



## **Course Information**

Biblical Theology and Global Stewardship  
THEO 3262-01  
Spring 2026  
QERC

## **Instructor Information**

Instructor: Dr. Alison Hawanchak  
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Office Hours: <https://calendar.app.google/b9bq19WNMXTZMZdv5>

## **Course Description**

The intent of this course will be to discern what the Bible and Christian theology articulate about the nature of the world and the place of human persons in that world. The role of (Christian) human persons in caring for creation will be discerned with special attention to issues of agrarian practices, land economies, and Sabbath principles. A variety of resources will be used to discern how to be good stewards of creation in response to modern day concerns and dilemmas in various habitats, ecological situations, and in the politics and economic practices of governments as human persons address the contemporary situation. Creation will be strongly articulated as being inherently tied to redemption, and vice-versa. As an extension of the theological aspect of this course, the natural sciences will be utilized in a variety of forms to demonstrate what the 'contemporary situation' actually is or might be.

## **Learning Outcomes**

A student who successfully completes this course will have demonstrated the ability to:

1. Analyze human relationships with natural systems and other humans from the perspectives of morality, ethics, and environmental and social justice.
2. Understand how a Christian theology of the environment contributes positively to the shaping of healthy perspectives and practices in ecology and environmental crises.
3. Articulate a relational environmental ethos based upon a Christian understanding of the nature of God's relationship with humans, other species, and natural systems.
4. Articulate a biblically informed, theological perspective on the role and the responsibility given to humans as agents of God's love and grace within the created world.
5. Articulate a vision for the role that Christian persons have in a larger world based on

their interactions with the natural world and the QERC community.

6. Demonstrate a familiarity with important biblical, credal, and theological texts that shape Christian theology of creation, human nature, and creation care.
7. Understand the social, ecclesial, and political ramifications of theological statements as they pertain to the importance of global stewardship, creation care, and personal responsibility in the Anthropocene age.

## Course Materials

- *The Bible*

You will need a paper copy of a standard translation of the Bible (CEB, NRSV, NASB, NIV, NLT, etc). It does not need to be a study Bible but a study version is acceptable. This will be our primary resource for the course so please bring it with you to every class session.

If you are looking for a translation recommendation I suggest the Common English Bible (CEB), but any translation will be fine and I am more than happy to consult with you on the specific translation you have chosen if you so desire.

- Douglas J. Moo & Jonathan A. Moo, *Creation Care: A Biblical Theology of the Natural World*, (Grand Rapids: Zondervan Academic, 2018). ISBN: 978-0-310-29374-3  
abbreviated in the schedule as Moo
- Sandra L. Richter, *Stewards of Eden: What Scripture Says About the Environment and Why it Matters*, (Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2020). ISBN: 978-0-8308-4926-0  
abbreviated in the schedule as Richter
- Supplemental Readings to be provided via Canvas

## Grade Determination

### Assignment Weights:

Reflection Journals (10 pts each)	80 pts
Reading Questions	20 pts
Book Reflection	45 pts
Theology Paper	70 pts
Research Paper	100 pts

### Grading Scale

A	93 - 100%	B-	80 - 82%	D+	67 - 69%
A-	90 - 92%	C+	77 - 79%	D	63 - 66%
B+	87 - 89%	C	73 - 76%	D-	60 - 62%
B	83 - 86%	C-	70 - 72%	F	< 60%

## **Course Policies and Guidelines**

### **Course Expectations**

*What can you expect to gain from this course:* You can expect that this course will broaden your understanding of the biblical text, enhance your ability to read and interpret the biblical text, and deepen your faith.

*What can you expect from me in this course:* You can expect me to return your graded work in a timely manner (within 2 class periods for short assignments, within 4 class periods for longer assignments). You can expect me to be clear and fair with my grading criteria. You can expect me to present course material clearly, and to clarify when necessary. You can expect me to engage with the class in a respectful manner even when providing constructive feedback. My goal in providing correction and feedback is to help you grow in your understanding of course material, not to criticize or critique you as an individual.

