

# ARTS 590: The Art of Death and Theology of Hope (DE)

Dr. Joy Clarkson

Fall 2022

Distance Education: Pre-Recorded Lectures & Live Tutorials via Zoom (Thursdays, 11:00am–12:00pm Pacific)

2 or 3 graduate credit hours; or 2 audit hour

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

Can art prepare Christians to face death with hope? In this course, we will identify key works of art and theological texts that depict suffering and death, exploring how they grapple with these realities, and come to appreciate how art may spiritually form us towards Christian hope. Artistic reflections will center on paintings, medieval woodcuts, theatre, music, literature, and television. Along the way, we will be helped by readings from Gregory of Nyssa, Julian of Norwich, Bonaventure, Martha Nussbaum, Rowan Williams, David Bentley Hart, and more.

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon the successful completion of this course, students should have a clearer understanding of:

1. Identify key works of Christian art dealing with death and suffering
2. Describe important concepts, texts, and thinkers regarding the theology of death
3. Appreciate the power of art in spiritual formation that informs our Christian hope

## SPECIAL NOTES

As a Distance Education course, class time will be divided between pre-recorded lectures (2 hours each week) and live tutorials via Zoom. Students should watch the pre-recorded lecture and complete the reading each week as outlined in the syllabus. These lectures will be available on the course Moodle page. A weekly tutorial with the professor will take place on Zoom on Thursdays from 11:00 am–12:00 pm (Pacific Time) and will center on discussing the assigned readings. Alternative arrangements (such as reading discussions on Moodle) will be made for students who cannot join live tutorials due to time zone differences. Students for which this applies should contact the professor and DE Administrator directly.

Students should refer to the DE handbook (available on the DE [website](#)) for more information that will help with the successful completion of this course.

## ESTIMATED TIME INVESTMENT

	<b>2 credits</b>	<b>3 credits</b>
Lecture recordings	24 hrs	24 hrs
Tutorials	12 hrs	12 hrs
Reading & reading log	30 hrs	30 hrs
Research paper	24 hrs	33 hrs
Book reflection	—	8 hrs
Reading portfolio	—	28 hrs
<b>Total</b>	<b>90 hours</b>	<b>135 hours</b>

Please note: the amount of time taken by students will vary. This information is intended to be used as an approximation for planning purposes.

## REQUIRED TEXTS

Vodolazkin, Eugene. *Laurus*. London: Oneworld, 2015.

The rest of the required readings (chapters, papers, book portions) will be available on Moodle

Please Note: This Course Information Sheet is meant to assist in selecting courses. The official syllabus should be consulted for more detailed information. A full syllabus with drop deadlines, policies, and course assignment details is available on Moodle for registered students:

[moodle.regent-college.edu/login](https://moodle.regent-college.edu/login)

