THEO2002 - Christ: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow
Course Outline

Course Co-ordinator
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Lecturer NT studies
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Consultation hours: by appointment, or 24h by email Mon-Tue during semester.

Semester
Semester 2 - 2008
Unit Weighting
10
Teaching Methods
Lecture
Seminar

Brief Course Description
This course studies in detail the variety of beliefs which have been, and are held about Jesus Christ. Students will examine historical documents and beliefs about Jesus Christ from the New Testament, Patristic, and Reformation periods.

Particular emphasis will be placed on contemporary debate about the nature of Jesus in a global context. Students will be expected to reflect critically on contemporary understandings of Jesus which question his identification as the Christ (Messiah) and offer alternative identifications. They will also be expected to reflect critically on the identification of Jesus as God and the implications which competing theories have for claims to his divinity and humanity. Students will be expected to deal, thus, with writings of Christian and non-Christian theologians. They will note how themes identifiable in previous eras may resurface in new forms in contemporary debate.

Recognising the increasingly global nature of theology, students will also be expected to engage with Christologies formulated not only in Western academic theology, but in Africa, Asia, the Pacific, the Caribbean and South America and examine how context shapes understandings of Jesus. As context is broader in scope than geography, students will examine how other cultural phenomena, (eg., liberation theology, feminism, postmodernism) also impinge on this theological

Course Outline Issued and Correct as at: Week 1, Semester 2 - 2008

CTS Download Date: 29jun08
task.

**Contact Hours**
Seminar for 1 Hour per Week for the Full Term
Lecture for 2 Hours per Week for the Full Term

**Learning Materials/Texts**

**Course Objectives**
The aim of the course is to enable students to:

* Gain an historical perspective on the question of Christology;
* Reflect critically on the factors and presuppositions which shape different Christologies;
* Gain an understanding of a wide range of Christological beliefs;
* Engage critically with that range of Christological beliefs;
* Identify their own theological stance and awareness of its place within a diverse variety of beliefs;
* Articulate and defend their own theological stance;
* Develop new Christologies in the light of cultural and philosophical change;
* Locate their Christological beliefs within a broader nexus of belief.

**Course Content**

**Lectures**
Students will be required to attend two one hour lectures each week.

**Seminars**
Students will be required to attend a one hour seminar each week. Depending on the size of the cohort it is expected that faculty will lead the first 7 workshops and the remaining sessions will be led by students as a part of the assessment regime of the course.

**Assessment Items**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Items</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Essays / Written Assignments</td>
<td>1500 words 30% of the final course mark.</td>
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<td>1500 words 30% of the final course mark.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essays / Written Assignments</td>
<td>1500 words 30% of the final course mark.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other: (please specify)</td>
<td>Seminar leadership task</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10% of the final course mark.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Assumed Knowledge**
Introduction to Theological Method

**Callaghan Campus Timetable**

**THEO2002**

**CHRIST: YESTERDAY, TODAY AND TOMORROW**
Enquiries: School of Humanities and Social Science
Semester 2 - 2008
Lecture Monday 10:00 - 12:00 [MCG25A]
and Seminar Monday 12:00 - 13:00 [MCG25A]
Plagiarism

University policy prohibits students plagiarising any material under any circumstances. A student plagiarises if he or she presents the thoughts or works of another as one's own. Without limiting the generality of this definition, it may include:

- copying or paraphrasing material from any source without due acknowledgment;
- using another’s ideas without due acknowledgment;
- working with others without permission and presenting the resulting work as though it was completed independently.

Plagiarism is not only related to written works, but also to material such as data, images, music, formulae, websites and computer programs.

Aiding another student to plagiarise is also a violation of the Plagiarism Policy and may invoke a penalty.

For further information on the University policy on plagiarism, please refer to the Policy on Student Academic Integrity at the following link -


The University has established a software plagiarism detection system called Turnitin. When you submit assessment items please be aware that for the purpose of assessing any assessment item the University may -

- Reproduce this assessment item and provide a copy to another member of the University; and/or
- Communicate a copy of this assessment item to a plagiarism checking service (which may then retain a copy of the item on its database for the purpose of future plagiarism checking).
- Submit the assessment item to other forms of plagiarism checking

Written Assessment Items

Students may be required to provide written assessment items in electronic form as well as hard copy.

Marks and Grades Released During Term

All marks and grades released during the term, are indicative only until formally approved by the Head of School on the recommendation of the School Assessment body.

Extension of Time for Assessment Items, Deferred Assessment and Special Consideration for Assessment Items or Formal Written Examinations

Students are required to submit assessment items by the due date, as advised in the Course Outline, unless the Course Coordinator approves an extension of time for submission of the item. University policy is that an assessment item submitted after the due date, without an approved extension, will be penalised.

