and K. K. Yeo (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans,
2014), 37-58.

Week 6 (Oct. 14) – Christology | Death, Resurrection, Liberation

Contemporary christologies; deep incarnation and cosmic christology; theologies of liberation and resurrection

Textbook:

Athanasius, ch. 4-5

Migliore ch. 9, "Confessing Jesus Christ in Context," pp. 200-223.

Articles:

Maximus the Confessor, On the Cosmic Mystery of Jesus Christ (excerpt – PDF)

Nindyo Sasongko, "The Christified Universe and the Vanquished Creatures: The Perspectives of Ilia Delio and Elizabeth A. Johnson," *Dialog: a Journal of Theology*, vol. 56, no. 1 (2017), pp. 61–72. doi:10.1111/dial.12297.

Andrew Prevot, "Mystical Bodies of Christ: Human, Crucified, and Beloved," in Rufus Burnett et al. Beyond the Doctrine of Man: Decolonial Visions of the Human. New York: Fordham University Press, 2019. doi:10.1515/9780823285884.

Marc Cortez, "The Black Messiah," ch. 7 of Christological Anthropology in Historical Perspective: ancient and contemporary approaches to theological anthropology. Zondervan, 2016.

Week 7 (Oct. 21): Spirit

Who is the Holy Spirit; how is pneumatology related to Christology; spirit and eschaton

Textbook:

Migliore ch. 10, "The Holy Spirit and the Christian Life"

Articles:

Basil, On the Holy Spirit, 9-20 (pp. 52-89) [PDF] Thomas Oden, "The Person of the Holy Spirit," in Classic Christianity: A Systematic Theology (San Francisco: HarperOne, 2009), 513-525.

Amos Yong, "I Believe in the Holy Spirit: From the Ends of the Earth to the Ends of Time," in *The Spirit Over the Earth*, 13-33.

Week 8 (Oct. 28): Trinity

The development of Trinitarian doctrine; models of the Trinity in the East and West; contemporary Trinitarian theology

Textbook:

Migliore, ch. 4 "The Triune God," pp. 75-101

Articles:

Basil, On the Holy Spirit, 21-30 (89-122) [PDF] Elizabeth Johnson, "Trinity: To Let the Symbol Sing Again" [PDF]

Khaled Anatolios, "Development of Trinitarian Doctrine: A Model and its Application," in Retrieving Nicaea: the Development and Meaning of Trinitarian Doctrine. Waco, TX: Baker Academic, 2011.

Catherine Mowry LaCugna, "Persons in Communion," in *God For Us: The Trinity and Christian Life.*, pp. 243-318.

Karen Kilby, "Perichoresis and Projection:
Problems with Social Doctrines of the Trinity."

New Blackfriars, vol. 81, no. 957 (2000), pp. 432–45. doi:10.1111/j.1741-2005.2000.tb06456.x.

NO CLASS - Reading Week Nov. 1-6

Week 9 (Nov. 11): Salvation

Soteriology, atonement, and justification; understandings of salvation in Catholic, Protestant, and Orthodox theology; the scope of salvation and universalism; justification and election in 20th c. theology

Short Assignment #2: Book Review Due (30%, due Week 9 – Saturday, November 13th at 11:59pm)

Articles:

Alister McGrath, Christian Theology Reader [on course page]

5.2 (Irenaeus), 5.7 (Rufinus), 5.13 (Anselm), 5.14 (Abelard), 5.19 (Calvin), 5.28 (Aulén), 5.32 (Packer), 5.38 (Weaver), 6.23 (Luther), 6.25 (Melanchthon), 6. 27 (Calvin), 6.28 (Trent)

Hans Boersma, "Penal Substitution and the Possibility of Unconditional Hospitality," Scottish Journal of Theology 57, no. 1 (2004): 80-94.

Garrett, Stephen M. "God's Beauty-in-Act: An Artful Renewal of Human Imagining." *International Journal of Systematic Theology : IJST*, vol. 14, no. 4, 2012, pp. 459–79, doi:10.1111/j.1468-2400.2012.00650.x.

