

Course ID:	Course Title:	Fall 2021
PT611	For the Healing of the Nations: Theology & Practice of Reconciliation	Prerequisite: PT 501
		Credits: 3

3 WEEKEND FORMAT CLASS

Class Information		Instructor Information		Important Dates	
Dates: - Wknd 1	Sept 17-18	Instructor:	Mark Buchanan, BFA (UBC), MACS (Regent)	Last day to add/drop, or change to audit:	Noon 1 st Saturday
Wknd 2	Oct 15-16	Email:	mbuchanan@ambrose.edu	Last day to withdraw from course:	3rd of 2 nd weekend
Wknd 3	Nov 12-13	Phone:	403-410-2000, ext 7907	Last day to apply for coursework extension:	One month before final due date
Days/Time:	Friday – 6:30-9:30 pm	Office:	L2071		
Days/Time	Saturday – 9 am to 3:30 pm	Office Hours:	By appt. (mostly Zoom)		
Room:	A2133				

Course Description

A study of the theme of reconciliation, considering the topic biblically, theologically, and practically. The course will examine the meaning and application of reconciliation at personal, interpersonal, corporate, and societal levels.

Christians are reconciled reconcilers: recipients of God’s reconciling action, and participants in God’s reconciling mission. Reconciliation is foundational to our salvation, central to our mission, and indispensable to our theology.

Expected Learning Outcomes

Upon the successful completion of this course, students should be able to...

1. Understand and be able to articulate the biblical and theological concept and basis of reconciliation, both divine and human, and how it works at personal, interpersonal, corporate and societal levels.
2. Understand and be able to engage in a variety of strategies for reconciliation at personal, interpersonal, corporate and societal levels.
3. Understand their role as ambassadors of reconciliation and agents of peace.

Required Textbooks

- Andy Crouch, *Playing God: Redeeming the Gift of Power*.

- Miroslav Volf, *Exclusion & Embrace: A Theological Explanation of Identity, Otherness & Reconciliation*.

Highly Recommended Texts

- Simon Wiesenthal, *The Sunflower: On the Possibilities & Limits of Forgiveness*.

Course Schedule

- First Weekend (Sept 17-18) - Theological Foundations: Justice, Forgiveness, Repentance, Reparation, Restoration, Reconciliation, Shalom
- Second Weekend (Oct 15-16) - Theological Foundations II & Strategies and Practices for Personal & Interpersonal Healing
- Third Weekend (Nov 12-13) - Strategies and Practices for Corporate and Societal Healing; including in-class presentations.

Course Requirements

NOTE: All assignments must demonstrate engagement with readings and lectures to date

Assignment # 1 - Paper or Sermon (all options except “g” are 1200 words; follow formatting policy); choose *one* of the following options below; due Monday, October 11, 5 PM; worth 20%

- Study a conflicted situation in Scripture - i.e., Joseph & his brothers, David & Saul, Jews & Samaritans, the Grecian and Hebraic widows in Acts 6:1-10, the Jerusalem council (and subsequent fight between Paul & Barnabas) in Acts 15, etc. – and write a paper analyzing its roots, dynamics, and resolution (or lack thereof).
- Describe, reflect on and write up a personal journey - your own or another’s - of reconciliation, successful or otherwise.
- Choose one of the core biblical texts used from the course and do a close reading & exposition of it with an eye toward ways of embodying it.
- Watch 3 of the recommended movies and write a summary & response.
- Read one of the *required* books and engage with its central argument.
- Read two of the *recommended* (not from the required list) books and write a summary & response.
- Write (and, if possible, deliver to a live audience) a sermon on reconciliation (appropriate length). Submit a manuscript of the sermon and, if available, a video of it.

Assignment #2 - Case Study (all options are 1500 words; follow formatting policy); choose *one* of the following options below (can collaborate with 1 or 2 other students); due: Monday, November 1, 5 PM; worth 25%

- Study a church that’s gone through a season of conflict and healing. Interview key players. Summarize, analyze, and respond.
- Interview someone who has personally experienced large-scale conflict (i.e., a Rwandese who lived through the 1994 Genocide, someone who lived through the Croatian/Serbian conflict, someone from Ireland - north or south - who lived through all or part of “the troubles,” etc.). Summarize, analyze, and respond.
- Study and report on Canada’s Truth & Reconciliation Commission, including its 94 Calls to Action, and reflect on its implications for Christians and churches.

