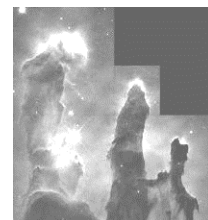




THE EPIC OF CREATION 2011

SCIENTIFIC, BIBLICAL, AND THEOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVES ON OUR ORIGINS



Chaired by Gayle Woloschak

Monday Evenings 6:30 PM – 9:30 PM, September 12 through December 5, 2011

Room 201, Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago (LSTC), 1100 East 55th Street, Chicago, IL 60615

Each fall, the Epic of Creation invites scientists and scholars of religion to present their professional perspectives on the scientific, biblical, and theological stories of the origins of the universe, life, and human beings. We invite you to join us as we explore the meanings of these stories for our existence in the universe today. Offered by the Zygon Center for Religion and Science (ZCRS), the Epic of Creation is a graduate-level seminary course and public lecture series. All lectures are free and open to the public. You may register for course credit through LSTC or through any member of the Association of Chicago Theological Schools (ACTS); the course number is LSTC T-456. For more information, please visit www.zygoncenter.org, email zcrs@zygoncenter.org, or call 773-256-0670.

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- 9/12 (6:30PM) **The Ongoing Creation of Stars, Planets, and, Possibly, Life:** Grace Wolf-Chase, *astrophysics, University of Chicago and Adler Planetarium*
- 9/12 (8:00PM) **The Quantum and the Cosmos:** Edward “Rocky” Kolb, *astrophysics, University of Chicago*
- 9/19 (6:30PM) **The Origin of It All:** Dan Hooper, *astrophysics, University of Chicago*
- 9/19 (8:00PM) **The Story of Creation from Hydrogen to the Earth:** Donald York, *astrophysics, University of Chicago*
- 9/26 (6:30PM) **Molecular Evolution/Evolution of the Body Plan:** Gayle Woloschak, *molecular biology, Northwestern University*
- 9/26 (8:00PM) **The Origin of Life:** Tatjana Paunesku, *molecular biology, Northwestern University*
- 10/3 (6:30PM) **“What is a transitional form?” Or, why ‘mammal-like reptiles’ aren’t reptiles:** Kenneth Angielczyk, *Field Museum of Natural History*
- 10/3 (8:00PM) **Primate Precursors to Human Behavior:** Paul Heltne, *primatology, Chicago Academy of Sciences*
- 10/10 (6:30PM) **The Radiation of Genus Homo and the Origin of Modern Humans:** Fred Smith, *anthropology, Illinois State University*
- 10/10 (8:00PM) **The Evolution of Culture and the Capacity for Culture in the Human Descent Line:** William Irons, *anthropology, Northwestern University*
- 10/17 (6:30PM) **The Point of It All? Reading Purpose and Direction in the Universe Story:** J. Matthew Ashley, *theology, University of Notre Dame*
- 10/17 (8:00PM) **Social and Cultural Responses to Evolution:** Barbara Strassberg, *sociology, Aurora University*
- 10/24 (6:30PM) **The Greco-Roman Context for New Testament Ideas of Cosmogony and Cosmography:** Edgar Krentz, *New Testament, Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago*
- 10/24 (8:00PM) **The Ancient Near Eastern Background for Hebrew Conceptions of Creation:** Bernard Batto, *religious studies, DePaul University*
- 10/31 (6:30PM) **The New Testament on Creation:** Edgar Krentz, *New Testament, LSTC*
- 10/31 (8:00PM) **Human Salvation in the Epic of Creation:** Karl Peters, *religion and philosophy, Rollins College*
- 11/7 (6:30PM) **The Epic of Creation and Interfaith Dialogue:** James F. Moore, *theology, Valparaiso University*
- 11/7 (8:00PM) **From the Enlightenment to Technoscience: Religion as a Problem:** Mladen Turk, *religious studies, Elmhurst College*
- 11/14 (6:30PM) **The Qur’an and Evolution: Contemporary Muslim Responses:** Ghulam-Haider Aasi, *American Islamic College and LSTC*
- 11/14 (8:00PM) **Social Dimension of the Epic:** Richard Busse, *theology, Zygon Center for Religion and Science*
- 11/21 **No Lectures (Thanksgiving Break at LSTC)**
- 11/28 (6:30PM) **Reconstructing Human Nature: Knowing our Place:** Anna Case-Winters, *theology, McCormick Theological Seminary*
- 11/28 (8:00PM) **Creation and Wisdom (Proverbs and Psalms):** Esther Menn, *Old Testament, LSTC*
- 12/5 (6:30PM) **The Epic of Creation—What Does It Mean?:** Philip Hefner, *theology, LSTC and ZCRS*
- 12/5 (8:00PM) **Panel Discussion**

About the Epic of Creation

We invite you to this unique course and lecture series that will present the scientific story of the emergence and evolution of the universe, life, and humans; provide exegeses of the biblical story of creation; and offer theological reflections on the Epic of Creation.

Leading scientists will tell the scientific story of our origins as inferred from records in starlight, rocks, and fossils. Notable biblical scholars will present exegeses of the biblical story of the world's beginnings and continuing creation as found in the Old and New Testaments and in the myths of other civilizations that shaped biblical concepts of creation. Distinguished theologians will reflect on issues and questions raised by the stories and their implications for Christian understandings of the world, humanity, and God. Throughout we will explore the meaning of the stories, asking what they tell us about the nature of our universe, about human nature, and about our origins and destinies.

Course Credit and Registration

The Epic of Creation course is designed as a graduate-level seminary course and public lecture series. All lectures are free and open to the public. Course credit is available via registration through the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago (LSTC) or cross-registration through member schools of the Association of Chicago Theological Schools (ACTS); the course number is LSTC T-456. For more information about ZCRS, please visit www.zygoncenter.org, email zcrcs@lstc.edu, or call 773-256-0670.

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FALL 2011



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