Purpose and objectives of this course:

- To familiarize students with the basic issues in Kierkegaard’s religious thought and its relevance to contemporary Christian theology.
- To engage students in critical analysis of their own theological assumptions.

Required Texts:
1. Soren Kierkegaard, *Purity of Heart is to Will One Thing*.
2. Kierkegaard, *Fear and Trembling*.
5. Kierkegaard, Selections from *Either/Or* (on Reserve)

Writing Assignments, Exams, and Grading:
Grades will be based on the student’s accurate and insightful grasp of the material and on their critical engagement with that material. Students are asked for analysis as well as understanding. There will be three types of writing in this course:
1. A final paper of 12-15 pages
2. 1 short paper critically addressing at least one secondary source from Kierkegaard scholarship.
3. Periodically, informal papers and brief free writing in class about such topics as the readings for the day and class discussions.

All papers written outside of class are to be typed, double-spaced, with all references and bibliography following the MLA format.

Last, but by no means least, class participation is a significant element in the final grade. In addition to attendance and contributing to the class discussions, student will take turns leading our class discussion of Kierkegaard. Students will sign up in advance to present the material to the class. This presentation also includes asking provocative questions to inspire and lead discussion. Students will be graded on oral skills, insight into and understanding of the material, creativity, and proficiency in leading the discussion.

Grade Components:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>Final paper</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class participation and leading discussion</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 short paper</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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Plagiarism:
Plagiarism is a serious offense at this institution. It will not be tolerated in any written work submitted in this course. Plagiarism is using another's words or ideas without acknowledging the source. It is a form of theft, is unethical and is unscholarly. Penalties for plagiarism include reduction of one's grade and possibly a failing grade for the course, depending on the extent of the violation. If you have any questions, please consult with the instructor or acknowledge the source.
**Inclusive Language:**
Students are expected to use inclusive, nonsexist language in both written and oral communication in this course. In other words, if you mean to refer to humanity in general, use "humankind," "she/he," or similar expressions. Use "he," "him," "man," only when you are referring to male persons. If you have questions concerning how to express yourself in nonsexist ways, please consult your instructor.

**Weekly Schedule:**

Week 1:
THR 1/20 Intro to Kierkegaard and to each other.

Week 2
THR 1/27 Kierkegaard’s Upbuilding Discourses.
Recommend: the Rest.

Week 3
THR 2/3 Student Led Discussion ____________________________________ .
Read: A secondary source on Kierkegaard and be ready to share it with the class.

Week 4:
TH 2/10 Christian Spirituality
Read: Kierkegaard’s *Purity of Heart is to Will One Thing*, pp. 9-28, 31-112, 170-219.

Week 5:
TH 2/17 Student Led Discussion _________________________________________

Week 6:
TH 2/24 Read: Russell’s articles on *Purity of Heart is to Will One Thing* and the Spheres of Existence.

Week 7:
Skim: Either/Or, pp. 93-135. (all on reserve)

Week 8
TH 3/10 Read: Kierkegaard’s *Fear and Trembling*, entire till Problem 3, then read the last section of problem 3 (about 10 pages before Epilogue, pp. 121-129 in Lowrie).

Week 9
TH 3/17 Student Led Discussion _________________________________________
Read: A secondary source on Kierkegaard and be ready to share it with the class.

Week 10
Holy Week no Class

Week 11
TH 3/31 Read: Kierkegaard’s *Sickness Unto Death*, pay special attention to Part 1.
Week 12:
TH 4/7  **Read:** Kierkegaard’s *Sickness Unto Death*, Part 2 till Appendix, pick up again at point 2 in Appendix on Socrates.
Student Led Discussion ____________________________
**Read:** A secondary source on Kierkegaard and be ready to share it with the class.

Week 13
TH 4/14  **Due:** 4-6 page paper on Kierkegaard and secondary literature.

Week 14
TH 4/21  **Last Day of Classes:**
**Read:** Russell’s article on Kierkegaard’s Use of Pseudonyms.
Student Presentations on secondary literature paper ____________________________

Week 15  Reading Week.

TH 5/5  Kierkegaard’s Birthday—Final Paper Due.
**Due:** final paper