Any student:

1. who is applying for an extension of time for submission of an assessment item on the basis of medical, compassionate, hardship/trauma or unavoidable commitment; or

2. whose attendance at or performance in an assessment item or formal written examination has
been or will be affected by medical, compassionate, hardship/trauma or unavoidable commitment; must report the circumstances, with supporting documentation, to the appropriate officer following the instructions provided in the Special Circumstances Affecting Assessment Procedure - Policy 000641.

Note: different procedures apply for minor and major assessment tasks.

Please go to the Policy at http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000641.html for further information, particularly for information on the options available to you.

Students should be aware of the following important deadlines:

- **Requests for Special Consideration** must be lodged no later than 3 working days after the due date of submission or examination.
- **Requests for Extensions of Time on Assessment Items** must be lodged no later than the due date of the item.
- **Requests for Rescheduling Exams** must be received no later than ten working days prior the first date of the examination period

Your application may not be accepted if it is received after the deadline. In the first instance, students who are unable to meet the above deadlines due to extenuating circumstances should speak to their Program Officer or their Program Executive if studying in Singapore.

**Changing your Enrolment**

The census dates below are the last dates to withdraw without academic penalty. For onshore students, withdrawal on or before the census date means no financial penalty.

For semester 1 courses: 31 March 2008
For semester 2 courses: 31 August 2008
For Trimester 1 courses: 18 February 2008
For Trimester 2 courses: 9 June 2008
For Trimester 3 courses: 22 September 2008
For Trimester 1 Singapore courses: 3 February 2008
For Trimester 2 Singapore courses: 25 May 2008

Students may withdraw from a course without academic penalty on or before the last day of semester. Any withdrawal from a course after the last day of semester will result in a fail grade.

Students cannot enrol in a new course after the second week of semester/trimester, except under exceptional circumstances. Any application to add a course after the second week of semester/trimester must be on the appropriate form, and should be discussed with staff in the Student Hubs or with your Program Executive at PSB if you are a Singapore student.

To check or change your enrolment online, please refer to myHub - Self Service for Students https://myhub.newcastle.edu.au

**Faculty Information**

The Student Hubs are a one-stop shop for the delivery of student related services and are the first
point of contact for students studying in Australia.

The four Student Hubs are located at:

**Callaghan campus**

• Shortland Hub: Level 3, Shortland Union Building
• Hunter Hub: Student Services Centre, Hunter side of campus

**City Precinct**

• City Hub & Information Common: University House, ground floor in combination with an Information Common for the City Precinct

**Ourimbah campus**

• Ourimbah Hub: Administration Building

For Port Macquarie students, contact your program officer or [EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au](mailto:EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au), phone 4921 5000

For Singapore students, your first point of contact is your PSB Program Executive

**Faculty websites**

Faculty of Business and Law

Faculty of Education and Arts

Faculty of Engineering and Built Environment

Faculty of Health

Faculty of Science and Information Technology

**Contact details**

Callaghan, City and Port Macquarie

Phone: 02 4921 5000

Email: EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au

Ourimbah

Phone: 02 4348 4030

Email: EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au

**The Dean of Students**

Resolution Precinct

Phone: 02 4921 5806
Alteration of this Course Outline

No change to this course outline will be permitted after the end of the second week of the term except in exceptional circumstances and with Head of School approval. Students will be notified in advance of any approved changes to this outline.

Web Address for Rules Governing Undergraduate Academic Awards

Web Address for Rules Governing Postgraduate Academic Awards

Web Address for Rules Governing Professional Doctorate Awards

STUDENTS WITH A DISABILITY OR CHRONIC ILLNESS

The University is committed to providing a range of support services for students with a disability or chronic illness.

If you have a disability or chronic illness which you feel may impact on your studies, please feel free to discuss your support needs with your lecturer or course coordinator.

Disability Support may also be provided by the Student Support Service (Disability). Students must be registered to receive this type of support. To register please contact the Disability Liaison Officer on 02 4921 5766, or via email at: student-disability@newcastle.edu.au

As some forms of support can take a few weeks to implement it is extremely important that you discuss your needs with your lecturer, course coordinator or Student Support Service staff at the beginning of each semester.

For more information related to confidentiality and documentation please visit the Student Support Service (Disability) website at: www.newcastle.edu.au/services/disability

End of CTS Entry

Important Additional Information

Details about the following topics are available on your course Blackboard site (where relevant). Refer - www.blackboard.newcastle.edu.au/

- Written Assignment Presentation and Submission Details
- Online copy submission to Turnitin
- Penalties for Late Assignments
- Special Circumstances
COURSE AIMS

To present an overview of the person and work of Christ, allowing students to compare and contrast classic treatments of Christology with approaches in the 19-20th centuries and from a variety of cultures and contexts, some shaped by dialogue with other religious traditions.