- d. Study a “conflicted” recent or current world situation – South Africa before and after apartheid, First Nations in Canada &/or the US, Aborigines in Australia, the Rwandese or Congolese (etc.) Genocide, the Syrian crisis, the Roma in Europe, FN in Canada, etc.. Summarize, analyze and report, mindful of the church’s role in both harm and healing.
- e. Interview a First Nations person or persons on their response to Canada’s Truth and Reconciliation Commission. Summarize, analyze, and report, with an eye to what next steps might be taken.

Assignment #3 - Application (all options except for “b” and “c” are 1800 words; follow formatting policy); choose one of the following options below (can collaborate with 1 or 2 other students); due: Monday, November 29, 5 PM; worth 30%; each student or student team present a 15-minute summary of the core if your research in-class in Saturday, 13.

- a. Explore and report on how the church might embody the message & ministry of reconciliation with people from whom we have been historically alienated – the LGBTQ+ community, First Nations people, Muslims, Jews, etc.
- b. Design (and, if possible, lead) a reconciliation workshop for churches. No page limit.
- c. Design a reconciliation toolkit for churches. No page limit.
- d. Undertake an initiative of reconciliation in your family, church, community, etc. Summarize, reflect on, and critique.

Assignment #4 – Reading; due Monday, December 6, 5 PM; worth 15%

All students are to read Andy Crouch’s *Playing God* and Miroslav Volf’s *Exclusion and Embrace*, and at least 500 more pages. Attention to these readings should be shown in the assignments. Must submit a Reading Log (provided in Moodle).

Assignment # 5 – Attendance & Participation; worth 10%

Evaluation

Assignment 1, a, b, c, d, e, f or g	20% due 10/11
Assignment 2, a, b, c, d or e	25% due 11/01
Assignment 3, a, b, c or d	30% due 11/29
Assignment 4: Reading Log	15% due 12/06
Attendance & Participation	10%

Grade Summary

The available letters for course grades are as follows:

<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Description</u>
A+	
A	Excellent
A-	
B+	
B	Good
B-	
C+	
C	Satisfactory
C-	
D+	
D	Minimal Pass

F Failure

Percentage to Letter Grade Conversion

93-100	=	A+
89-92	=	A
85-88	=	A-
78-84	=	B+
74-77	=	B
70-73	=	B-
66-69	=	C+
62-65	=	C
58-61	=	C-
54-57	=	D+
50-53	=	D
0-49	=	F

Submission of Assignments & Formatting Policy:

Please submit all assignment **in Word format only (NO pdfs)** electronically through Moodle on or before the due date (no later than 5 PM on due date). **INCLUDE** your first and last name at the **BEGINNING** of the file name as well as the assignment name – i.e., SallyJonesFormationAssignmentb.doc

All papers must:

- Use 1.5 spacing.
- Use *Times New Roman, Arial* or *Garamond* 12-point font.
- Be numbered.
- Cite sources properly. NOTE: The student can use his/her preferred style (e.g. Kate Turabian's *A Manual for Writers*, or *The Chicago Manual of Style*), but must remain consistent throughout the entire paper.
- Use inclusive language. The student is encouraged to avoid the consistent use of masculine terminology in reference to people in the general sense. For example, prefer using the terms "humanity" or "people" or "humankind" over the terms "man" or "mankind" when referring to the human race.
- Include a title page.

Late Policy:

Due dates are valuable for several reasons. Here are three: 1) They allow me, the instructor, to adequately schedule my time to grade and return you work in a timely and thoughtful manner; 2) They mimic reality. Most of your life involves hard deadlines - mortgage payments, project assignments, work schedules. This is like that; 3) They create a level playing field. It's simply unfair to your classmates if they submit their work on time and you receive an extension without penalty. **Therefore**, only under extraordinary circumstances (i.e., a life or family crisis, a severe and prolonged illness, etc.; poor time management does not count as a life crisis) will I grant an extension. **All requests for extension must be submitted to me in writing on or before the assignment's due date.** Otherwise, any submissions received later than midnight on the due date will be deemed late and penalized at a 5% deduction per day. Any submission later than a week past the due date, unless negotiated with me (and on final assignments with the Registrar), will automatically receive an F.

