

Class Information		Instructor Information		First day of classes:	Wed., Jan. 6, 2016
Days:	Directed Study	Instructor:	Derek Cook	Last day to add/ drop/change to audit:	Sun., Jan. 17, 2016
Time:	With Max Harwood	Email:		Last day to request revised exam:	Mon., Feb. 29, 2016
Room:		Phone:		Last day to withdraw from course:	Fri., Mar 18, 2016
Lab/Tut:		Office:		Last day to apply for time extension for coursework:	Mon., Mar. 28, 2016
Final Exam: n/a		Office Hrs:		Last day of classes:	Wed., April 13, 2016

Textbook:

Course Description:

An exploration of Charles Taylor's most significant works and what his insights may mean for Christians today.

Texts:

Charles Taylor, *A Secular Age* (Cambridge, MA: Belknap/Harvard University Press, 2007).
 ---. *Sources of the Self* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1992).

Expected Learning Outcomes:

- 1) Familiarize oneself with Taylor's background and magnum opus so the student is (a) able to succinctly summarize Taylor's argument in both books and (b) diagnose cases of "secularizing" in Western culture and the church with (c) some idea of how we arrived at our present secular society and (d) how we might survive it.
- 2) Develop mature reading skills (summarization of large work).

Course Schedule:

Feb 4 -- Sources
 March 31 -- Secular
 April 14 -- Reflection
 TBD -- Meetings

Requirements:

- 1) Sources of the Self (Background Work) -- read the work, summarize the argument, interact with 5-8 sources (good reviews), conclude with a brief critique. 10 pages.
- 2) A Secular Age -- read the work, summarize the argument, interact with *How Not to be Secular* and 8-12 other sources, conclude with a brief critique. 18 pages.
- 3) Personal/Pastoral Synthesis -- What does Taylor's argument mean for the church today in Canada? What does it mean for an individual Christian? Can religion survive in the new climate, and if so, how? Include 4-6 sources (not previously read). 8 pages.
- 4) Meetings with Instructor -- attending scheduled meetings with the instructor throughout the semester to discuss readings and emerging ideas. The student is expected to bring questions/insights from the reading(s).

Grade Summary:

25% Sources
50% A Secular Age
20% Personal/Pastoral Synthesis
5% Meetings with Instructor

The available letters for course grades are as follows:

<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Description</u>
A+	
A	Excellent
A-	
B+	
B	Good
B-	
C+	
C	Satisfactory
C-	
D+	
D	Minimal Pass
F	Failure

Because of the nature of the Alpha 4.00 system, there can be no uniform University-wide conversion scale. The relationship between raw scores (e.g. percentages) and the resultant letter grade will depend on the nature of the course and the instructor's assessment of the level of each class, compared to similar classes taught previously.

Please note that final grades will be available on student registration system. Printed grade sheets are not mailed out.

Bibliography

Sources Reviews:

Adeney, Frances S. "Sources of the self: the making of the modern identity." *Theology Today* 48, no. 2 (July 1991): 204. ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials, EBSCOhost (accessed January 5, 2016).

Emarth, M. "Book reviews." *Journal Of Modern History* 64, no. 1 (March 1992): 119. Humanities International Complete, EBSCOhost (accessed January 5, 2016).

Meilaender, Gilbert. "Sources of the self: the making of the modern identity." *First Things* 5, (August 1990): 63-66. ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials, EBSCOhost (accessed January 5, 2016).

Moussa, Mario. "Writing the History of the " We": The Claims of Practice." *Social Theory & Practice* 18, no. 2 (Summer92 1992): 211-229. Academic Search Complete, EBSCOhost (accessed January 5, 2016).

Lovin, Robin W. "Sources of the self: the making of the modern identity." *The Christian Century* 108, no. 8 (March 6, 1991): 263-265. ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials, EBSCOhost (accessed January 5, 2016).

Rosenberg, Morris. "SOURCES OF THE SELF: THE MAKING OF THE MODERN IDENTITY (Book)." *Society* 27, no. 3 (March 1990): 92-93. SocINDEX with Full Text, EBSCOhost (accessed January 5, 2016).

Sharpe, R.A., and R. A. Sharpe. "Critical notices." *Philosophical Quarterly* 42, no. 167 (April 1992): 234. Academic Search Complete, EBSCOhost (accessed January 5, 2016).

Weissherger, Adam. "Sources of the Self: The Making of the Modern Identity (Book)." *Qualitative Sociology* 13, no. 3 (Fall 1990): 284. Academic Search Complete, EBSCOhost (accessed January 5, 2016).

Wolfe, Alan. "Sources of the Self: The Making of the Modern Identity (Book)." *Contemporary Sociology* 19, no. 4 (July 1990): 627-628. SocINDEX with Full Text, EBSCOhost (accessed January 5, 2016).

