

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:**           Advanced Theological Writing

**TERM:**   Spring 2019-2020  

**PROFESSOR:**     Mary O'Shan Overton

**CREDIT HOURS:**    3   

**REGISTRATION:** LIMITED TO:    12     
# AUDITORS:    3   

UNLIMITED             
NO AUDITORS           

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course will invite students into graduate-level and professional theological writing through critical readings, robust discussions, and regular writing practices. The course posits theological writing as a rhetorical process in which writer-theologians must pay close attention to their audience(s) and purpose(s) within a particular context in order to construct an effective writer's voice. Students will read theological writers, engage their theological imaginations, and write a number of essays that will assist them in developing a writer's voice appropriate for each project undertaken, with an ear toward academic success and beyond.

### **CLASS OBJECTIVES:**

- 1) To improve student reading and writing through critical and analytical reading of theological writers and through rhetorically informed theological writing practices, both assigned weekly.
- 2) To assist students to utilize rhetorical analysis in their reading and writing so that they will be able to construct a writer's voice that is responsive to the purpose, language, and context of each writing project, whether it is for academic, ecclesial, and/or societal audiences.
- 3) To expose students to a variety of theological voices from the Christian tradition so that they might recognize the differences and similarities of theologians as writers.
- 4) To inspire the imaginations and creativity of student theological writers through reading and writing theologically imaginative works, that students might develop more versatile theological voices.

**PREREQUISITES:** OT 120, NT 120, CH 120, TH 210, & CS 110 (preferred). Or by permission of the instructor.

### **REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS/READING:**

#### **Required Books**

Denise Ackermann. *After the Locusts: Letters from a Landscape of Faith*. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company and Republic of South Africa: David Philip Publishers, 2003.  
ISBN 10: 0864866046 / ISBN-13: 978-0864866042 / \$14.24

Lucretia B. Yaghjian. *Writing Theology Well: A Rhetoric for Theological and Biblical Writers*. 2nd ed. New York: Bloomsbury T & T Clark, 2015. ISBN-10: 0567499170 / ISBN-13: 978-0567499172 / \$27.48

Kate L. Turabian. *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations: Chicago Style for Students & Researchers*. 9th ed. Eds. Wayne C. Booth, et al. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 2018.  
ISBN-10: 022643057X / ISBN-13: 978-0226430577 / \$13.49

### **ASSIGNMENTS & GRADING:**

- A. Weekly Writing Assignments
- B. Final Papers
- C. Class Participation

**ATTENDANCE:** Required.