

POINT LOMA NAZARENE UNIVERSITY
THE 3050 Theology and the Natural Sciences
Fall 2019

Instructor: Sam Powell

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Office hours: MWF 1:00-2:30. Other times may be scheduled by appointment by sending me an email.

Office: Smee Hall, The Wesleyan Center

Department assistant: 849.2234

This course is one of the components of the General Education Program at Point Loma Nazarene University, under the category of “Responding to the Sacred.” By including this course in a common educational experience for undergraduates, the faculty supports the study of Scripture and Christian heritage as foundational in the pursuit of knowledge and the development of personal values.

Learning outcomes:

- Interpret relevant biblical texts responsibly,
- Analyze the elements of the Christian doctrine of creation.
- Appraise the significance of scientific theories for Christian theology.

Required reading:

- Ilia Delio, *Care for Creation: A Franciscan Spirituality of the Earth*
- Malcolm Jeeves and Warren, Jr. Brown, *Neuroscience, Psychology, and Religion: Illusions, Delusions, and Realities about Human Nature*
- Peter Enns, *Evolution of Adam, The: What the Bible Does and Doesn't Say about Human Origins*
- Elaine Heath, *Five Means of Grace*
- Denis Lamoureux, *Evolution: Scripture and Nature Say Yes*
- Other assigned reading available via Ebrary

Requirements:

1. Punctual attendance. You may miss up to four sessions without penalty. Every absence after the fourth will result in a deduction of 1/2% from your final grade. You will be allowed to be late twice; after the second occasion, arriving to class after roll is taken will result in a grade reduction of 1/4% per occasion. If you are late, you must bring it to my attention at the end of the class session. More than 9 absences may result in de-enrollment.
2. Two exams. The final exam will cover the entire course. The exams will be a combination of multiple choice and short essay questions.
3. Discussions, in Canvas, on assigned reading.
4. An essay. Due Friday, Nov. 22 at class time.

Grading (percentages are approximate):

Midterm exam	65
Final exam	100
Canvas discussions	50
Essay	100

PLNU POLICIES

- **INCOMPLETES AND LATE ASSIGNMENTS:** All assignments are to be submitted/turned in by the beginning of the class session when they are due—including assignments posted in Canvas. Incompletes will only be assigned in extremely unusual circumstances.

- FINAL EXAMINATION POLICY: Successful completion of this class requires taking the final examination on its scheduled day. The final examination schedule is posted on the Class Schedules site. **No requests for early examinations or alternative days will be approved.**
- PLNU COPYRIGHT POLICY: Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.
- PLNU ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY: Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. Academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one's own when in reality they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for that assignment or examination, or, depending on the seriousness of the offense, for the course. Faculty should follow and students may appeal using the procedure in the university Catalog. See Academic Policies for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further policy information.
- PLNU ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY: If you have a diagnosed disability, please contact PLNU's Disability Resource Center (DRC) within the first two weeks of class to demonstrate need and to register for accommodation by phone at 619-849-2486 or by e-mail at DRC@pointloma.edu. See Disability Resource Center for additional information.

OTHER MATTERS:

- Email is an official mode of communication in this course.
- Computers and other electronic devices may not be used in class.
- Procrastination and denial: If you find yourself getting behind in assignments, it is important to communicate with me so that you don't get into a downward spiral of missing assignments.
- Inclusive language: The School of Theology and Christian Ministry is committed to the equality of women and men. Recognizing that people have often used the English language in ways that imply the exclusion or inferiority of women, the department urges students, faculty and staff to avoid sexist language in public discourse, in classroom discussion, and in their writings.

4-Sep	
6-Sep	McGrath, c. 5
9-Sep	McGrath, pp. 65-78
11-Sep	McGrath, pp. 78-82
13-Sep	McGrath, pp. 82-86
16-Sep	McGrath, pp. 86-92
18-Sep	McGrath (continued)
20-Sep	McGrath, pp. 102-106
23-Sep	McGrath, pp. 106-112
25-Sep	McGrath, pp. 112-116
27-Sep	McGrath (continued)
30-Sep	Evolution of Adam, c. 1
2-Oct	Evolution of Adam, c. 2
4-Oct	Evolution of Adam, c. 3
7-Oct	Evolution of Adam, c. 4
9-Oct	Chapters by Wiley and Marty
11-Oct	Chapter by McGrath

14-Oct	Evolution: Scripture and Nature Say Yes, c. 1
16-Oct	Evolution: Scripture and Nature Say Yes, c. 2
18-Oct	Evolution: Scripture and Nature Say Yes, c. 3
21-Oct	Evolution: Scripture and Nature Say Yes, c. 4
23-Oct	Midterm exam
25-Oct	Fall break
28-Oct	Evolution: Scripture and Nature Say Yes, c. 5
30-Oct	Evolution: Scripture and Nature Say Yes, c. 6
1-Nov	Evolution: Scripture and Nature Say Yes, c. 7
4-Nov	Evolution: Scripture and Nature Say Yes, c. 8
6-Nov	Evolution: Scripture and Nature Say Yes, c. 9
8-Nov	Neuroscience, Psychology, and Religion, cc. 1-2
11-Nov	Neuroscience, Psychology, and Religion, cc. 3-4
13-Nov	Neuroscience, Psychology, and Religion, c. 5
15-Nov	Neuroscience, Psychology, and Religion, c. 6
18-Nov	Neuroscience, Psychology, and Religion, c. 6
20-Nov	Neuroscience, Psychology, and Religion, c. 7
22-Nov	Neuroscience, Psychology, and Religion, c. 7
25-Nov	
27-Nov	Thanksgiving
29-Nov	Thanksgiving
2-Dec	Neuroscience, Psychology, and Religion, c. 8
4-Dec	Neuroscience, Psychology, and Religion, cc. 8-9
6-Dec	Care for Creation, part 1
9-Dec	Care for Creation, part 2
11-Dec	Care for Creation, part 3
13-Dec	Care for Creation, part 4
18-Dec	Final exam 10:30-1:00