

Theology Graduate Course Descriptions Spring 2010

THEO 60003/Elementary Hebrew II

MW 3:00-4:15pm

Instructor: Abraham Winitzer

This is the second of a two-semester introductory course in Biblical Hebrew; under normal circumstances, the student must complete the first in order to enroll in the second. In addition to the completion of Lambdin's elementary grammar, students are introduced to some (modified) Biblical texts.

THEO 60009/Biblical Languages: Coptic

Time TBA

Instructor: Gregory Sterling

This course introduces students to Coptic, the final descendant of ancient Egyptian. Coptic is important for an who are interested in the historical Jesus, Gnosticism, textual criticism of the New Testament, asceticism, or early Christian history. We will work our way through a grammar, and then read a selection of texts including excerpts from the Gospel of Thomas and some fragments only from the Martyrdom of Polycarp. The course is designed to enable students who have no previous training in Coptic to read simple to moderately difficult texts. Its serves to fulfill the third ancient language requirement for Ph.D. students in CJA.

THEO 60018/Intermediate Hebrew

MW 3:00-4:15pm

Instructor: Mark Nussberger

This fourth-semester course in biblical Hebrew will continue and build upon THEO 60006/83001. Our efforts will be focused on the preparation, oral reading, and translation of selected biblical passages—both prose and poetry. But time also will be spent continuing to review basic grammar as well as developing a deeper appreciation of—and greater ability to describe—significant elements of syntax and literary structure (e.g., parallelism). There will be weekly quizzes, a mid-term exam, and final exam. Elementary Hebrew is required.

THEO 60102/New Testament Introduction

MW 11:45-1:00pm

Instructor: Mary Rose D'Angelo

This course provides an overview and critical study of the New Testament in its historical, literary, and theological context. The focus will be on reading the texts of the New Testament, gaining an informed understanding of scholarly questions about them, and acquiring tools for further work. Special attention will be paid to the christologies of the writings and the role of the spirit in earliest Christianity. Extra-canonical texts (Qumran texts, extra-canonical gospels) will help in locating it in the rich religious and cultural world of the later Hellenistic era and the early Roman empire. Issues of contemporary theology will also be addressed, as will development of the canon. The course is designed to prepare students

both for doctoral work in biblical studies and other areas of theological study, and for intelligent use of the Biblical text in pastoral or educational settings.

THEO 60113/Gospel of John

TR 2:00-3:15pm

Instructor: John Meier

The course will seek to improve exegetical skills, to grasp the structure of the gospel of John, and to explore John's relationship to the letters and its function and history in the community and milieu in which it was written. The course will consider issues of genre, context, and theology, including the wisdom traditions from the gospel's Christology, its understanding of community that affirms the autonomy of the believer, the significance of prophecy in Christology and community life, the ways the women and men participated in the community, the community's combination of resentment toward and relatedness to "the Jews," and their rejection of the Roman imperial order.

THEO 60124/New Testament Theology

TR 3:30-4:45pm

Instructor: David Aune

This course focuses on the task of reading the New Testament theologically and the various ways in which that has been done. Important issues for discussion and critique include: (1) the ways in which the New Testament has been read as a unified work with a unified message, (2) the issue of how the presence of how the perception of theological diversity has problematized conceptions of New Testament unity, (3) the relationship between the theology of the New Testament and systematic theology, (4) the problem of determining the "center" of New Testament thought, (5) the problem of the perceived conflict between historical criticism and faith, (6) the problem of the canon within the canon, that is, treating part of the New Testament in a privileged way theologically, and (7) the role of New Testament theology in Catholicism and Protestantism. The two New Testament theologies which will be read and critiqued in class are Rudolf Bultmann's classic *New Testament Theology* (English translation, 1951-55), and the very recent work by Udo Schnelle, *Theology of the New Testament* (English translation, 2009).

