GRADUATE COURSE DESCRIPTION

Term:           Spring 2017
Instructor:     Rev. Robert Doran, S.J.
Course #:       THEO 8518
Course Title:   Soteriology

Content:

The course will begin with a review of recent New Testament accounts of Jesus’ aims and intentions in his public life and death -- Ben F. Meyer, N.T. Wright, Raymund Schwager in particular. Next Wright’s account of the movement from Jesus’ intentions to NT atonement theology, especially in Paul, will be studied. Lonergan’s efforts to construct a systematic soteriology in the as yet unpublished book 'The Redemption' (vol. 8 in his Collected Works) will be studied; the manuscript in preparation will be made available. Finally, an effort will be made to evaluate the possible contributions to soteriology from the standpoint of Girardian mimetic theory. Peter Laughlin, JESUS AND THE CROSS: NECESSITY, MEANING, AND ATONEMENT, will provide an overall framework. The theology of the resurrection will be stressed as an integral element of soteriology. Again, Wright’s work will be used for this, in summary fashion.

Students are encouraged to work on other approaches, if they so choose, and to contribute to discussion from those perspectives.

Format:

Seminar format, with professor and students sharing the responsibility for presenting material and leading discussion.

Assignments and/or Examinations:

- One major paper on a topic and/or author chosen by each student. Regular presentations of the reading material for discussion, shared with professor.

Language Pre-requisites:

- Latin helpful for the Lonergan text, but not required. A translation will be provided.