

St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute
Spring 2022

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

MT600 Fundamentals of Theological Ethics

Dr. Dan Bell

Prerequisites: TH601 or permission of instructor

Course Description:

A discussion-focused seminar that introduces 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, view 2 hours of videos, and be prepared to discuss them in class.
- **Writing:** Students should expect to write at most 25 pages, consisting of the following:
 - Three seminar / discussion papers of 2 pages each.
 - A short reflection essay on a movie (2 pages)
 - A mid-term (5-6 pages) and final paper (6-8 pages).
- **Other:** Attendance and class participation.
 - Including brief (a few sentences to a short paragraph) weekly posts and peer replies to an asynchronous discussion board on Canvas.

Required Texts:

- Samuel Wells and Ben Quash with Rebekah Eklund, *Introducing Christian Ethics*, 2nd ed. Malden, MA: Wiley Blackwell, 2017. ISBN 9781119155720.
- William C. Spohn, *Go And Do Likewise: Jesus and Ethics*. New York: Continuum, 2007. ISBN-13: 978-0826412911