

STUFF TO KNOW FOR THE FINAL

THEO 331 – THE CHRISTIAN UNDERSTANDING OF GOD

Week 7

1. Know the names of the two main proponents of the Protestant Reformation, and be able to explain the main contribution to Christian theology of them made.
2. Be able to explain the nature of nominalism.
3. Be able to explain how deism and pantheism made a comeback in the modern era.
4. Be able to briefly explain what Alfred White Northhead was attempting to do when he proposed his system of process philosophy.
5. What is the connection between Gefühl and the importance of having a belief system, such as one expressed in a creed?

Week 8

6. Be able to explain why early feminism quickly included a theological outlook.
7. Be able to explain the difference between metaphor and analogy.
8. Be able to explain the difference between the concepts of “individual” and “person”, particularly as related to the concept of “collective”.
9. Be able to explain the proposal offered by some theologians that God can suffer pain.
10. Be able to briefly explain the five stages of the inculturation process.
11. Be able to explain the Christocentric approach to religious pluralism.

Week 9

12. Be able to name and explain the core theological concern within the Islamic understanding of God.
13. Be able to explain the argument used by al-Ghazali in his refutation of the falasifa. How did he understand the notion of God as creator?

14. In the Islamic understanding, God as only revealed his will, not his nature. Given this context, what is seen as the appropriate response to God? Why is God's lack of self-revelation regarding his nature seen as positive rather than as something missing?
15. Be able to compare and contrast the Islamic and Christian understandings of the "Word of God".
16. Be able to compare and contrast the Islamic and Christian refutations of Arianism.

Week 10

17. Be able to explain what it means to say that God is "necessary".
18. Be able to explain what it means to say that God is love.
19. Be able to explain what it means to say that God is "triune".
20. Be able to explain the Trinitarian relations.

Week 11

21. Be able to explain "Rahner's rule".
22. Be able to name and explain the primordial external act of God.
23. What is a "secondary cause"? Be able to explain the role of secondary causes in God's guidance of creation.
24. What is a miracle?
25. Be able to explain why miracles, particularly the more dramatic ones, seem to be infrequent. Why does the presence of faith seem to make miracles more "possible"?

Week 12

26. Be able to explain the basic content of the commandment to love one's neighbour.
27. Be able to explain the concept of "natural law".
28. Be able to explain the concept of the "law of freedom".

29. Be able to explain how God has contributed to our capacity to love our neighbour.
30. What is the primordial expression of the direct love of God? What is the place of the Church in this expression?