

St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute
Spring 2021

Monday, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

MT600 Fundamentals of Theological Ethics

Dr. Brian Berry

Prerequisites: TH601 or permission of instructor

Course Description:

A survey of the history of Christian theological ethics, including examination of major contemporary approaches and applied issues in political, economic, sexual, medical and environmental ethics. Students will gain an understanding of the historical, theological and philosophical foundations of Christian ethics, and an ability to express in an organized and coherent way their own positions on a range of contemporary moral issues.

Course Requirements:

- **Reading:** Students should expect to read at most 850 pages of required reading and should come prepared to discuss readings in class.
- **Writing:** Students should expect to write at most 35 double-spaced pages. These will be comprised of the following:
 - Weekly one-page papers, with the semester cap of 12 total pages (50%).
 - A mid-term and final take-home exam of 10-12 pages each (40%).
- **Other:** Attendance and class participation (10%).

Required Texts:

- Samuel Wells and Ben Quash with Rebekah Eklund, *Introducing Christian Ethics*, 2nd ed. Malden, MA: Wiley Blackwell, 2017. ISBN 9781119155720.
- Samuel Wells, ed., *Christian Ethics: An Introductory Reader*. Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell, 2010. ISBN 9781405168878.
- Robin W. Lovin, *An Introduction to Christian Ethics: Goals, Duties, and Virtues*. Nashville, TN: Abingdon, 2011. ISBN 9780687467365.
- Miguel A. De La Torre, *Christian Ethics from the Margins*, 2nd ed., rev. and expanded. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis, 2014. ISBN 9781626980754.
- William C. Spohn, *What Are They Saying About Scripture and Ethics?* fully rev. and expanded ed. New York: Paulist, 1996. ISBN 9780809136094.
- James F. Childress and John Macquarrie, eds., *The Westminster Dictionary of Christian Ethics*, rev. ed. Philadelphia: Westminster John Knox, 1986. ISBN 9780664227678.