

ST. MARY'S ECUMENICAL INSTITUTE
Spring 2019

**Friday, January 18, February 15, and March 15 – 6:00–9:00 pm AND
Saturday, January 19, February 16, and March 16 – 8:30 am–4:30 pm**

**TH651 Text and Tradition: Health, Healing, and Human Flourishing in the Biblical
Narrative (CONNECT, Module 1)**

Drs. Joel Shuman and Brian Volck

Course Description: A theological conversation about faith, health, and the practice of medicine and its allied professions must take seriously the importance of scripture and the faith community's ongoing participation in the traditions of reading, interpreting, and embodying it. In this module, we will survey the biblical narrative to discern its particular vision of health, healing, and human flourishing – what the authors of the First Testament call *shalōm*.

Course Requirements:

- **Reading:** Students should expect to read at most 800 pages of required reading and should come prepared to discuss readings in class.
- **Writing:** Four short (2-3 pages each) essays in response to questions posed during the course (60% total, 15% each);
- **Other:** Final oral presentation of a well-researched account of a particular biblical passage having to do with health, healing, and human flourishing (30%); class participation (10%)

Required Texts:

- Kate Bowler, *Everything Happens for a Reason and Other Lies I've Loved*, (New York: Random House, 2018). 978-0399592065
- Michael Coogan, ed., *The New Oxford Annotated Bible, NRSV, with Apocrypha*, 4th edition (New York: Oxford University Press, 2010). 978-0195289602
- Frederick J. Gaiser, *Healing in the Bible: Theological Insight for Christian Ministry* (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2010). 978-0801031014
- Stanley Hauerwas, *God, Medicine, and Suffering* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1994). 978-0802808967
- Allen Verhey, *Reading the Bible in the Strange World of Medicine* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2003). 978-0802822635