

MTG230.7 Theology in Context: Trinity and Creation

Name of Unit 1 (Unit Code 1)

Theology in Context: Trinity and Creation (MTG230.7)

SECTION 1 – GENERAL INFORMATION

Administrative details

Associated higher education awards	Duration	Level	Unit Coordinator
Bachelor	One semester	Advanced	Dr. Matthew James Gray

Core or elective unit

Indicate if the unit is a

- core unit
 elective unit
 other (please specify below):

Core: Bachelor of Theology
 Elective: Bachelor of Intercultural Studies
 Core or Elective: Bachelor of Ministry

Unit weighting

Using the table below, indicate the credit point weighting of this unit and the credit point total for the course of study (for example, 10 credit points for the unit and 320 credit points for the course of study).

Unit credit points	Total course credit points
6 credit points	144 credit points

Student workload

Using the table below, indicate the expected student workload per week for this unit.

No. timetabled hours per week	No. personal study hours per week	Total workload hours per week
3	6	9

For those students requiring additional English language support, how many additional hours per week is it expected that they will undertake?

Additional English language support: 0 hours per week

Pre-requisites and co-requisites

Are students required have undertaken a prerequisite or co-requisite unit for this unit?

Yes No

If **YES**, provide details of the prerequisite or co-requisite requirements below.

Pre-requisite: MTG120.5 The Story of the Church, MTG130.5 Exploring the Christian Faith, MTR190.5 Developing Cultural Intelligence

SECTION 2 – ACADEMIC DETAILS

Brief description of the content of the unit

This unit develops the students’ understanding of doctrines of God, the Trinity, divine revelation, creation, humanity and questions of providence. It connects strongly with the MTC formation domain, *Engaging God’s Story*. The unit aims to help students discuss these topics inter-contextually: that is, alongside contemporary western evangelical scholarship, students will learn to effectively engage with theologians from various historical contexts (e.g. Patristics, Medieval Scholastics, Reformers), cultural contexts (e.g. indigenous, African, South American), ecclesiastical contexts (e.g. Orthodox, Catholic, Baptist), as well as other often-marginalised voices (e.g. women, African-Americans). Key topics include: the attributes of God; sources for theology; Biblical authority; the *Imago Dei*; the creation of the universe; Trinitarian debates, such as Arianism; theodicy, evil and suffering.

Learning outcomes for the unit

- 1) Explain the historical and cultural developments within the doctrines of God, the Trinity, divine revelation, creation, humanity, and providence
- 2) Explain their own position on key issues within one of the relevant theological topics, with reference to relevant scholarship
- 3) Critically analyse various approaches to these doctrines cogently, with a view to effectively conveying them in various contexts the students may encounter

Assessment tasks

Type	Learning Outcome/s assessed	When assessed – year, session and week	Weighting
1. Class Discussion Papers on Assigned Readings: Describe various theological positions and contexts for each week’s topic, based on the readings under discussion each week. (2000 words equivalent)	1, 3	Weekly	40%
2. Textbook Review: Discuss essential characteristics and debates for this unit’s various theological topics, and their contemporary relevance. (1000 words)	1, 3	Week 5	20%
3. Research Essay: Investigate one or two major issues within the unit’s various topics, with reference to relevant scholarship. (2000 words)	2	Week 13	40%

2.1 Prescribed and recommended readings

Provide below, in formal reference format, a list of the prescribed and recommended readings for the unit.

Prescribed reading:

McGrath, Alister E. *Christian Theology: An Introduction*. 6th Ed. Chichester, UK: Wiley Blackwell, 2017.

Recommended reading:

Bevans, Stephen B, and Katalina Tahaafe-Williams. *Contextual Theology for the Twenty-First Century*. Cambridge, UK: James Clarke, 2012.

Boice, James Montgomery, and Philip Ryken. *Foundations of the Christian Faith: A Comprehensive & Readable Theology*. Revised and Expanded ed. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2019.

Boyd, Gregory A. *Inspired Imperfection: How the Bible's Problems Enhance Its Divine Authority*. Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press, 2020.

Edwards, Denis. *Deep Incarnation: God's Redemptive Suffering with Creatures*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis, 2019.

Fiorenza, Francis Schussler, and John P. Galvin, eds. *Systematic Theology: Roman Catholic Perspectives*. 2nd Edition. Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press, 2011.

Green, Gene L., Stephen T. Pardue, and Khiok-Khng Yeo. *The Trinity among the Nations: The Doctrine of God in the Majority World*. Carlisle, UK: Langham Global Library, 2015.

Greenman, Jeffrey P., and Gene L. Green. *Global Theology in Evangelical Perspective: Exploring the Contextual Nature of Theology and Mission*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2012.

Horton, Michael. *Pilgrim Theology: Core Doctrines for Christian Disciples*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Academic, 2013.

Lewis, Donald M., and Richard V. Pierard. *Global Evangelicalism: Theology, History and Culture in Regional Perspective*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2014.

McGrath, Alister E. *Historical Theology: An Introduction to the History of Christian Thought*. 2nd ed. Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell, 2012.

McIntosh, Mark A. *The Divine Ideas Tradition in Christian Mystical Theology*. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press, 2021.

Migliore, Daniel L. *Faith Seeking Understanding: An Introduction to Christian Theology*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2014.

Swain, Scott. *The Trinity: An Introduction*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2020.

Woodley, Randy. *Shalom and the Community of Creation: An Indigenous Vision*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2012.