Secular Reviews:

Allen, Brooke. "The Value of Doubt." *Hudson Review* 61, no. 1 (Spring 2008): 199-210. Literary Reference Center, EBSCOhost (accessed January 5, 2016).

Amesbury, Richard. "A Secular Age – By Charles Taylor." *Philosophical Investigations* 33, no. 1 (January 2010): 67-74. Academic Search Complete, EBSCOhost (accessed January 5, 2016).

Berkowitz, Peter. "The Persistence of Religion." *Claremont Review Of Books* 8, no. 2 (April 15, 2008): 20-21. OmniFile Full Text Select (H.W. Wilson), EBSCOhost (accessed January 5, 2016).

Gordon, Peter E. "The Place of the Sacred in the Absence of God: Charles Taylor's *A Secular Age*." *Journal Of The History Of Ideas* 69, no. 4 (October 2008): 647-673. Literary Reference Center, EBSCOhost (accessed January 5, 2016).

Hösle, Vittorio. "A METAPHYSICAL HISTORY OF ATHEISM." *Symposium: Canadian Journal Of Continental Philosophy / Revue Canadienne De Philosophie Continentale* 14, no. 1 (April 2010): 52-65. Humanities International Complete, EBSCOhost (accessed January 5, 2016).

Jay, Martin. "FAITH-BASED HISTORY." *History & Theory* 48, no. 1 (February 2009): 76-84. Academic Search Complete, EBSCOhost (accessed January 5, 2016).

Kinsey, John. "A Secular Age – By Charles Taylor." *Philosophical Investigations* 33, no. 1 (January 2010): 75-81. Academic Search Complete, EBSCOhost (accessed January 5, 2016).

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Kollar, Rene. "A Secular Age. By Charles Taylor." *Heythrop Journal* 52, no. 3 (May 2011): 535-536. Academic Search Complete, EBSCOhost (accessed January 5, 2016).

Kozinski, Thaddeus J. "Becoming Children of Modernity." *Modern Age* 51, no. 2 (Spring 2009): 161-169. Literary Reference Center, EBSCOhost (accessed January 5, 2016).

Laitinen, Arto. "Charles Taylor, *A Secular Age*." *Ethical Theory & Moral Practice* 13, no. 3 (June 2010): 353-355. Academic Search Complete, EBSCOhost (accessed January 5, 2016).

LYON, DAVI D. "Possibilities for post-secular sociology?." *Canadian Journal Of Sociology* 33, no. 3 (Fall 2008): 693-696. Academic Search Complete, EBSCOhost (accessed January 5, 2016).

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- May, Collin. "Charles Taylor, A Secular Age." *Society* 46, no. 2 (March 2009): 199-203. Academic Search Complete, EBSCOhost (accessed January 5, 2016).
- McClay, Wilfred M. "Uncomfortable Unbelief." *First Things: A Monthly Journal Of Religion & Public Life* no. 183 (May 2008): 35-39. Academic Search Complete, EBSCOhost (accessed January 5, 2016).
- McCurry, Jeffrey. "A SECULAR AGE by Charles Taylor." *New Blackfriars* 90, no. 1029 (September 2009): 623-626. Academic Search Complete, EBSCOhost (accessed January 5, 2016).
- O'Brien, Dennis. "Twenty Centuries of Conversation." *America* 197, no. 12 (October 22, 2007): 24-25. Academic Search Complete, EBSCOhost (accessed January 5, 2016).
- Root, Andrew. "A secular age." *Word & World* 30, no. 1 (2010 2010): 111-113. ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials, EBSCOhost (accessed January 5, 2016).
- Steinfels, Peter. "Modernity & Belief." *Commonweal* 135, no. 9 (May 9, 2008): 14-21. Literary Reference Center, EBSCOhost (accessed January 5, 2016).
- Tolson, Jay. "Why God Won't Die." *Wilson Quarterly* 32, no. 1 (Winter2008 2008): 107-108. Literary Reference Center, EBSCOhost (accessed January 5, 2016).
- Wallulis, Jerry. "A Secular Age by Charles Taylor." *Philosophy & Rhetoric* 42, no. 3 (August 2009): 302-312. Humanities International Complete, EBSCOhost (accessed January 5, 2016).

