

HT RSVS076 CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY				
Responsible for the course: Dr. John Brouwer	Timetable: Thursday, 10:00 - 11:30, BTK Room: 227		Prescriptions: (prerequisites) Beginning to intermediate English.	
Leader of the course: Dr. John Brouwer	Contact Hours: N: 30	Credit: RSVS 076: 4 ÉRTÉ 102: 4	A complete set of notes is provided.	
jbrouwer@cantab.net	Type: Optional	Semester: 2018-19.1 Autumn	Language: English	Evaluation: Practical mark
			Suggested semester: Autumn 2018	Method of evaluation: Short quizzes and reflection paper
Course description:				
<p>Spirituality is a ‘hot topic’ today. But what do we mean by Christian spirituality? What is the theology of spirituality. How can we use in our churches? And will it attract people to church?</p> <p>The seminar will teach you how Christian theology and belief can be used in practical areas of church life, and how Christian spirituality is effective to draw people back to church. Since many BTK students attend this seminar, the course allows you to meet and interact with ‘non-reformed people’, to see how they think, to discover how theology can help us connect with them.</p> <p>The course will show how conversations about what it means to be a human can be effective for outreach and evangelism. The seminar will also help you improve your spoken and written English.</p> <p>In today’s Hungarian culture, there are many ideas about our ‘humanity’. Yet Jesus was fully human, and shows us what true humanity is like, theologically and practically. With interactive discussion, we will use the idea of “being human” to introduce and discuss Christian spirituality. We first identify important views in culture. And then we contrast those views with what the Bible teaches about anthropology and spirituality.</p> <p>Lastly, we describe the practical elements of Christian spirituality. This part of the course begins with the separation between God and man, and the question of right relationship with God. How does justification work and what happens after that with sanctification? Broken relationships in families and throughout all levels of society seem to be normal in our modern society. Christian spirituality – deep, personal relationship between God and man – will be offered as a way to begin to heal broken relationships.</p>				
Course content:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Preparatory meeting and Nature of Humanity I: Historic, Government and Family ▪ Nature of Humanity II: Humans in the image and likeness of God ▪ Nature of Humanity III: Teleology - is there purpose and meaning to life? ‘Problem of Evil’ ▪ Nature of Humanity IV: Evil defeated and its consequences ▪ Contrasts Explored: Majesty of God’s holiness vs. corruption of human sin ▪ Can we be right with God? And then what? ▪ Perfect grace and proximate peace: spiritual work for our congregations ▪ God with us: practical consequences for church life ▪ Christian spirituality as an ecumenical bridge 				
Requirements:				
Grade: class participation and short reflection paper.				
Literature:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>The Holy Bible</i> in reliable modern translation -- e.g., ESV, NIV, NASB, NRSV. ▪ Augustine, <i>Confessions</i>, trans. R.S. Pine-Coffin, London, 1961. ▪ Brown, Colin, <i>The New International Dictionary of New Testament Theology</i>, Grand Rapids, MI, 1971. ▪ *Hoekema, Anthony, <i>Created in God’s Image</i>, Carlisle, 1994. ▪ Lindsley, Art, ‘Character’ and ‘Character, Part Two’, <i>Knowing and Doing</i> (Fall and Winter: 2006). ▪ *Lovelace, Richard, <i>Dynamics of Spiritual Life</i>, Downers Grove, IL, 1980. ▪ Luther, Martin, <i>Commentary on Galatians</i>. ▪ *Macaulay, Ranald, and Jerram Barrs, <i>Being Human</i>, Downers Grove, IL, 1978. ▪ *McGrath, Alister E., <i>Christian Theology: An Introduction</i>, 2nd ed., Oxford, 1997. 				

- WCC, 'Baptism, Eucharist, Ministry Document' and 'BEM Introduction', Faith and Order Commission, Lima, Peru, 1982.
- * Designates main reading text