PLEASE DO NOT ASK FOR AN EXCEPTION TO THIS POLICY.

Select Recommended Bibliography & Filmography:

- Anonymous. *Final Report of the Truth & Reconciliation Commission of Canada, Volumes 1 & 2 (will eventually be 6 volumes).*
- Boyden, Joseph. *The Orenda.*
- Cook, Jerry, *et al.* *Love, Acceptance & Forgiveness: Being Christian in a Non-Christian World.*
- Crouch, Andy. *Culture Making: Recovering Our Creative Calling.*
Playing God: Redeeming the Gift of Power
Strong & Weak: Embracing a Life of Love, Risk & True Flourishing.
- De Gruchy, John W. *Reconciliation: Restoring Justice.*
- Dallaire, Romeo. *Shake Hands with the Devil: The Failure of Humanity in Rwanda.*
- De Vinck, Christopher. *The Power of the Powerless.*
- Fisher, Roger, *et al.* *Getting to Yes: Negotiating Agreement without Giving In.*
- Friedman, Thomas L. *From Jerusalem to Beirut.*
- Garrido, Ann M. *Redeeming Conflict: 12 Habits for Christian Leaders.*
- Gladwell, Malcolm. *David & Goliath: Underdogs, Misfits & the Art of Battling Giants.*
- Gourevitch, Philip. *We Wish to Inform You that Tomorrow We Will Be Killed with Our Families: Stories from Rwanda.*
- Hallie, Philip. *Lest Innocent Blood Be Shed: The Story of the Village of La Chambon & How Goodness Happened There.*
- Jenkins, Philip. *Dream Catchers: How Mainstream America Discovered Native Spirituality.*
- Jones, Greg, *et al.* *Forgiving as We've Been Forgiven: Community Practices for Making Peace.*
- Katangole, E., *et al.* *Reconciling All Things: A Christian Vision of Justice, Peace & Healing.*
- King, Thomas. *The Inconvenient Indian.*
- Kozol, Jonathan. *Amazing Grace: The Lives of Children and the Conscience of a Nation.*
- Lazare, Aaron. *On Apology.*
- Minow, Martha. *Between Vengeance & Forgiveness: Facing History after Genocide and Mass Violence.*
- Penikett, Tony. *Reconciliation: First Nations Treaty Making in British Columbia.*
- Pope Francis. *The Name of God is Mercy.*
- Prejean, Helen. *Dead Man Walking: The Eyewitness Account of the Death Penalty That Sparked a National Debate.*
- Schreiter, Robert J. *The Ministry of Reconciliation: Spirituality & Strategies.*
- Scott, Susan. *Fierce Conversations: Achieving Success at Work & in Life One Conversation at a Time.*
- Shriver, Donald. *An Ethic for Enemies: Forgiveness in Politics.*
- Steward, John. *From Genocide to Generosity.*
- Swinton, John. *Raging with Compassion: Pastoral Responses to the Problem of Evil.*
- Tutu, Desmond. *No Future Without Forgiveness.*
- Wells, Samuel, *et al.* *Living Without Enemies: Being Present in the Midst of Enemies.*
- Wiebe, Rudy. *Stolen Life: The Journey of a Cree Women.*

Wiesel, Elie. *Night*.
Wiesenthal, Simon. *The Sunflower: On the Possibilities & Limits of Forgiveness*.
Volf, Miraslov. *Exclusion & Embrace: A Theological Explanation of Identity, Otherness & Reconciliation*.

Recommended Movies (NOTE: a language & content advisory for some of the movies)

Antwone Fisher	Pay it Forward
The Artist is Present	Rabbit-Proof Fence
Babel	Railway Man
Babette's Feast	The Sapphires
The Boys from Brazil	Selma
The Butler	Snow Walker
Crash	The Straight Story
Dead Man Walking	To End All Wars
District 9	Unforgiven
Gran Torino	We Were Children
The Great Debaters	Weapons of the Spirit (the story of Le Chambon sur Lignon)
Invictus	
The Passion	

Ambrose University Academic Policies:

Communication

All students have received an Ambrose e-mail account upon registration. It is the student's responsibility to check this account regularly as the Ambrose email system will be the professor's instrument for notifying students of important matters (cancelled class sessions, extensions, requested appointments, etc.) between class

sessions. If students do not wish to use their Ambrose accounts, they will need to forward all messages from the Ambrose account to another personal account.