Ray Aldred, "An Indigenous Reinterpretation of Repentance: A Step on the Journey to Reconciliation," in *So Great a Salvation: Soteriology in the Majority World*, ed. Gene L. Green, Stephen T. Pardue, and K. K. Yeo (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2017), 116-137.

Week 10 (Nov. 18): Humanity

Theological anthropology; grace and nature; sanctification and union with Christ; the mystery of sin

Textbook:

Athanasius, ch. 6-8

Migliore, ch. 7 "Humanity as Creature, Sinner, and New Being in Christ," pp. 145-166

Articles:

Kathryn Tanner, "Human nature," ch. 1 of *Christ the Key*, pp. 1-57.

Chow, Alexander. "The East Asian Rediscovery of 'Sin." Studies in World Christianity, vol. 19, no. 2, Edinburgh University Press, 2013, pp. 126–40, doi:10.3366/swc.2013.0048.

James Cone, "Theology's great sin: silence in the face of white supremacy," in Dwight N. Hopkins and Edward P. Antonio, eds. *The Cambridge Companion to Black Theology* (Cambridge University Press, 2012), pp. 143-155.

Week 11 (Nov. 25): Church

The Church as a theological reality; "one, holy, and catholic"; models of the church

Textbook:

Migliore ch. 11, "The New Community"

Articles:

Nicholas Healy, "Blueprint ecclesiology," chapter 1 of *Church, World, and the Christian Life:*Practical-Prophetic Ecclesiology. Cambridge:
Cambridge University Press, 2000, pp.

Robert W. Jenson, "The Church's Founding," in Systematic Theology. Volume 2, The Works of God Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1999, pp. 167-188.

Bruce Marshall, "The Disunity of the Church and the Credibility of the Gospel," pp. 78-89.

Week 12 (Dec. 2): Last Things

Eschatology and apocalypse; understanding diverse approaches; Moltmann's theology of hope, religious pluralism, and integral ecology

Short Assignment #3: Integration Due (due Week 12 – Saturday, December 4th at 11:59pm)

Week 13 (Dec. 9): Conclusion(s)

Textbook:

Migliore ch. 14, "Christian Hope"

Articles

Jürgen Moltmann, "The Presence of God's Future." [PDF]

Paul Griffiths, Decreation (excerpt) [PDF]

Appendix to Course Outlines: Faculty of Theology Academic Policies & Regulations 2021–2022

Prerequisite and Antirequisite Information

Students are responsible for ensuring that they have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that they have not completed any course antirequisites. Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean and the Instructor to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Student Code of Conduct

Membership in the community of Huron University College and Western University implies acceptance by every student of the principle of respect for the rights, responsibilities, dignity and well-being of others and a readiness to support an environment conducive to the intellectual and personal growth of all who study, work, and live within it. Upon registration, students assume the responsibilities that such registration entails. While in the physical or online classroom, students are expected to behave in a manner that supports the learning environment of others. Please review the Student Code of Conduct at:

 $\frac{https://huronatwestern.ca/sites/default/files/Res\%20Life/Student\%20Code\%20of\%20Conduct\%20-\%20Revised\%20September\%202019.pdf.$

Attendance Regulations for Examinations

A student is entitled to be examined in courses in which registration is maintained, subject to the following limitations:

- 1) A student may be debarred from writing the final examination for failure to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year.
- 2) Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course. The Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Dean of the Faculty of registration.

Review the policy on Attendance Regulations for Examinations here: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/exam/attendance.pdf.

Statement on Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following website:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf. The appeals process is also outlined in this policy as well as more generally at the following website: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/appealsundergrad.pdf.

Turnitin.com

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (http://www.turnitin.com).

Statement on Use of Electronic Devices

It is not appropriate to use electronic devices (such as, but not limited to, laptops, cell phones) in the classroom for non-classroom activities. Such activity is disruptive and distracting to other students and to the instructor, and can inhibit learning. Students are expected to respect the classroom environment and to refrain from inappropriate use of technology and other electronic devices in class.

