

## STD 450T Christology

Fall Semester 2021

### Course Outline

#### Class Start Date & End Date

Friday, September 17, 2021

Friday, December 3, 2021

#### Class Meeting Time, Location, and Room

8:30-11:20; 13:00-16:00, Friday, September 17, October 1, 22, November 5, 19, December 3  
St. Francis Room

**Instructors Name:** Fr. Dave Norman O.F.M.  
**Office:** 2—06  
**Office Hours:** Before class or by appointment  
**Telephone:** 780-392-2450 ext. 2215  
780-476-2338 (Franciscan Friary)  
**Email:** [dave.norman@newman.edu](mailto:dave.norman@newman.edu)  
**Skype:** NA

#### Course Description

The contemporary problematic in Christology. The claims and challenges posed by Jesus in his preaching and life. His rejection, death, and resurrection. Jesus Christ as divine and human. Traditional and contemporary Christologies.

#### Course Objectives

The course objectives aim at addressing and promoting the integration of the following aspects: analysis, comprehension, knowledge, synthesis, application, and evaluation.

- a) **Intellectual Formation** - The course will bring students to a greater appreciation of the person and mission of Jesus Christ by presenting a modern, but scripturally based interpretation of Jesus' ministry, death, and resurrection. The course will foster the development of a thoughtful, critical mind—essential to doing theology as “faith seeking understanding”—in the context of the Church and world. The course will foster the practice of research and technical skills necessary to do acceptable theological reflection and work. The course will demonstrate the importance of Christology to other areas or branches (Scripture, Foundations,

Moral/Spiritual/Pastoral) of theology. This objective aims to meet the MRE Program Goal—Theological Instruction.

- b) **Cultural Context** - The course will promote an evangelical discernment of the ‘signs of the times’ to engage with the reality of cultural diversity in the Church and world through the lens of a Christology that will engage the cultural context found in western Canada. This objective aims to meet the cultural context goal in the MRE.
- c) **Personal and Spiritual Formation** - The course will foster growth in terms of human and Christian maturity through the promotion of a critical and profound faith understanding of Jesus, Son of God and son of Mary, so that the spiritual and liturgical life of students may be enhanced. The course will foster maturation in the Christian faith through assigned readings and group discussions so that students may come to see discipleship in Jesus Christ as a dimension of public witness. Implied in this is the MRE goal of personal and spiritual formation, which aims to foster the spiritual life and vocation of Catholic educators.

### MRE Program Students

- a) **Theological Instruction** - The program shall offer students instruction in the major areas of Catholic theology.
- b) **Religious Education Instruction** - The program shall offer instruction in the discipline of Religious education.
- c) **Cultural Context** - The program shall foster a capacity to discern and engage the cultural context as it impacts Catholic education.
- d) **Personal and Spiritual Formation** - The program shall offer students with opportunities to grow in their spiritual life and in their vocation as Catholic educators and witnesses to the Gospel.
- e) **Integrating Theory and Praxis** - The program shall offer integration of theological knowledge and religious education formation in the professional work of Catholic education.

### Course Assignments and Evaluation

All written work will be graded on content (70%) and style (30%). For an “A” the written work must demonstrate a clear, discerning eye; and the prose must be clear, comprehensive, insightful, well organized, and contain few if any grammatical and/or spelling errors. For a mark of A+ the work is of publishable quality. The difference between an A and an A- can be attributable to a stylistic deficiency, a deficiency in content, or both. For a “B+” or “B,” the written work demonstrates a suitably clear presentation of the material and is adequately organized with a minimum number of grammatical and/or spelling errors. For a mark of “B-” or less, the content is deficient, the writing is not clear nor are the ideas expressed or organized very well, and there are numerous grammatical and/or spelling errors.

