

SEABURY-WESTERN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Course title: **Anglican Theology and Ethics**

Term offered **January 2013**

Instructor(s) **Ellen K Wondra**

Contact information **ellen.wondra@seabury.edu; 773-380-7040**

Office hours:

- You may always email me at ellen.wondra@seabury.edu. I will reply within 24 hours. I will be happy to phone you if you wish; make sure to include your phone number.
- You may phone me Mon 1 p.m. - Thursday 5 p.m. at 773-380-7040, and other times by appointment.
- I will be available by appointment during the week of the classroom intensive. *Please* contact me before that week to arrange a time for us to talk! (If you don't, I can't guarantee time will be available.)

Course description

With some 85 million members in more than 160 countries, the Anglican Communion covers a lot of ground. In this course we will explore the variety of Anglican theology and ethics. We will begin by looking at contemporary Anglicanism as a global Communion. We will make a survey of historical and current Anglican theology and ethics in order to see how they shape the Communion's prospects. Within this framework, we will consider two subjects in particular: religious pluralism and how Anglicans are and might be responding to it; and the inter-relationship of theology, the moral life, and the church's role in society. Students will have an opportunity to explore a topic in greater depth through their own research and writing.

This course will give students

- An overview of the rich and diverse tradition of Anglican theology and ethics, with particular emphasis on contemporary global Anglicanism
- An opportunity to discuss a variety of readings and topics with each other and with the instructor
- An opportunity to engage in research and writing on a topic within the framework of the course

Students will have an opportunity to develop their skills in

- Theological reading and reflection
- Moral reasoning
- Understanding the diversity of theologies and cultures
- Respectful, open conversation with others
- Theological writing

Course objectives and goals:

Through this course, students

- Will know the living tradition of Christian faith as richly diverse.
- Become conversant with a variety of contexts and their perspectives across global Anglicanism.
- Be more able to articulate their own beliefs as part of a living tradition

The course is structured around the diversity of contexts and theological commitments found in the global Anglican Communion.

Evaluation of students in these areas will take into account Moodle posts, classroom discussion, and the final paper and use the assessment rubrics noted in the Assignments section of the syllabus. The course is heavily weighted toward reading and discussing texts and writing about texts and topics in a theological way.

The pedagogy of this course is largely discussion-based, whether online or in the classroom. Audio tapes of comments by the professor will also be used. Students will engage in reading, research, and at least two types of writing (online discussion, final paper).

The effectiveness of this pedagogy will be evaluated on the basis of students' achievement of the courses goals.

*Course work begins **January 2** in preparation for our intensive classroom sessions January 21 – 25.*

Important dates--please make sure that these are on your calendar.

- Jan. 2 -- course begins; see assignments posted on this page on Moodle and in the syllabus
- Jan. 21-25 -- on-campus intensive
 - Monday:
 - 8:15 -- class begins with Morning Prayer
 - 11:15 -- Eucharist, followed by lunch
 - 1:15 -- class reconvenes
 - 4:15 -- class ends
 - 4:20 -- Evensong
 - Tuesday - Friday:
 - 8:15 -- class begins with Morning Prayer
 - 11:15 -- Eucharist, followed by lunch
 - 1:15 -- class reconvenes
 - 4:15 -- class ends
- Feb. 15 -- **all** student work is due on this date. Note information in the syllabus and the Seabury Student Handbook for course completion policies and procedures. Late work submitted without the advance permission of the instructor will not be accepted.

- March 1 -- grades and evaluations due from instructor to Office of Academic Affairs. You will receive your grades, evaluations, and final work with comments after this date.

Requirements:

- Completion of required reading in a timely manner. Because this reading involves multiple authors, some on multiple topics, it's vital that you make precise references (author *and* title) in class, in Moodle discussions, and in your final paper.
Assessed on the basis of Moodle postings and in-class discussions. Appropriate use of required reading should also appear in the final paper.
- One substantive comment on Moodle per week and one substantive response per week January 2-19 and January 27-February 15—that is, all weeks *except* the week of the intensive. See assignments below for further detail.
Assessed on the basis of the rubric for online work (on Moodle)
- Attendance and informed participation in all on-site classroom sessions. “Informed participation” refers to contributions to the class that show knowledge and understanding of the topics and readings. This requirement applies to all participants, including those not enrolled for academic credit.
Assessed on the basis of the rubric for classroom discussion (on Moodle)
- Timely submission of a 10-15 page paper that explores further one of the topics of the course. Students who wish to pursue another topic must consult with the instructor in advance.
Assessed on the basis of the rubric for research papers (on Moodle)

Note to auditors and others not taking the course for academic credit:

Please plan to complete all required reading so that we can hold our classroom discussions at the level of discourse appropriate to a masters level course. You *may*, if you wish, contribute to the discussions on Moodle on the same terms as students enrolled for credit. Papers from auditors will not be accepted.