*What I expect from you:* I expect you to come to class prepared and ready to engage. I expect you to be respectful of your fellow classmates and me, even when you disagree with one another. We are a community of learners who are working together to further our understanding so we must help one another and not tear each other down. This also includes being open to learning something new and possibly even changing our understanding based on new information.

### **Workload Expectations**

For an undergraduate course, you should expect to spend 2-3 hours per week outside of class for every hour of in-class time. Therefore, for this 3-credit class, you should expect to spend approximately 6–9 hours each week on coursework.

### **Expectations for Written Assignments**

Written assignments are graded for content, clarity, spelling, punctuation, and grammar. Please be sure to proofread your assignments. Most assignments will include a grading rubric. All papers should be typed using 12pt Times New Roman font and double-spaced with proper citations for all outside sources. All citations must follow a standard citation formation (ie: MLA, APA, Chicago, etc). All biblical references should be properly cited, see citations guidelines in Canvas. Since language shapes how we speak and think, please use inclusive language when referring to humanity in your assignments.

### **Technology**

You may use laptops and tablets for class purposes only. You will need a laptop or tablet in class to take quizzes and exams. If you do not have access to a laptop or tablet, it is your responsibility to make alternative arrangements with me in advance. Cell phones and other electronic devices should be silenced and out of sight during class. Headphones are not allowed in the classroom. Disregarding this policy may result in a recorded absence for the day.

## **The Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Coursework**

While the SNU academic community embraces the exploration of emerging technologies like artificial intelligence (AI), we value the integrity of the learning process and the discerning use of technologies to advance, not detract, from learning gain.

The use of AI text generation tools within versions of ChatCPT, Grammarly, and others is **not** allowed unless expressly permitted by the instructor.

The use of paraphrasing tools such as Quillbot, Spinbot, and others to paraphrase or copy information from sources without proper acknowledgment of sources is **not** allowed unless expressly permitted by the instructor.

## **Late Work**

Please make every effort to turn assignments in on time. Late assignments will be penalized by a 10% reduction in the grade for each day the assignment is late. Assignments that are more than 1 week late will not be accepted.

## **Academic Integrity**

Academic honesty and personal integrity are expected in this course. The university catalog provides a list of actions that constitute a breach of academic integrity. I will follow the enforcement and reporting guidelines included in the catalog. An incident of academic dishonesty may result in failure of the assignment and possible failure of the course.

## **Communication Options**

If you need to contact me you can email me using your SNU email address. You can also message me through the Canvas classroom. Those are the two best ways to contact me, I will do my best to respond to emails and Canvas messages within 24-hrs. You are also welcome to come to my office during office hours or arrange another meeting time with me if you need to speak with me face to face.

## **Inclusivity and Respect**

Southern Nazarene University values each person created in the image of God, therefore, we also desire to be a community that reflects representation of diversity. We care about inclusion and equity through the refining of our character, the way we create culture and the way we serve Christ. Our University values reconciliation through God's love. In light of this commitment, we endeavor to foster a supportive environment of dignity and inclusivity in which all stakeholders, regardless of their perspectives and individual differences, are treated with respect and engage in charitable discourse.

## **Disability Statement**

The mission of Disability Services is to provide and coordinate support services that enable students with disabilities to receive equal access to all aspects of university life. Students needing assistance with a learning, physical or psychological disability that may affect his or her academic progress are encouraged to contact Disability Services. Students with

temporary injuries (such as a broken limb, concussion, or surgery recovery) can receive services and accommodations through Disability Services on a temporary basis. Location and contact information can be found on the Disability Services [Disability Services](#) website.

### **Institutional Guidelines and Services**

Students and faculty of Southern Nazarene University should be familiar with the [SNU Institutional Guidelines and Services](#) not listed in this syllabus.