

## IMAGINING SALVATION

University of Dubuque Theological Seminary  
HT567  
Spring 2019

Professor: Mary Emily Duba  
Office: Severance 204  
Contact: MDUBA@DBQ.EDU | 563-589-3102

3 Credits, letter grade only.  
Prerequisites: HT 400/500 and 402/502 for MDiv; others by permission

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course explores questions of soteriology—the meaning and mystery of God’s saving work in Jesus Christ—by exploring depictions of redemption in the Bible and popular culture, classic and contemporary theological accounts of salvation, and pastoral situations in which we are called to articulate *the difference Jesus makes*. (49 words)

### COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Active participation in this course will enable you:

- to identify Christological and soteriological imagery and ideas in Scripture, popular culture, liturgical materials (eg. hymns), and theological texts;
- to articulate *what is at stake* theologically and pastorally in diverse images and ideas about salvation, especially in light of the concrete sufferings and ambiguities of human life;
- to evaluate the theological merit and contextual appropriateness of such images and ideas;
- to communicate the soteriological significance of Jesus Christ in theologically-grounded, contextually appropriate, and pastorally sensitive ways; and
- to experience theology as a communal practice and an expression of faith.

### STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

This course fulfills the following UDTS degree outcomes:

- Engage contemporary theological and ethical issues with insight and humility (MDiv);
- Articulate key theological affirmations of the church’s theological tradition (MACL);
- Articulate and reflect critically and constructively on the biblical and theological foundations of God’s mission to the world (MAMD).

### REQUIRED TEXTS

Robin Ryan, *Jesus and Salvation: Soundings in the Christian Tradition and Contemporary Theology* (Liturgical Press, 2015)

Marit Trelstad, ed., *Cross Examinations: Readings on the Meaning of the Cross Today* (Augsburg, 2006).

Nancy Pineda-Madrid, *Suffering and Salvation in Ciudad Juárez* (Augsburg, 2011).

Elizabeth Johnson, *Creation and the Cross: The Mercy of God for a Planet in Peril* (Orbis, 2018).

Serene Jones, *Trauma and Grace: Theology in a Ruptured World* (WJK, 2009).

A study Bible. You are free to use the Bible of your choice. If you don't own an academic study Bible, I recommend *The New Oxford Annotated Bible* or *The HarperCollins Study Bible*.

Additional readings will be made available on Moodle.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

### **Participation (25%)**

Participation involves active engagement with course materials and our learning community, including timely, substantive, and thoughtful contributions to discussion forums.

### **Writing Assignments: (75%)**

Assignments will vary in genre, audience, purpose, and in grade weight.