Special attention will be paid to the reading of primary texts. Much secondary literature assumes knowledge of primary literature, and cross-references can be extensive. It can become easy to accept such references uncritically. Students will be encouraged to read primary literature for themselves so that they are able to reflect critically on claims made by contemporary scholars. These claims will involve a reading of comparative literature and an examination of its composition and provenance.

The seminar for each week will address the theme presented in the previous week’s lectures, encouraging students to read primary and secondary literature to make their own analyses of the cultural, social and literary phenomena as they appear in the 4 key texts.

Class Timetable for Semester

Classes will meet for a period of thirteen weeks, commencing Monday 21st July and finishing on October 27th, with a mid-semester break from Monday September 29th to Friday October 10th. The class time is 2pm to 5pm each Monday of the semester. [July 21, 28; August 4, 11, 18, 25; September 1, 8, 15, 22; October 13, 20, 27. Note: there is no class on November 3]

Preparation for lectures and seminars

It is expected that the student will have read the assigned readings for each week’s seminar, and will attend all lectures and seminars. The course lecturer will assist students in recognising the appropriate reference books and journals in theology.

Detailed nature of Summative Assessment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task (#)</th>
<th>Description of Topic</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Essays / Written Assignments</td>
<td>1500 words Essay 1</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Aug 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essays / Written Assignments</td>
<td>1500 words Essay 2</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Sep 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essays / Written Assignments</td>
<td>1500 words Essay 3</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Oct 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other: (please specify)</td>
<td>Seminar leadership task</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Assigned</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[See below for further details of assessment tasks]

General Alert

Students are required to submit all major written assignments (>20%) in electronic form via Turnitin on the course Blackboard, as well as a hard copy. The hard copy may be handed in during a class session, or to the Student Hub. You can expect to receive feedback on written assignments and
seminar tasks if completed by the due date.

Late assignments or a missed seminar presentation without permission will incur standard university penalties (see Important Additional Information section). Assessment is based on the stated course learning objectives (as indicated for each assignment), in keeping with the University’s policy (http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000779.html).

**Essays**

Each essay is worth 30% of your total mark. It must be received by 5pm on the due date shown in the Table above. It must be submitted by the deadline for you to receive timely feedback on progress - which will be based on a standard report form using grading criteria. This form is available in the Assessment section of the course Blackboard.

It is expected that the set-out and format of the essay should conform to academic standards appropriate to theological studies. At this level deductions will be made for inappropriate set-out and in text / footnote discrepancies. The word count does not include footnotes, bibliography or appendices. Please note:

a/ word count is for text only and does not include the Reference list that should contain at least six sources. These references should be academic secondary sources, not popularist or non-academic texts.

b/ up to nine in-text references are required, from at least six separate sources – no repeats of the same source with the in-text references.

c/ on rare occasions APA allows for a single footnote, use one of these in your paper.

Note the following requirements for your three essays. Each should be set out in appropriate style with adequate footnotes and bibliography. You will be required to use the Chicago/Turabian system. This means that there are no in-text references, but that each reference is placed in a footnote. Distinguish clearly between referencing convenions in a footnote and in a bibliography. Ascertain how to reference a multi-authored text, journal/serial and internet resources.

**Essay 1, due for submission by 5 pm on Monday 18th August. (1500 words)**

Does the Christology of *De Incarnatione Verbi* have any relevance today? Does this matter?

**Essay 2, due for submission by 5 pm on Monday 22nd September. (1500 words)**

Write a review of a major 20th century Christology for mainstream readers. Why is it a significant theological work? Examples might include one of:

- Sobrino, J., *Christology at the Crossroads*
- Moltmann, Jürgen. *Jesus Christ for Today’s World*
- Hick, John. *The Metaphor of God Incarnate: Christology in a Pluralistic Age*
- Wolfgang Pannenberg, *Jesus God and Man*
- Walter Kasper, *Jesus the Christ*

OR

Summarise and critically assess the Christology of a significant theologian of the 20th or 21st Centuries. What is the key contribution of this writer to Christological thinking?

OR

Outline a contextual theology. What are the significant points of contact between the Christological writing and the context from which it comes?
**Essay 3**, due for submission by **5 pm on Monday 20th October. (1500 words)**

What challenges will Christology need to address in the 21st century? (1500 words)

OR

Is the modern Christ only an instigator of social change?

**LECTURE TOPICS AND RESOURCES**

21/07 Week 1 Introduction and Overview (Assoc. Prof. G. Feletti)

Introduction and Formalities
The Christ We Share

28/07 Week 2 The Biblical Foundations of Christology (Fr Roger Dyer)

04/08 Week 3 The Atonement (Fr Roger Dyer)

11/08 Week 4 What’s in a Name? Titles and Christologies of the NT

Titles
Jesus in Synoptics, John, Paul and Hebrews (thumbnail sketches)
Who Did Jesus Think He Was?