THEO 60154/The Tabernacle/Temple in Ancient Israel

TR 8:00-9:15am

Instructor: Gary Anderson

This course will begin with a detailed consideration of the literary and theological function of the Tabernacle pericope in the books of Exodus and Leviticus -- the longest extended literary unit in the Pentateuch. From there we will turn to related stories about the building and eventual destruction of the Temple at the hands of the Babylonians. The course will conclude with the visions of a new Temple that take root in the exilic period (Ezekiel and Isaiah among others), the relationship of those visions to the second Temple itself and the importance of all this literature for the way in which the New Testament and early Church understands the identity of Jesus.

THEO 60155/Myth and Myth-Making in the Ancient Near East

TBA

Instructor: Abraham Winitzer

This course explores the nature and function of myth in the context of the ancient Near East (ca. 3200-332 BC(E)). For this we will focus on selected mythic texts (in translation) from various Near Eastern cultures, Mesopotamian, Hittite, Canaanite, Biblical, and consider them historically as well as in the light of general approaches to myth developed in Western scholarship. Special attention will be given to the issue of myth in the Hebrew Bible, particularly to the relationship between the Biblical and Near Eastern cognate traditions. No knowledge of the ancient languages involved is required.

THEO 60235/Christianity in Africa

MW 11:45-1:00pm

Instructor: Paul Kollman

Few places on earth exhibit the dynamism of contemporary Christianity like Africa. Such dynamism creates new challenges and opportunities for the Catholic Church and other ecclesial bodies, and also shapes African life more generally. Through novels, historical studies, and present-day reflections from a variety of perspectives, this course will explore Christianity in Africa, beginning with the early Church but with heightened attention to the more recent growth of Christianity on the continent. It will also examine Christianity's interactions with Islam and forms of African ways of being religious that predated Christianity and Islam, many of which have ongoing vitality. Attention will also be paid to African Christian theology, carried out formally and informally, as well as the implications of the growth of African Christianity for world Christianity.

THEO 60264/John Chrysostom and Social Issues in Early Christianity

TR 9:30-10:45am

Instructor: Blake Leyerle

The early church confronted pressing social issues. Many of these still challenge us today. In this course we will examine some of these concerns as they emerge in the writings of John Chrysostom, priest of Antioch and bishop of Constantinople at the end of the fourth and the beginning of the fifth century. Some of the issues we will consider include: urban poverty, the environment, sickness bereavement, marriage, child-rearing, entertainment, conversion, and competition with other religious groups.

THEO 60265/Religion and Literature: In Light of Job

T 12:45-3:15pm

Instructor Vittorio Montemaggi

This course explores the light that the Book of Job can shed on our understanding of the relationship between literary and theological reflection. An initial reading of the Book of Job itself will open up the questions (concerning, for example, human vulnerability and divine unknowability) that will then provide the conceptual focus for the rest of the course; in which we will examine texts by Gregory the Great, Dante, Shakespeare and Primo Levi, shaped in different but richly complementary ways by a profoundly compelling engagement with the questions raised by Job. Through such examination, and in conversation with contemporary literary and theological studies, students will be invited to reflect closely on the distinctive contribution that the coming together of literary and theological reflection can make to our thinking about meaning and truth.

THEO 60269/Three 12th Center Cistercians

TR 3:30-4:45pm

Instructor: Ann Astell

Contemporaries of one another, Bernard of Clairvaux (1090-1153), William of St. Thierry (1085-1148), and Aelred of Rievaulx (1110-1167) each contributed with passion and genius to the great twelfth-century Cistercian reform of Benedictine spirituality. They did so in complementary ways, reflecting their unique temperaments, backgrounds, geographic surroundings, mystical experiences, and missions. In this course we will read the principle writings of each, comparing and contrasting their approaches to the central Cistercian themes of self-knowledge, charity, and reform (personal and communal). Emphasis will be placed on their common engagement with Augustinian theology and their novel insights into its richness as a mystical way.