Taken From James K.A. Smith's Syllabus:

- James Tully, ed., *Philosophy in an Age of Pluralism: The Philosophy of Charles Taylor in Question* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995).
- Ruth Abbey, *Charles Taylor* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2004).
- Deane-Peter Baker, *Tayloring Reformed Epistemology* (London: SCM Press, 2007).
- M. Warner, J. VanAntwerpen, and C. Calhoun, eds., *Varieties of Secularism in a Secular Age* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2010).
- James K.A. Smith, *How Not to be Secular* (Michigan: Eerdmans, 2014).
- "Christians in a Secular Age," a special issue of *New Blackfriars* 91 (November 2010): includes responses by Taylor.
- Symposium on A Secular Age, a special issue of *Modern Theology* 26 (2010): includes responses by Taylor.
- "Grappling with Charles Taylor's A Secular Age: A Symposium," *Journal of Religion* 90 (2010): 367-406 (including a response by Taylor)

Policies:

Communication

All students have received an Ambrose e-mail account upon registration. It is the student's responsibility to check this account regularly as the Ambrose email system will be the professor's instrument for notifying students of important matters (cancelled class sessions, extensions, requested appointments, etc.) between class sessions. If students do not wish to use their Ambrose accounts, they will need to forward all messages from the Ambrose account to another personal account.

Registration

During the **Registration Revision Period** students may enter a course without permission, change the designation of any class from credit to audit and /or voluntary withdraw from a course without financial or academic penalty or record. Courses should be added or dropped on the student portal by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. After that date, the original status remains and the student is responsible for related fees.

Students intending to withdraw from a course after the Registration Revision Period must apply to the Office of the Registrar by submitting a "Request to Withdraw from a Course" form or by sending an email to the Registrar's Office by the **Withdrawal Deadline**; please consult the List of Important Dates on the my.ambrose.edu website. Students will not receive a tuition refund for courses from which they withdraw after the Registration Revision period. A grade of "W" will appear on their transcript.

Exam Scheduling

Students wishing to withdraw from a course, but who fail to do so by the applicable date, will receive the grade earned in accordance with the course syllabus. A student obliged to withdraw from a course after the Withdrawal Deadline because of health or other reasons may apply to the Registrar for special consideration.

Students, who find a conflict in their exam schedule must submit a Revised Examination Request form to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Requests will be considered for the following reasons only: 1) the scheduled final examination slot conflicts with another exam; 2) the student has three final exams within three consecutive exam time blocks; 3) the scheduled final exam slot conflicts with an exam at another institution; 4) extenuating circumstances. Travel is not considered a valid excuse for re-scheduling or missing a final exam.

Electronic Etiquette

Students are expected to treat their instructor, guest speakers, and fellow students with respect. It is disruptive to the learning goals of a course or seminar and disrespectful to fellow students and the instructor to use electronics for purposes unrelated to the course during a class session. Turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices during class. Laptops should be used for class-related purposes only. Do not use iPods, MP3 players, or headphones. Do not text, read, or send personal emails, go on Facebook or other social networks, search the internet, or play computer games during class. Some professors will not allow the use of any electronic devices in class. The professor has the right to disallow the student to use a laptop in future lectures and/or to ask a student to withdraw from the session if s/he does not comply with this policy. Repeat offenders will be directed to the Dean. If you are expecting communication due to an emergency, please speak with the professor before the class begins.

Academic Policies

It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies as stated in the Academic Calendar. Personal information (information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual) may be required as part of taking this class. Any information collected will only be used and disclosed for the purpose for which the collection was intended. For further information contact the Privacy Compliance Officer at privacy@ambrose.edu.

Extensions

Although extensions to coursework in the semester are at the discretion of the instructor, students may not turn in coursework for evaluation after the last day of the scheduled final examination period unless they have received permission for a course Extension from the Registrar's Office. Requests for course extensions or alternative examination time must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise "due to circumstances beyond the student's control."

Appeal of Grade

An appeal for change of grade on any course work must be made to the course instructor within one week of receiving notification of the grade. An appeal for change of final grade must be submitted to the Registrar's Office

in writing and providing the basis for appeal within 30 days of receiving notification of the final grade, providing the basis for appeal. A review fee of \$50.00 must accompany the appeal. If the appeal is sustained, the fee will be refunded.

Academic Integrity

We are committed to fostering personal integrity and will not overlook breaches of integrity such as plagiarism and cheating. Academic dishonesty is taken seriously at Ambrose University as it undermines our academic standards and affects the integrity of each member of our learning community. Any attempt to obtain credit for academic work through fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest means is academic dishonesty. Plagiarism involves presenting someone else's ideas, words, or work as one's own. Plagiarism is fraud and theft, but plagiarism can also occur by accident when a student fails or forgets to acknowledge to another person's ideas or words. Plagiarism and cheating can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the university college. Students are expected to be familiar with the policies in the current Academic Calendar that deal with plagiarism, cheating, and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean and become part of the student's permanent record.

Note: Students are strongly advised to retain this syllabus for their records.