

THE CONTENT OF THIS DESCRIPTION IS NOT A LEARNING CONTRACT AND THE INSTRUCTOR IS NOT BOUND TO IT. IT IS OFFERED IN GOOD FAITH AND INTENDED AS A HELPFUL GUIDE TO THE STUDENT.

TITLE: Disability, Illness, and Healing in the Bible

TERM: Spring 2021-2022

PROFESSOR: Dan Frayer-Griggs

CREDIT HOURS: 3

REGISTRATION: LIMITED TO: _____
AUDITORS: 2

UNLIMITED X
NO AUDITORS _____

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

An examination of the themes of disability, illness, and healing across the canon, this course will bring historically and theologically sensitive readings of biblical texts into conversation with recent insights from the burgeoning field of Disability Studies, giving significant attention to contemporary pastoral and theological implications for the Church.

CLASS OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this course students should be able to:

- Articulate a basic hermeneutical theory and show understanding of how interpreters from a disability perspective approach the task of interpretation.
- Discuss and evaluate competing definitions of “disability” and how these definitions relate to Bible study.
- Demonstrate an ability to integrate historical and theological reflection on the Bible with contemporary concerns arising from the field of Disability Studies.
- Reflect pastorally on how insights gleaned from Disability Studies might influence and enrich preaching and teaching about healing in the Church.

PREREQUISITES:

NT110, NT120, OT110, OT120, CH110, and CH120; if an MTS student would like to take this course and is not on the “General Track,” please seek permission of the instructor.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS/READING:

- A complete study Bible with Apocrypha/deuterocanonical books.
- Fox, Bethany McKinney. *Disability and the Way of Jesus: Holistic Healing in the Gospels and the Church*. Downers Grove, IL: Intervarsity Press, 2019.
- Melcher, Sarah J., Mikeal C. Parsons, and Amos Yong, eds. *The Bible and Disability: A Commentary*. Waco, TX: Baylor University Press, 2017.
- Yong, Amos. *The Bible, Disability, and the Church: A New Vision of the People of God*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2011.

ASSIGNMENTS & GRADING:

Participation (10% of the grade); Hermeneutic Paper (3-5 pages; 20% of the grade); Pastor Interview and Reflection Paper (5-7 pages; 30% of the grade); Exegetical Analysis (10-15 pages; 40% of the grade)

ATTENDANCE: Required