

TH799: Colloquium: Naming God

Instructor	Dr. Brent Laytham
Schedule	Tuesdays, 6 pm to 8:30 pm, January 6 – April 28
Description	<p>[Catalog description] An interdisciplinary seminar focusing on a single theological topic using classic and contemporary readings in Scripture and theology. Available to MAT students as their culminating degree experience, to CAS students any time, and to other students by permission.</p> <p>The Spring 2026 Colloquium focuses on Naming God in Christian scripture, tradition, prayer and praise. In addition to the monographs listed below, we will read substantial portions of Augustine, <i>Confessions</i>, Dionysius the Areopagite, <i>The Divine Names</i>, Catherine of Siena, <i>The Dialogue</i>, Julian of Norwich, <i>Revelations of Divine Love</i>.</p> <p>Students are welcome to read these texts in whatever edition they own. (The instructor will gladly provide a list of recommendations to any student considering purchasing one of these texts.) We will also engage poetry, liturgy, song, and visual art.</p>
Requirements	<p>Reading: Students will complete approximately 900-1,000 pages of reading and should come to class prepared to discuss the readings assigned.</p> <p>Writing: Most weeks students will prepare a short 1-2 page engagement with the reading. For the final class paper, students may choose a reflection paper or a research essay (about 10-12 pages).</p> <p>Other Assignments: students will regularly lead class discussion; students will assist in curating sightings of 'divine naming' in art, liturgy, and pop culture.</p>

Required Texts:

Author and Title (Press, Year, Edition)	Cost	Pages to be read
Richard Bauckham, <i>Who Is God? Key Moments of Biblical Revelation</i> , Baker Academic: 2020	\$18	110
Kendall Soulen, <i>Irrevocable: The Name of God and the Unity of the Christian Bible</i> , Fortress Press: 2022	\$29	150
Janet Soskice, <i>Naming God: Addressing the Divine in Philosophy, Theology and Scripture</i> , Cambridge: 2023	\$25	200