As regards the synopsis on *The Challenge of Jesus* and that on *Jesus the Christ*, the aim of the assignment is to demonstrate a grasp of the thesis of the book through an exposition of the important points. You may want to summarize the chapters, or you may want to focus on those chapters you consider central to the thesis. Remember, you cannot summarize the content of the book, so you need to discern the most significant aspects. A critique of the book is welcome, but not obligatory. As for the critique, the first thing I look for is a comment on some of the following: is the book readable; are the ideas expressed clearly; is the topic adequately addressed; does the book miss something that, in your opinion, should have been covered? The second thing I look for is evidence of your own appropriation of the book. How did the book influence your life or work? Did the book do anything to advance your faith understanding?

## Textbooks

N.T. Wright's *The Challenge of Jesus*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1999, 9-202.  
Walter Kasper's *Jesus the Christ (New Edition)*. New York: Continuum, 2011. You must read "The Introduction to the New Edition, Part II: The History and Destiny of Jesus Christ, and Part III: The Mystery of Jesus.

## Recommended Reading

David J. Norman O.F.M. "Doubt and the Resurrection of Jesus," in *Theological Studies* Volume 69, Number 4, 2008, 786-811.

## Course Requirements

For 25% of the final mark a synopsis of 6-7 pages (300 words per page, 12 Pt font) on N.T. Wright's *The Challenge of Jesus*. Due Date: October 1, 2021, at the end of class. Please submit hard copies. Late papers will be accepted up until October 8, 2021, but they will be docked 10%.

For 40% of the final mark a synopsis of 11-12 pages (300 words per page, 12 Pt font) on Walter Kasper's *Jesus the Christ (New Edition)*. You must read the new edition of *Jesus the Christ*. Your synopsis must include the Introduction to the New Edition along with Part II: The History and Destiny of Jesus Christ and Part III: The Mystery of Jesus Christ. You are not expected to include Part I: Jesus Christ Today as part of the synopsis. Due Date: November 5, 2021, at the end of class. Late papers will be accepted up until November 15th, but they will be docked 20%. Please submit hard copies.

For 35% of the final mark a paper of 10-11 pages (300 words per page, 12Pt font) or a lesson plan of one hour's duration on the essential elements of a Christology for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Due date: December 3, 2021. **No late assignments will be accepted.**

**Late Submission Policy.**

See Course Requirements.

**Course Schedule**

**September 17**

**Introduction**

**I—Jesus Reveals God as Father (*Abba*)**

- A. Jesus shows himself to be from the Father
- B. Jesus restructures interpersonal relationships
- C. Jesus breaks the patriarchal-filial mould
- D. Jesus is the child raised to perfection
- E. Jesus and “*Abba*”

**October 1**

**II—Jesus Preaches the Reign of God**

- A. The reign of God in the Old Testament
- B. Jesus preaches an eschatological reign
- C. Jesus preaches the reign of God as both present and future
- D. The establishment of the reign is God’s initiative
- E. The reign of God demands and urgent response

**III—Jesus Forgives Sins**

- A. Sin
- B. Sin and debt
- C. The parable of the prodigal son

**October 22**

**IV—Jesus Brings the Judgment of God**

- A. Divine Judgment in Israel
- B. Judgment in the New Testament

**V—The Baptism of Jesus**

- A. The essential elements
- B. Why did Jesus submit to John’s baptism?
- C. An analysis of the texts

**November 5**

**VI—The Temptations of Jesus**

- A. The text of Matthew

**VII—The Miracles of Jesus**

- A. What is a miracle?
- B. Miracles as signs

- C. Miracles are not a proof; they provide evidence
- D. The role of faith

November 19

**VIII—The Death of Jesus**

- A. Jesus is rejected
- B. Why was Jesus put to death?
- C. How did Jesus see his approaching death
- D. Jesus undergoes his death freely
- E. The soteriological dimensions of Jesus' death
- F. The death of Jesus as a sign of the love of God

**IX—The Transition from Death to Resurrection**

- A. The state of the disciples at the death of Jesus
- B. Jesus' arrest and subsequent passion and death
- C. After Jesus' death

December 3

**X—The Early Preaching of the Resurrection-Exaltation**

- A. The texts and their claims
- B. The implications of Jesus' resurrection
- C. The resurrection appearances
  1. Faith and history
  2. The initiative of God, the appearance of the risen one
  3. Recognition and non-recognition
  4. The death of Jesus as the basis for the non-recognition

**XI—Divinity and Humanity of Jesus**

**XII—Resurrection of the Body**

**General Academic Information**

**Course Attendance**

No credit will be given for a course if the student has been absent, for any reason whatever, from one-third or more of the lectures and/or seminars scheduled for the term. Likewise, no credit will be given if term assignments or other assignments are or remain incomplete.

