

INDS 509: LOVING TO KNOW A WORKSHOP IN COVENANT EPISTEMOLOGY

Esther Meek

May 31 – June 4; 8:30 – 11:30 am

1 or 2 graduate credit hours; or 1 audit hour

Live online

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course helps students develop a vibrant vision of knowing and reality, which applies to any field of study or walk of life. This course forms students in the tradition of “covenant epistemology,” a fresh approach to knowing which takes as its paradigm the person’s transformative, epiphanic, redemptive encounter with Christ. **Covenant epistemology is the proposal that the paradigm of all knowing is the interpersonal, covenantally constituted, relationship, best typified by the Christian believer’s being redemptively known by Jesus Christ. Covenant epistemology augments Michael Polanyi’s innovative epistemology to profounder covenantal and interpersonally transformative dimensions.** Covenant epistemology directly responds to modern Western culture’s pervasive, inherited, defective epistemic “default” which has fomented disengagement, disenchantment and dehumanization. Covenant epistemology overcomes fundamental dualisms which thwart our life, work, culture, and church—dualisms such as reason and faith, fact and value, theory and application, science and art, offering in their place an approach that resonates profoundly with Scripture as well as with certain other recent, rejuvenating proposals. It holds the prospect of restoring delight and adventure to knowing, recovering our humanness, unleashing our Christian worship and witness, improving our effectiveness in our work, giving hope for communion with the real, and bringing about cultural healing in modernity. **This course is a workshop precisely because covenant epistemology takes its own Polanyi-based claims seriously: embodied epistemological therapy is needed to reorient us as knowers within the skewed and toxic approach we have inherited in this milieu.**

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Students (individually and as a group) will demonstrate skilled acquaintance with covenant epistemology.

Students will take first steps to implement and assess the value of covenant epistemology in all dimensions of life, specifically: philosophical and theological foundations; personal identity; relationships; Christian conversion and practice; Christian church and mission; learning and education; work, craft and creativity; cultural engagement; community and world care.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Two credit students:

Meek, Esther Lightcap. *Longing to Know: The Philosophy of Knowledge for Ordinary People*. Grand Rapids: Brazos Press, 2003. [LTK]

Meek, Esther Lightcap. *Loving to Know: Introducing Covenant Epistemology*. Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, 2011. [L2K]

One essay by Michael Polanyi. See possibilities listed in full syllabus.

One book (120 pages) from “Books Related to Covenant Epistemology” reading list on full syllabus.

One credit students:

Meek, Esther Lightcap. *A Little Manual for Knowing*. Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, 2014. [LM]

One essay by Michael Polanyi. See possibilities full syllabus.

*Looking for textbooks? Please [contact](#) the Regent Bookstore, or check out their [direct-fulfillment website, Aerio](#).
Note: Aerio prices are in USD.*

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

