

RELST-GA.2467

## Topics Seminar: Secularism and Christianity

This seminar examines the Christian roots of the secular, as well as some contemporary Christians' attempts to think outside of it. We will distinguish between the different terms, "secular," "secularism," and "secularization," and grapple with the complex relationship between Christianity and secular modernity. The authors with whom we will engage include Charles Taylor, Stanley Hauerwas, John Milbank, Talal Asad, Alistair MacIntyre, and Webb Keane, as well as Carl Schmitt and his two interlocutors, Ernst Kantorowicz and Erik Peterson. While introducing students to the ongoing theoretical conversation about secularism we will discuss several current political and ethical problems and try to conceptualize a post-secularist historiography of religion.