THEO 60270/American Evangelical History

M 3:30P - 6:00pm

Instructor: Mark Noll

Tentative Schedule for a seminar on American Evangelical History (with an emphasis on theology)

[thirteen weeks]. 1) W. R. Ward, *Early Evangelicalism: A Global Intellectual History, 1670-1789* (Cambridge, 2006); Thomas Kidd, *The Great Awakening: The Rise of Evangelical Christianity in Colonial America* (Yale, 2003); or Mark A. Noll, *The Rise of Evangelicalism: The Age of Edwards, Whitefield, and the Wesleys* (InterVarsity, 2003). 2) Jonathan Edwards' paperback vols. with sermons and general works from Yale (and for reference, George Marsden, *Jonathan Edwards: A Life* [Yale, 2003]). 3) Nathan O. Hatch, *The Democratization of American Christianity* (Yale, 1989). 4) Mark A. Noll, *America's God: From Jonathan Edwards to Abraham Lincoln* (Oxford, 2002). 5) Readings in 19th-century theologians, including Charles Finney, N. W. Taylor, Charles Hodge, J. W. Nevin. 6) Timothy L. Smith, *Revivalism and Social Reform in Mid-Nineteenth-Century America* (Abingdon, 1957), several later eds. 7) Douglas Frank, *Less Than Conquerors: How Evangelicals Entered the Twentieth Century* (Eerdmans, 1986). 8) George Marsden, *Fundamentalism and American Culture*, 2nd ed. (Oxford, 2006). 9) Grant Wacker, *Heaven Below: Early Pentecostals and American Culture* (Harvard, 2001). 10) Joel Carpenter, *Revive Us Again: The Reawakening of American Fundamentalism* (Oxford, 1997). 11) Margaret Bendroth, *Fundamentalism and Gender, 1875 to the Present* (Yale, 1986); and Mark Husbands and Timothy Larsen, eds., *Women, Ministry, and the Gospel: Exploring New Paradigms* (InterVarsity, 2007). 12) Carl Henry, *Confessions of a Theologian: An Autobiography* (Word, 1986); and George Marsden, *Reforming Fundamentalism: Fuller Seminary and the New Evangelicalism* (Eerdmans, 1987). 13) Timothy Larsen and Daniel J. Treier, *The Cambridge Companion to Evangelical Theology* (Cambridge, 2007). Extensive supplementary bibliography.

THEO 60401/Sacramental Theology

TR 3:30-4:45pm

Instructor: Nathan Mitchell

This course presents an integrated overall view of the history, theology and pastoral praxis of sacrament in a modern, multicultural world. In Addition to readings, one paper will be required

THEO 60403/Christian Initiation

MW 3:00-4:15pm

Instructor: Max Johnson

This course will trace the historical development of the liturgies and theological interpretations of Christian Initiation in East and West from the New Testament period to the modern period of ecumenical convergence. In light of this historical investigation some modern forms of these rites (e.g., RCIA, LBW, BCP, etc.) will be considered theologically and ecumenically with an eye toward pastoral appropriations and implications.

THEO 60425/Mary Saints in Liturgy, Doc. Life

MW 11:45-1:00pm

Instructor: Max Johnson

This course explores the evolution and theology of Mary and the saints in their liturgical and doctrinal expressions in an attempt to discern, evaluate, and articulate their proper place within Christian liturgy, doctrine, and life today in relationship to the central mediatorial role of Christ. Issues of popular piety, "models of holiness," and ecumenical division, dialogue, convergence, the feminist critique, and liturgical renewal will also be examined.

THEO 60431/Psalmody

TR 3:30-4:45pm

Instructor: TBA

This hands-on course will cover all the ways that the psalms have been sung in Jewish and Christian worship, from ancient times to the present. All the major styles and practices of monophonic and polyphonic singing, as well as keyboard accompaniment, will be included. We will also trace how the various ways of interpreting the psalm texts throughout history have shaped liturgical practices, prayer and spirituality, and the creation of hymnody.

THEO 60601/Foundations of Moral Theology

TR 11:00-12:15pm

Instructor: Paulinus Odozor

This course is intended to provide a theoretical and practical introduction to the theory of morality, with a special emphasis on Catholic moral theology. Topics to be studied include the foundations of morality; the conditions of voluntariness; and moral norms and possible exceptions to them. Course requirements will include a midterm and a final examination.

