



TH507 Theology of C.S. Lewis Short Syllabus

Instructor: Gary W. Deddo, PhD

Course Description

In this course we will survey C.S. Lewis's primary works and two of his fictional works to see how Lewis understood the central tenets of Christian faith and their inter-relationships. We will also consider how Lewis communicated the Christian faith in his context through his fiction and how we might more faithfully communicate the Christian gospel in our day.

Estimated workload: For a student to do well in this course, the student will need to invest a total of 145 hours, or about 12 hours per week of reading, participating on the website, and writing papers.

Required text and articles

Reading assignments will be taken from the required texts and from "on reserve" readings of several essays. C. S. Lewis is the author of all the required readings. *Any edition of these books, including electronic editions, is acceptable for the class.*

Please obtain these books before the class begins. You may find lower prices on bookfinder.com.

Lewis, C. S. *Mere Christianity*, HarperSanFrancisco; Revised & Enlarged edition, 2001. ISBN: 978-0060652920.

Lewis, C. S. *The Problem of Pain*, HarperOne, 2001. ISBN: 978-0060652968.

Lewis, C. S. *God in the Dock*, edited Walter Hooper. Eerdmans, 1994. ISBN: 978-0802808684.

Lewis, C. S. *The Screwtape Letters*, HarperOne; Reprint edition, 2015. ISBN: 978-0060652937

Lewis, C. S. *The Weight of Glory and Other Addresses*, HarperOne, 2001. ISBN: 978-0060653200.

Lewis, C. S. *The Great Divorce*, HarperOne, 2001. ISBN: 978-0060652951.

Lewis, C. S. *Christian Reflections*, Eerdmans, 1994 ISBN: 978-0802808691.

Requirements and assignments

1. **Read the lessons.** They will be posted each Monday for ten weeks. This will take about 2 hours per week.
2. **Read the textbooks and articles.** They total 720 pages non-fiction and 325 pages fiction. Students should allow about 6 hours each week to read the textbooks and articles. (15% of final grade.)
3. **Reflect in Reading Notebook.** Complete entries for reading assignments demonstrating comprehension and reflection. Additional details provided in full syllabus. (15% of final grade.)
4. **Participate in online forum discussions.** In most courses, part of the learning that occurs comes through discussion and interaction with the instructor and other students. In an online class, this is done through comments posted on a discussion forum. There will be weekly online forum discussions. (25% of the final grade.)
5. **Write Short Essay.** Two to three page essay (500-800 words) on one of two provided topics. (15% of the final grade.)
6. **Final Exam.** Three hours in length, including short answer identification and two essays. Open book and notes. (30% of grade.)