Please consult the course schedule, below, for all relevant deadlines.

Please note that participation in worship, while not required, is an integral part of students' formation.

Required reading:

Please see the course schedule for sequence and timing of the readings.

“Anglican Moral Theology,” two issues of the *Anglican Theological Review*, v. 94 no. 2 (Spring 2012) and v. 94 no. 3 (Fall 2012). We will be using most of the material in these two issues. Please order them directly from ATR by contacting Roberto Pamatamat, atr@seabury.edu, or by mail at ATR, 8765 W. Higgins Rd, Suite 650, Chicago, IL 60631 (tel: 773.380.7046). Price: \$30 for both issues, incl. mailing; \$24 if you pick issues up at the ATR office (located at Seabury).

Paul Avis, "Toward an Authentic Paradigm for Anglicanism," in *Anglicanism and the Christian Church*, 2nd ed. (London: T&T Clark, 2002), 335-354; on Moodle course site

Thomas Breidenthal, "Communion as Disagreement" in *Gays and the Future of Anglicanism: Responses to the Windsor Report*, ed. Andrew Linsey and Richard Kirker (NY: O Books, 2005), 188-198; available on Moodle course site

Thomas Breidenthal, "A Better Word: Witness and Communion for the Mission of God," *Sewanee Theological Review* v. 54 no. 2 (Easter 2011); available on Moodle course site

Sarah Coakley, "The Eschatological Body: Gender, Transformation, and God," *Modern Theology* v. 16 no. 1 (January 2000): 61-73; available on Moodle course site.

Sarah Coakley, "Living into the Mystery of the Holy Trinity: Trinity, Prayer, and Sexuality," *Anglican Theological Review* v. 80 no. 2 (Spring, 1998): 223-232; available on Moodle course site

Sarah Coakley, "Prayer as Crucible: How My Mind Has Changed," *Christian Century* March 22, 2011: 32-40; available on Moodle course site.

Christopher Duraisingh, "Mission-Shaped Church," *Anglican Theological Review* v. 92 no. 1 (Winter 2010); available on Moodle course site

David F. Ford, "An Interfaith Wisdom: Scriptural Reasoning between Jews, Christians, and Muslims," *Modern Theology* v. 22 no. 3 (July 2006): 345-366; available on Moodle course site.

David Hamid, "The Nature and Shape of the Contemporary Anglican Communion," in *Beyond Colonial Anglicanism*, ed. Ian T. Douglas and Kwok Pui-lan (NY: Church Publishing Inc., 2001), 77-98; on Moodle course site

Bruce Kaye, "Imagination and Change," in *Reinventing Anglicanism: A Vision of Confidence, Community and Engagement in Anglican Christianity* (NY: Church Publishing, 2003), 240-265; on Moodle course site

Kwok Pui-Lan, "Beyond Pluralism: Toward a Postcolonial Theology of Religious Difference," in *Postcolonial Imagination and Feminist Theology* (Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2005), 186-208; on Moodle course site

Kwok Pui-Lan, "The Legacy of Cultural Hegemony in the Anglican Church" in *Beyond Colonial Anglicanism*, ed. Ian T. Douglas and Kwok Pui-lan (NY: Church Publishing Inc., 2001), 47-70; on Moodle course site

Kathryn Tanner, "Economy of Grace," *Word & World* v. 30 no. 2 (Spring 2010): 174-181; available on Moodle course site

Kathryn Tanner, "Justification and Justice in a Theology of Grace," *Theology Today* v. 55 no. 4 (January 1999): 510-523; available on Moodle course site

Lectures by Rowan Williams; links on Moodle course site

"Christian Theology and Other Faiths" (Birmingham University, June 11, 2003);

<http://www.archbishopofcanterbury.org/articles.php/1825/christian-theology-and-other-faiths>

"Belief, Unbelief, and Religious Education" (10 Downing St., March 8, 2004)

<http://www.archbishopofcanterbury.org/articles.php/1838/belief-unbelief-and-religious-education>

"Analyzing Atheism" (Georgetown University, March 29, 2004)

<http://www.archbishopofcanterbury.org/articles.php/1211/analysing-atheism-unbelief-and-the-world-of-faiths>

Archbishop's address at al-Azhar al-Sharif, Cairo (September 11, 2004)

<http://www.archbishopofcanterbury.org/articles.php/1299/archbishops-address-at-al-azhar-al-sharif-cairo>

"Faith in the Public Square" (Leicester Cathedral, March 22, 2009)