18/08 Week 5 How Greek was My Daddy? - Christ in the Church Fathers

Heretics and Fathers- The Development of Christology
The Divinity of Jesus
*De Incarnatione verbi*
The Chalcedonian Formulation

25/08 Week 6 When is a Heresy an Orthodoxy?: Christ in the Eastern & Oriental Traditions

Kenosis
The Oriental/Eastern divide

01/09 Week 7 “Who Pays the Ferryman?”: Christ, Chivalry and Hell in Medieval Europe

Christology
Atonement: Anselm and Abelard

08/09 Week 8: What Really Changed at the Reformation?: Jesus Christ in the Thinking of the Reformers

“Trinitarian” Christology revisited
Calvin, Calvinists & penal substitution
Arminius and Free Will
Luther and Christ
The Empire Strikes Back: Christ in the Counter Reformation (e.g., Ignatius)
Unitarianism and Socinianism

15/09 Week 9: Can You Believe Impossible Things before Breakfast?: Rationalism, The Enlightenment and the Quest for the Historical Jesus

Schleiermacher, to The Quest for the Historical Jesus
22/09 Week 10: How New is New? Christology in the 20th Century

After the War was over: the Rise of Neo-Orthodoxy
Tillich
Bultmann
Schillebeeckx
Von Balthasar
Orthodox Christology in the 20th century
Rahner

13/10 Week 11: Right Thinking or Left Doing?: The Challenge of Liberation Theology

South America
Dalit
Munjing
Black: SA, US and Dread
Feminist

20/10 Week 12: Can You Have Kangaroos at the Last Supper?: Monty Python, Michelangelo and Contextual Theology

The Buddhist Christ
The Hindu Christ
Christ and Islam
Christ in Africa: The Chief, the Healer, the Ancestor and Creator

27/10 Week 13

Presentations of essay 2 for class discussions (part of assessment)
Summing Up: Christology for the 21st Century
Opportunities for Reflection & Feedback

SEMINARS READING LIST and COURSE TEXTS
Seminars will take the form of critical reflection of the material covered in the previous week’s lectures. Students are thus encouraged to reflect on what they heard and give an evaluation of it

Course Texts:
Gerald O’Collins, Interpreting Jesus, Eugene: Wipf & Stock, 2002
Athanasius, De Incarnatione Verbi (http://www.worldinvisible.com/library/athanasius/incarnation/incarnation.c.htm)
V. Kuster, The Many Faces of Christ, Orbis, 2001

Reading List
P. Farrington, “The Orthodox Christology of St Severus of Antioch”, Quodlibet Journal: Volume 3 Number 3, Summer 2001
On-line at http://www.quodlibet.net/farrington-severus.shtml
Kasper, W., Jesus the Christ, NY: Paulist, 2002
Meyendorff, John, Christ in Eastern Christian Thought, Crestwood: St Vladimir’s Seminary Press, 1975.
Moltmann, J., Jesus Christ for Today’s World, Minneapolis: Fortress, 1994
Pannenberg, W., Jesus God and Man, Louisville, WJKP, 1983.
Python, M., “Michelangelo & the Pope”.
On-line at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J4oKXagF3IE
The Historical Figure of Jesus, London: Penguin, 1995.
### THEO2002 Semester 2 Weekly Schedule 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Lecture Topic &amp; Assessment due dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>21/07/2008</td>
<td>Introduction &amp; Overview</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>28/07/2008</td>
<td>Biblical foundations of Christology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>4/08/2008</td>
<td>The Atonement</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>11/08/2008</td>
<td>Times and Christologies of the NT</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>18/08/2008</td>
<td>Christ in the Church Fathers</td>
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<td><strong>Essay 1 due by 5pm</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>25/08/2008</td>
<td>Christ in the Eastern &amp; Oriental Traditions</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>1/09/2008</td>
<td>Christ, chivalry and hell in Medieval Europe</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>8/09/2008</td>
<td>Jesus Christ in the thinking of the reformers</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>15/09/2008</td>
<td>Rationalism, Enlightenment &amp; the quest for Historical Jesus</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>22/09/2008</td>
<td>Christology in the 20th Century</td>
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<td><strong>Essay 2 due by 5pm</strong></td>
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<td><strong>26/9 to 12 Oct. Semester break (2 weeks)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>13/10/2008</td>
<td>The challenge of Liberation Theology</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>20/10/2008</td>
<td>Monty Python, Michaelangelo &amp; Contextual Theology</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Essay 3 due by 5pm</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>27/10/2008</td>
<td>Summing up, Student Presentations and Course Evaluation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Examination period:** Tuesday 10 June to Friday 27 June 2008

GF & FK: 8jul08