UNDERGRADUATE COURSE DESCRIPTION

Term: Fall 2014  
Instructor: Jason Roberts, Ph.D.  
Course #: THEO 2300  
Section: 101  
Course Title: Quests for God, Paths of Revelation

Description:

THEO 2300-101 "Quests for God, Paths of Revelation" will engage a variety of perspectives concerning the question of whether and how we might consider a transcendent reality to interact with the world and/or people within it. Through readings and written reflection (25% of grade), lecture, discussion and other activities, two short essays (1000 words; 25%), and three in-class exams (50%), we will explore (some or all of) the following topics together:

* Various Christian understandings of revelation--including God's self-revelation, the biblical canon first-order witness to revelation, the concepts of natural and special revelation and their historical development, and divine action in light of contemporary scientific cosmology and religious pluralism;

* Depictions of revelation in various media--including art, film, television, fantasy literature, etc.--reverent, satirical, comedic--students may have the opportunity to seek out and analyze their own examples (e.g., Bruce Almighty; Dogma; Noah; Monty Python; The Ten Commandments vs. Prince of Egypt... and those are just a few movies!);

* The concept of revelation in other religious traditions--including Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, etc.;

* Religious and spiritual experiences--including epiphanic experiences recorded in scripture, Christian and other forms of mysticism and meditation, and neuroscientific understandings of religious and spiritual experiences;

* Atheism, agnosticism, and their conceptions of ultimate reality;

* Jesus as revelation--including the incarnation, passion and resurrection, the Holy Spirit, and God as Trinity