

NEW COURSE! spring semester 2014



RELG 5559

BONHOEFFER AND MODERNITY

PROFESSOR CHARLES MARSH

TUESDAY: 3:30 TO 6:00

Gibson Hall 242

Instructor's permission required

This seminar is intended for graduate students and upper level undergraduates who wish to study the theology of Dietrich Bonhoeffer in intellectual and historical context.

In addition to weekly readings from the Bonhoeffer *Works*, we will consider the writings of G. W. F. Hegel, Søren Kierkegaard, Adolf von Harnack, Karl Barth, Martin Heidegger, Martin Buber, Erich Przywara, Reinhold Niebuhr, W. E. B. Dubois, Mahatma Gandhi, and George Santayana as influential sources of Bonhoeffer's thought and actions. Bonhoeffer's concern with the challenges of modernity remains the thematic focus. More generally, we will want to understand **why this theologian, pastor and martyr formed a dissenting church and conspired to kill Hitler?**

Course requirements include a 20-25 page research paper; a weekly 250-word response to the readings; a half hour class presentation and a final exam in the form of a review essay on a scholarly book.

Written permission from the professor is necessary for enrollment in the seminar.