<http://www.archbishopofcanterbury.org/articles.php/817/faith-in-the-public-square-lecture-at-leicester-cathedral>

Strongly recommended to have and to keep on hand:

Paul Avis, *Anglicanism and the Christian Church*, revised and expanded version (T&T Clark, 2002; ISBN 0 567 08745 x PB)

Mark Chapman, *Anglicanism: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford, 2006; ISBN 0192806939)

Ian T. Douglas and Kwok Pui-Lan, eds., *Beyond Colonial Anglicanism: The Anglican Communion in the Twenty-first Century* (Church Publishing Inc.; ISBN 0-89869-357-8)

Stephen Sykes, John Booty, and Jonathan Knight, ed. *The Study of Anglicanism*, revised edition (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1998)

Owen C. Thomas and Ellen K. Wondra, *Introduction to Theology* 3rd ed. (Harrisburg, PA: Morehouse, 2002)

Further information on assignments:

Posting on Moodle:

Every week *except* the week of the intensive, each student is required to contribute to the weekly online discussion forums by

- Posting on Moodle a 350 word (1 single spaced page) comment that
 - Addresses the topic under consideration that week
 - In a substantive way¹
 - That invites others to engage with and respond to the posting
- Posting on Moodle a 150 word (1/2 single spaced page) substantive¹ response to the posting(s) of *at least one* other student.

Final paper:

The purpose of the final paper is for the individual student to explore in greater depth and breadth a topic considered in the readings and discussions. While the paper should make use of required reading, it should also use other materials of an ecclesial-academic nature, such as one might find in a book, academic journal, formal address, or official church statement.²

In addition to familiarity with the topic and the material used, the paper should demonstrate critical thinking (the ability to analyze and evaluate texts and points of view) and the ability to move clearly and coherently from the material to an informed conclusion about the topic.

Papers should be 10-15 pp. long, or approx. 3500-5000 words, with appropriate citations to source material.³ *Grammar, spelling, clarity, and coherence count.*

The Seabury statement on responsible use of materials by others:

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is the taking of the words, ideas, and methods of others as one's own. In academia, plagiarism involves the use of others' words and ideas without adequate reference to the author or indication of quotation. It is a serious form of academic dishonesty or academic fraud, and offenders are subject to discipline, up to and including expulsion from the school. In order to avoid plagiarism, especially by inappropriate use or citation of quotations and ideas, students are expected to familiarize themselves with the requirements and practices of citation found in Turabian's *Manual for Writers*.

¹ *Substantive* in this context means that you engage the actual content of one or more of the readings and reflect on how your reading and thinking about it adds to your knowledge and understanding of the living Anglican tradition and/or the more particular topic at hand. Posts should demonstrate knowledge of the assigned texts and ability to engaged theological reflection. For example, what is the author suggesting about the nature of God, the nature of being human, the relationship between God and the world, and/or the Christian life (individual and corporate)? Comments on others' posts should also be substantive in the same sense.

² While you may use material on the internet such as Wikipedia and similar sources, as well as blogs and other statements of personal point of view, these are *not* acceptable as principal or primary sources. If you have questions about the adequacy of a source, please email ellen.wondra@seabury.edu with the source and your question about it

³ Please consult Turabian's *Manual for Writers* or an equivalent source for proper citation form and content.

Unfamiliarity with these requirements and practices is not an acceptable reason for unintentional plagiarism. Plagiarism cannot be evaded through the alteration of occasional words from one's source.

When plagiarism is detected, the instructor will assign the work an appropriate grade and then refer the matter, together with evidence, to the Academic Dean who, in consultation with the faculty and the President, will make an appropriate disposition of the matter, which may include failure of the course, academic probation for a designated period, suspension for a designated period, or expulsion from the program. The student's bishop will normally be notified of the situation.

Those who have questions about the nature and scope of plagiarism should consult the Academic Dean.

Note: Students enrolled in Seabury courses, even if they are matriculated at another school, are subject to Seabury policies during the course. Please familiarize yourself with the student handbook: <http://seabury.edu/student-resources.html>.