Registration

150 Ambrose Circle SW, Calgary, AB T3H 0L5
T 403-410-2000 TF 800-461-1222
info@ambrose.edu
ambrose.edu

During the **Registration Revision Period** students may enter a course without permission, change the designation of any class from credit to audit and /or voluntary withdraw from a course without financial or academic penalty or record. Courses should be added or dropped on the student portal by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. After that date, the original status remains and the student is responsible for related fees.

Students intending to withdraw from a course after the Registration Revision Period must apply to the Office of the Registrar by submitting a "Request to Withdraw from a Course" form or by sending an email to the Registrar's Office by the **Withdrawal Deadline**; please consult the List of Important Dates on the my.ambrose.edu website. Students will not receive a tuition refund for courses from which they withdraw after the Registration Revision period. A grade of "W" will appear on their transcript.

Students wishing to withdraw from a course, but who fail to do so by the applicable date, will receive the grade earned in accordance with the course syllabus. A student obliged to withdraw from a course after the Withdrawal Deadline because of health or other reasons may apply to the Registrar for special consideration.

Exam Scheduling

Students, who find a conflict in their exam schedule must submit a Revised Examination Request form to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Requests will be considered for the following reasons only: 1) the scheduled final examination slot conflicts with another exam; 2) the student has three final exams within three consecutive exam time blocks; 3) the scheduled final exam slot conflicts with an exam at another institution; 4) extenuating circumstances. Travel is not considered a valid excuse for re-scheduling or missing a final exam.

Electronic Etiquette

Students are expected to treat their instructor, guest speakers, and fellow students with respect. It is disruptive to the learning goals of a course or seminar and disrespectful to fellow students and the instructor to use electronics for purposes unrelated to the course during a class session. Turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices during class. Laptops should be used for class-related purposes only. Do not use iPods, MP3 players, or headphones. Do not text, read, or send personal emails, go on Facebook or other social networks, search the internet, or play computer games during class. Some professors will not allow the use of any electronic devices in class. The professor has the right to disallow the student to use a laptop in future lectures and/or to ask a student to withdraw from the session if s/he does not comply with this policy. Repeat offenders will be directed to the Dean. If you are expecting communication due to an emergency, please speak with the professor before the class begins.

Academic Policies

It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies as stated in the Academic Calendar. Personal information (information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual) may be required as part of taking this class. Any information collected will only be used and disclosed for the purpose for which the collection was intended. For further information contact the Privacy Compliance Officer at privacy@ambrose.edu.

Extensions

Although extensions to coursework in the semester are at the discretion of the instructor, students may not turn in coursework for evaluation after the last day of the scheduled final examination period unless they have received permission for a course Extension from the Registrar's Office. Requests for course extensions or alternative examination time must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise "due to circumstances beyond the student's control."

Appeal of Grade

An appeal for change of grade on any course work must be made to the course instructor within one week of receiving notification of the grade. An appeal for change of final grade must be submitted to the Registrar's Office in writing and providing the basis for appeal within 30 days of receiving notification of the final grade, providing the basis for appeal. A review fee of \$50.00 must accompany the appeal. If the appeal is sustained, the fee will be refunded.

Academic Integrity

We are committed to fostering personal integrity and will not overlook breaches of integrity such as plagiarism and cheating. Academic dishonesty is taken seriously at Ambrose University as it undermines our academic standards and affects the integrity of each member of our learning community. Any attempt to obtain credit for academic work through fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest means is academic dishonesty. Plagiarism involves presenting someone else's ideas, words, or work as one's own. Plagiarism is fraud and theft, but plagiarism can also occur by accident when a student fails or forgets to acknowledge to another person's ideas or words. Plagiarism and cheating can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the university college. Students are expected to be familiar with the policies in the current Academic Calendar that deal with plagiarism, cheating, and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean and become part of the student's permanent record.

Note: Students are strongly advised to retain this syllabus for their records.