Statement on the Recording of Class Activities

Students may not record or distribute any class activity, including conversations during office hours, without written permission from the instructor, except as necessary as part of approved accommodations for students with disabilities. Any approved recordings may only be used for the student's own private use.

Statement on Use of Personal Response Systems ("Clickers")

Personal Response Systems ("clickers") may be used in some classes. If clickers are to be used in a class, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the device is activated and functional. Students must see their instructor if they have any concerns about whether the clicker is malfunctioning. Students must use only their own clicker. If clicker records are used to compute a portion of the course grade:

- the use of somebody else's clicker in class constitutes a scholastic offence
- the possession of a clicker belonging to another student will be interpreted as an attempt to commit a scholastic offence.

Academic Consideration for Missed Work: Medical or Non-Medical Absences & Accommodation

MDiv and MTS students who are seeking academic consideration for missed work during the semester must consult with the Dean's Office. MDiv and MTS students are excluded from using the Self Reported Absence option as that is restricted to bachelor-level students. Students may request academic consideration on medical grounds by contacting the Dean of Theology office at srice@huron.uwo.ca. To protect student privacy, details of the medical accommodation need only be disclosed to the Dean, who will communicate to the instructor(s) the necessary accommodation. Instructors may not request medical or other documentation from students. The Dean may require medical or other documentation, and the student may be required to complete the Student Medical Certificate, available online at

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf. Following a determination of accommodation, the Dean will contact the instructor(s) and the student who will then arrange a new deadline for missed work.

Students seeking academic consideration for a non-medical absence (e.g. varsity sports, religious, compassionate, or bereavement) may be required to provide appropriate documentation to the Dean's Office. All consideration requests must be directed to the Dean's Office with notice also given to the instructor.

All students pursuing academic consideration, regardless of type, <u>must contact their instructors no less than 24 hours following the end of the period of absence to clarify how they will be expected to fulfill the academic responsibilities missed during their absence. Students are reminded that they should consider carefully the implications of postponing tests or midterm exams or delaying submission of work, and are encouraged to make appropriate decisions based on their specific circumstances.</u>

Students who have conditions for which academic accommodation is appropriate, such as disabilities or ongoing or chronic health conditions, should work with Accessible Education Services to determine appropriate forms of accommodation. Further details concerning policies and procedures may be found at: http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/.

Please review the full policy on Academic Consideration for medical and non-medical absence at: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf. Consult the Dean's Office for any further questions or information.

Support Services

For advice on course selections, degree requirements, and for assistance with requests for medical accommodation (see above), students should contact Sandra Rice in the Dean's Office at srice@huron.uwo.ca.

Your Faculty Advisor is also able to answer questions about your program and to assist with any concerns about academic matters. Contact them for a conversation whenever you need.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your workload is not manageable, you should consult with the Dean. If you are considering reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines. Please review the list of official Sessional Dates on the Academic Calendar, available here: http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/SessionalDates.cfm.

You should consult with your course instructor and the Dean, who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. Note that dropping a course may affect your full-time status and therefore have implications for OSAP and/or Scholarship/Bursary eligibility.

An outline of the range of services offered to Huron students is found on the Huron website at: https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/.

Huron Student Support Services: https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/

Office of the Registrar: https://registrar.uwo.ca/

Student Quick Reference Guide: https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/#1

Learning Development and Success: https://www.uwo.ca/sdc/learning/

Accessible Education: http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/

Western USC: http://westernusc.ca/your-services/#studentservices

Mental Health & Wellness Support at Huron and Western

University students may encounter setbacks from time to time that can impact academic performance. Huron offers a variety of services that are here to support your success and wellbeing. Please visit https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life-campus/student-services/wellness-safety for more information or contact staff directly:

Wellness Services: huronwellness@huron.uwo.ca
Community Safety Office: safety@huron.uwo.ca

Chaplaincy: gthorne@huron.uwo.ca

Additional supports for Health and Wellness may be found and accessed at Western through https://www.uwo.ca/health/.