Course schedule

Date	Topics and assignments	Required reading
Jan. 2-5	Anglicanism: A global Communion	David Hamid, "The Nature and Shape of the Contemporary Anglican Communion," Moodle Kwok Pui-Lan, "The Legacy of Cultural Hegemony," Moodle Libby Gibson, "Ethics from the Other Side," <i>ATR</i> 94.4 (Fall 2012) Paul Avis, "Toward an Authentic Paradigm for Anglicanism," Moodle
Jan. 6-12	Where have we come from?	Wendy Dackson, "Anglicanism and Social Theology," <i>ATR</i> 92.4 Jeffrey Greenman, "Anglican Evangelicals," <i>ATR</i> 94.2 Timothy Sedgwick, "The Anglican Exemplary Tradition," <i>ATR</i> 93.2 Philip Lorish and Charles Mathewes, "Theology as Counsel," <i>ATR</i> 94.4
	Where are we going?	Christopher Duraisingh, "Mission-Shaped Church," Moodle Bruce Kaye, "Imagination and Change," Moodle Rowan Williams, "Faith in the Public Square," http://www.archbishopofcanterbury.org/articles.php/817/faith-in-the-public-square-lecture-at-leicester-cathedral
Jan. 13-20	Religious pluralism	Thomas Breidenthal, "Communion as Disagreement," Moodle Rowan Williams, "Christian Theology and Other Faiths" (Birmingham University, June 11, 2003); http://www.archbishopofcanterbury.org/articles.php/1825/christian-theology-and-other-faiths Rowan Williams, "Analyzing Atheism" (Georgetown University, March 29, 2004) http://www.archbishopofcanterbury.org/articles.php/1211/analyzing-atheism-unbelief-and-the-world-of-faiths
	Theology and moral life	Sarah Coakley, "Living into the Mystery of the Holy Trinity," Moodle. Sarah Coakley, "Prayer as Crucible," Moodle. Kathryn Tanner, "Economy of Grace," Moodle. Benjamin J. King, Robert MacSwain, and Jason A. Fout, "Contemporary Anglican Systematic Theology," <i>ATR</i> 94.2
Jan. 21-26	On-campus intensive	<i>No Moodle posting required this week</i>
Jan. 21	Monday Anglicanism: A global Communion	<i>Our discussion will draw on</i> David Hamid, "The Nature and Shape of the Contemporary Anglican Communion" Kwok Pui-Lan, "The Legacy of Cultural Hegemony" Libby Gibson, "Ethics from the Other Side"
Jan. 22	Tuesday Religious pluralism	<i>Our discussion will draw on</i> Thomas Breidenthal, "Communion as Disagreement" Rowan Williams, "Christian Theology and Other Faiths" Rowan Williams, "Analyzing Atheism"

Jan. 23	Wednesday Theology and moral life	<i>Our discussion will draw on</i> Wendy Dackson, "Anglicanism and Social Theology" Jeffrey Greenman, "Anglican Evangelicals" Timothy Sedgwick, "The Anglican Exemplary Tradition" Sarah Coakley, "Living into the Mystery of the Holy Trinity" Sarah Coakley, "Prayer as Crucible" Kathryn Tanner, "Economy of Grace"
Jan. 24	Thursday Where have we come from?	<i>Our discussion will draw on</i> Paul Avis, "Toward an Authentic Paradigm for Anglicanism," Wendy Dackson, "Anglicanism and Social Theology" Jeffrey Greenman, "Anglican Evangelicals" Timothy Sedgwick, "The Anglican Exemplary Tradition" Philip Lorish and Charles Mathewes, "Theology as Counsel"
Jan. 25	Friday Where are we going?	<i>Our discussion will draw on</i> Christopher Duraisingh, "Mission-Shaped Church" Bruce Kaye, "Imagination and Change" Kathryn Tanner, "Economy of Grace" Rowan Williams, "Faith in the Public Square" Benjamin J. King, Robert MacSwain, and Jason A. Fout, "Contemporary Anglican Systematic Theology"
Jan. 27- Feb. 2	Theology and moral life	Thomas Breidenthal, "A Better Word: Witness and Communion for the Mission of God," Moodle David Smith, "The Moral Theology or Casuistic Tradition," <i>ATR</i> 94.4 Kathryn Tanner, "Justification and Justice in a Theology of Grace," Moodle
Feb. 3-9	Religious Pluralism	David F. Ford, "An Interfaith Wisdom," Moodle. Rowan Williams, Archbishop's address at al-Azhar al-Sharif, Cairo, http://www.archbishopofcanterbury.org/articles.php/1299/archbishops-address-at-al-azhar-al-sharif-cairo
Feb. 10-15	Where are we going?	Sarah Coakley, "The Eschatological Body: Gender, Transformation, and God," Moodle Kwok Pui-Lan, "Beyond Pluralism," Moodle Rowan Williams, "Belief, Unbelief, and Religious Education" http://www.archbishopofcanterbury.org/articles.php/1838/belief-unbelief-and-religious-education

Feb. 15	<p><i>All work due by 9 p.m. CST, including Moodle postings and final paper.</i></p> <p>Late work submitted without the advance permission of the instructor will not be accepted.</p>	<p>Please submit your paper as an email attachment to ellen.wondra@seabury.edu</p> <p><i>Late work submitted without the advance permission of the instructor will not be accepted.</i></p>
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