

Sacrifice (7,5 ECTS credits)

Level: 1st cycle

Discipline: THEOLOGY (exegetical theology, systematic theology)

Course ID: 0331

Admission requirements

General admission requirements for university studies. Students taking part in the course as a part of their Bachelor's degree program must have completed Course A, Introduction in Philosophy and Theology (30 ECTS credits). Students taking part in the course as a freestanding course are expected to have corresponding prior knowledge.

Educational goals

After completing the course, students are expected to be able to:

- Discuss Biblical representations of sacrifice, and different interpretations of these, in an informed manner.
- Display some knowledge of classical Greek representations of sacrifice.
- Display knowledge of how the notion of «sacrifice» has been used in different theological contexts.
- Display knowledge of the main theories of sacrifice in cultural studies.
- Discuss the use of «sacrifice» as a philosophical term in modern and post-modern philosophy.
- Be able to critically assess arguments for sacrifice in the ethical and political realm.

Course content

This course traces discourses of sacrifice from a beginning in the Biblical material through the history of western thought. Sacrifice has always had a central role in Jewish and Christian theology, but ambiguously so. Sacrifice ends with the destruction of the temple, but its symbolic imagery continues in various ways. It has resurfaced as a central element in postmodern philosophy, and can indeed be found behind many earlier discussions in Continental philosophy. In contemporary discussions sacrifice is often discussed with regards to ethics and politics, and this issue will be pursued in different ways.

Teaching and examination

The teaching is conducted by lectures and seminars. The course will be examined through exercises written every week. Each exercise answers a given problem with a text of approximately 2 pages (800-1000 words 12 pts, times new roman). The exercises will be assessed according to the following parameters: a) understanding of the texts discussed, b) clarity and coherence of

argumentation, c) ability to reflect critically on the issues raised by the texts. The final grade is calculated from the grades on the individual exercises, where all exercises have equal weight.

Bibliography

Bubbio, Paulo Diego. *Sacrifice in the Post-Kantian Tradition*. Albany: SUNY Press: 2014. 165s.

Daly, Robert J. *Sacrifice Unveiled*. London: T&T Clark, 2009. 237s.

Eagleton, Terry. *Radical Sacrifice*. New Haven: Yale, 2018. 181s.

Girard, René. *I See Satan Fall Like Lightning*. Leominster: Gracewing, 2001. 195s.

Halbertal, Moshe. *Sacrifice*. New York: Princeton, 2012. 117s.

See also "Kursplaner: allmänna bestämmelser" (Course plans: General rules)

Finalised 2020-10-02

Valid as 2020-10-15