

Ecological Conversion (7,5 ECTS credits)

Level: 1st cycle

Discipline: THEOLOGY (Theological Studies of Culture and Society, Systematic Theology)

Course ID: 0156

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 having completed the course, the students are expected to:

- Show knowledge of the concept of "conversion" as it is used in theological and ethical discourses.
- Explore the critical potential of Trinitarian theology and Christian relational ontology in ecology and the environment discourses.
- Relate the notion of individual conversion to community conversion and social change.
- Critically reflect on one's personal identity and socio-cultural standing as it relates to consumption, lifestyle choices, and sustainable practices.
- Display a general understanding of various Christian responses to environmental challenges.
- Display a general understanding of contemporary debates within human ecology.

Course content

Mounting scientific evidence shows that our continuous efforts to convince consumers to adopt a sustainable lifestyle are, by and large, futile. Environmental sociology indicates that individual behaviour is embedded in and guided by societal structures. The challenges posed by this situation will expose what true ecological conversion means and how it relates to a transformation of hearts and minds toward the greater love of God, each other and creation.

Teaching and examination

The course is taught in English. Teaching is given by means of lectures and discussion seminars in Uppsala and during interviews and excursions. The examination is taken in three ways: 1. Students are expected to do assigned readings, to participate actively in working sessions (30% of the final grade); 2. To write short assignments on topics occurring during the course (30% of the final grade). 3. The entire course's content will be examined through a written home exam at the end of the course (40% of the final grade).

Bibliography

BENEDICTUS PP. XVI, *Spe Salvi*, 2007.

BENEDICTUS PP. XVI, *Caritas in veritate*, 2009.

IOANNIS PAULI PP. II, *Centesimus annus*, 1991.

Catechism of the Catholic Church

Clingerman, F; Treanor, B. et al. (ed.) *Interpreting Nature: The emerging field of environmental hermeneutics* (New York, Fordham University Press: 2014), 377 pages.

Compendium of selected articles that will be distributed throughout the course.

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

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Valid as 2024-03-15