“Experience is a hard teacher because she gives the test first, the lesson afterward.”
– Vernon Law, pitcher for the Pittsburgh Pirates

This assignment is really a preliminary part of a later assignment. It is an opportunity for you to articulate your own vision of theology as it is at the beginning of our course. Imagine someone who knew you, but not very well, asked you the following questions. Then answer them, and hold onto your answers until the semester’s end. Use the back of this page if you like.

This is the only assignment that will not ask you to draw substantively on the course materials. Enjoy it while it lasts!

1. What is Christian theology?

2. What is it for?

3. What school(s) of theology have been influential on your thinking in the past? How?

4. What school(s) of theology are influential on your present thinking? How?

5. How is what you call theology distinct from and related to other forms of Christian life?

6. How is what you call theology distinct from and related to other academic disciplines?

7. Name a theological development or school you consider unhealthy, and explain why.

8. Name one you consider especially important, and explain why.