**Leave of Absence and Policy for Incompletes**

Extensions to an incomplete grade may be granted in extenuating circumstances, but may not exceed 16 weeks following the end of the course. Students who fail to complete course work by the agreed deadline will have a grade assigned which is based on work completed.

**Academic Integrity**

Acts of academic dishonesty (plagiarism, cheating, etc.) are subject to an appropriate penalty. The grade “F” may be assigned to a student guilty of such acts by the professor of the course in which the infraction occurred. A second offense against academic integrity renders the student liable to automatic dismissal from NTC. Further details are available in the Academic Calendar in the Academic Misconduct Policy.

**Academic Grievances**

Students may appeal grades received; the procedure is outlined in the Academic Calendar in the Grade Appeal Policy. For other grievances, students will refer to the Student Grievances Policy also outlined in the Academic Calendar.

*NOTE: The GPA is computed on the basis of cumulative grade point (letter) values, not percentage values. All courses are included in this calculation except those exceeding degree requirements and/or received as transfer credits from other recognized institutions.*

**Grading System**

Undergraduate Studies		
Grade Meaning	Grade	Grade Point
Excellent	A+	4.0
	A	4.0
	A-	3.7
Good	B+	3.3
	B	3.0
	B-	2.7
Adequate	C+	2.3
	C	2.0
	C-	1.7
Marginal	D+	1.3
	D	1.0
Fail	F	0.0

Graduate Studies		
Grade Meaning	Grade	Grade Point
Excellent	A+	4.0
	A	4.0
	A-	3.7
Good	B+	3.3
	B	3.0
	B-	2.7
Adequate	C+	2.3
	C	2.0
	C-	1.7
Fail	D+	1.3
	D	1.0
	F	0.0

### **Written Assignments - Style and Format**

Newman Theological College requires that all written work be submitted in acceptable academic format and style. Please note the following regulations:

#### **Regulations**

Research papers, book reports, article summaries, reflection papers, and essays should be double-spaced, printed on one side only, and submitted on white, 8.5" x 11" paper.

A standard type style, such as Times New Roman, with a 12-point font size, must be used. The instructor will specify the most recent edition of the style manual to be used:

2. Kate Turabian, "A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations" (Chicago: University of Chicago Press).
3. Joseph Gibaldi & William Ahters, eds., "MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers" (New York: Modern Language Association of America).
4. American Psychological Association "Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association" (Washington: APA Publications).

Copies of these standard references may be purchased in the NTC bookstore.

Ignorance of standard form is not considered an acceptable excuse for deviation from required standards of format and style.

#### **Academic Regulations**

The following Academic Regulations are located in the Academic Calendar for your reference:

- Changes in Registration: Add/Drop/Withdraw Notice
- Course Work
- Final Examination Schedule
- Incomplete Grade Policy
- Inclusive Language

#### **Related Academic Matters**

The following Related Academic Matters are located in the Academic Calendar for your reference:

- Grade Reports & Posting
- Glossary of Academic Terms

#### **Other Related Policies**

The following policies are located in the Academic Calendar for your reference:

- Academic Misconduct Policy
- Grade Appeal Policy

### **Recording of Lectures**

Audio or video recording of lectures, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior consent of the instructor. Recorded material is to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the content author(s).

### **Student Accessibility Services:**

A student with special needs that could affect their performance in class should contact their professor during the first week of the term so that appropriate arrangements can be made. They should also register with Student Services by contacting Sr. Zoe Bernatsky at 780-392-2450 ext. 2213; email [zoe.bernatsky@newman.edu](mailto:zoe.bernatsky@newman.edu)

**No Bibliography for STD 450T.**