



**COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS  
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY  
FALL 2009 COLLOQUIUM SERIES**

*The Department of Philosophy  
at Texas A&M University  
presents*

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## **A Credible Anselmianism**

I argue that Anselmians ought to abandon traditional Anselmianism in favor of Moderate Anselmianism. Moderate Anselmianism advances the view that a being  $x = \text{God}$  if and only if (i) for every essential property  $P$  of  $x$ , it is secondarily necessary that  $x$  has  $P$ , (ii) for most essential properties of  $x$ , it is not primarily necessary that  $x$  has  $P$  and (iii) the essential properties of  $x$  include omnipotence, omniscience, perfect goodness and necessary existence. Among the advantages of Moderate Anselmianism is a compelling response to *a priori* atheological arguments unavailable to traditional Anselmianism. Unlike traditional Anselmianism, Moderate Anselmianism explains why *a priori* atheological arguments can be convincing and nonetheless illusory.

Thursday, 1 October 2009  
3:45 p.m.  
213 Bolton Hall