PTPC 95123 Personality Theory and Theological Anthropology

*Theoretical Perspectives on the Human and Theological Anthropology*

3 hours

**Instructor:** Nancy Ramsay

**Prerequisites:** admittance to PTPC PhD program

**Description of Content:**
This seminar focuses attention on the constructive theological implications arising from critically engaging various theological anthropologies with several additional theoretical approaches for understanding human beings such as personality theory, cultural theory, neuroscience, and critical theories. Students will research and develop a constructive pastoral theological position paper on a significant issue for discussion in the seminar.

**Class Procedures:**
Instructor and guest presentations, discussion, and student presentations

**Course Objectives:**
1. Demonstrate a capacity to locate pastoral theology within the broader range of theological studies, and more specifically to analyze the history and current issues in theological anthropology relevant to contemporary approaches in pastoral theology.
2. Demonstrate an ability to evaluate a range of theoretical interpretations of human being with particular attention to the trajectory and critical thought in these cognate disciplines (psychology, philosophy, sociology, and other conversation partners) in relation to their implications for pastoral theology and practices of care and pastoral counseling.
3. Demonstrate an ability to develop a sustained constructive pastoral theological proposal arising from an interdisciplinary engagement of one or more theological anthropological resources with one or more theoretical interpretations of human being.

**Requirements:**
1. Attendance and informed participation in the class sessions
2. Weekly written assignments and in-class presentations
3. Final paper (15-20 pages)
4. Final Exam

**Texts:** (all as paperback editions)

**Grading Procedures:**

1. Generative participation via threaded discussion and in-class discussion  25%
2. Brief interdisciplinary constructive explorations (1-2pp)  25%
3. Constructive Pastoral Theological Proposal Paper (25-30pp)  50%