HT 271W ECOJUSTICE: THEOLOGY, ETHICS, PRACTICE
Instructors: Craig L. Nessan and Man Hei Yip
Elective; Open for all.
1 Credit; letter grade or credit/no credit

This course explores theological and ethical perspectives that inform the practice of ecojustice. Ecojustice is an emerging field within theology and ethics that engages and responds to the environmental crisis facing the Earth and all creatures, especially the emergency caused by climate change. The course will be in a seminar format centered on the reading and discussion of the required texts.

OBJECTIVES:

1. To explore theological and ethical foundations of ecojustice (practice of biblical and theological wisdom).
2. To claim one's own theological voice as a person committed to ecojustice (practice of pastoral concern).
3. To become more deeply formed for church leadership in relation to ecojustice (practice of complex analysis).
4. To examine the theological and ethical responsibilities facing the church in advocating for the integrity of creation (practice of personal faith and integrity).

PROCEDURE: The course meets once per week for one hour. The primary format is interactive discussion of readings led by the instructors and students.

EVALUATION: 1) Attendance and demonstrating informed preparation to discuss assigned readings. 2) Discussion leadership of assigned readings on a rotating schedule. 3) Project or research paper to demonstrate integration of semester's work.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Required:

Elizabeth A. Johnson. *Come Have Breakfast: Meditations on God and the Earth*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis, 2024.
Bill McKibben. *Here Comes the Sun: A Last Chance for the Climate and a Fresh Chance for Civilization*. New York: W. W. Norton & Company, 2025.

Recommended:

Whitney A. Bauman. *Religion and Ecology: Developing a Planetary Ethic.* New York: Columbia University, 2014.
Steven Bouma-Prediger. *Creation Care and Discipleship: Why Earthkeeping Is an Essential Christian Practice.* Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2023.
William P. Brown. *The Seven Pillars of Creation: The Bible, Science, and the Ecology of Wonder*. Oxford University, 2010.
Lisa Dahill and James Martin-Schramm, editors. *Eco-Reformation: Grace and Hope for a Planet in Peril.* Wipf & Stock, 2016.
Elizabeth O'Donnell Gandolfo. *Ecomartyrdom in the Americas: Living and Dying for Our Common Home*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis, 2023.
Norman C. Habel, *On Being an Earth Being: Searching for the Spiritual in a Cosmic Sanctuary Called Planet Earth.* Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock, 2020.
Philip Jenkins. *Climate, Catastrophe, and Faith: How Changes in Climate Drive Religious Upheaval.* New York: Oxford University, 2021.
Willis Jenkins. *The Future of Ethics: Sustainability, Social Justice, and Religious Creativity*. Georgetown University, 2013.
Elizabeth A. Johnson. *Creation and the Cross: The Mercy of God for a Planet in Peril*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis, 2019.
Larry L. Rasmussen. *Earth-Honoring Faith: Religious Ethics in a New Key.* Oxford University, 2015.
Currents in Theology and Mission 47 (July 2020), Section Two on "Creation in Crisis: Science and Theology Respond." http://currentsjournal.org/index.php/currents/issue/view/61