THEO 60614/Catholic Social Teaching

MW 1:30-2:45pm

Instructor: Margie Pfeil

The purpose of this course is to familiarize students with the tradition of Catholic social teaching with a view to developing skills for critical reading and appropriation of these documents. We will examine papal, conciliar, and episcopal texts from *Rerum novarum* (1891) up to the present time, identifying operative principles, tracing central theological, ethical, and ecclesial concerns, and locating each document in its proper historical context.

THEO 60621/Compar. Religious Ethics, Buddhism/Christianity

MW 3:00-4:15pm

Instructor: David Clairmont

Is religion necessary to live a moral life? If so, are all religions basically the same when it comes to the moral norms contained in them? If not, how do we account for the differences among religious values, norms and principles? How do religions justify their distinctive moral claims in the face of alternative proposals? Can we study the ethical thought of a religious tradition that is different from our own in a responsible manner and, if so, how should we proceed? This course will take up these and other related questions through an examination of classic and contemporary Christian and Buddhist texts in dialogue with recent theoretical options for the comparative study of religious ethics. We will begin with an assessment of the importance and distinctive quality of religious voices in moral debate and then look at some of the ways that contemporary scholars have approached the investigation and assessment of similarities and differences in moral world views. The middle portion of the course will focus on a careful reading of selected Christian and Buddhist texts that offer visions of the moral life. The course will conclude with a comparative consideration of Buddhist and Christian positions on the moral issue of abortion and the relationship of human beings to the natural world. Course requirements include two short critical response papers and a longer final paper.

THEO 60806/Ecclesiology

TR 9:30-10:45am

Instructor: Richard McBrien

An examination of the nature and mission of the church, with special emphasis on the Second Vatican Council, its theological and doctrinal antecedents, and postconciliar developments.

THEO 60808/Mystery of God

TR 12:30-1:45pm

Instructor: Cyril O'Regan

The general aim of the course is to introduce the student to the Catholic tradition of reflection on the triune God who always remains mysterious even in, or precisely in, his revelation in history and in our lives. The pedagogic aim is familiarity with the tradition that is the church's common possession.

THEO 60817/Myth and Story

MW 11:45-1:00pm

Instructor: John Dunne

An interpretation of myth starting from the question "What kind of story are we in?" and "What kind of story am I in?" and dealing with (a) the life story, (b) the spiritual adventure, and (c) the journey with God in time.

THEO 60838/Orders and Ministry

TR 11:00-12:15pm

Instructor: David Fagerberg

This course looks at a theology of Christian ministry, both ordained and lay. The relevant official documents will be read, as well as secondary sources that articulate the sacrament of ordination, hierarchy, the lay apostolate and baptismal priesthood of all Christians, and current definitions of Lay Ecclesial Ministry. Both seminarians and lay divinity students should develop the concepts necessary to understand their particular ministry in the light of Church teaching and as a service to the people of God.

THEO 60854/Modern Study of Religions

TR 12:30-1:45pm

Instructor: Larry Sullivan

This course will review approaches taken to the study of religion over the past 150 years, from Max Mueller, through Levi-Strauss, to post-modern and contemporary criticism.

THEO 60868/Shiism and Catholicism

MW 3:00-4:15pm

Instructor: Rasoul Rasoulipou

Most Western discussions of Islamic matters or the Arab world tend to focus, often implicitly, on Sunnism. This is perhaps to be expected, since the overwhelming majority of the world's 1.5 billion Muslims are Sunnis. Shias number from 150 million to 200 million people, or 10 to 15 percent of the total. In the Islamic heartland, from Lebanon to Pakistan, however, there are roughly as many Shias as there are Sunnis, and around the economically and geostrategically sensitive rim of the Persian Gulf, Shias constitute 80 percent of the population. The divide between Shiism and Sunnism is the most important in Islam. The two sects parted ways early in Muslim history, and each views itself as the original orthodoxy. Their split somewhat parallels the Protestant-Catholic difference in Western Christianity. This new course offers a panoramic survey of the Shia Islam and its commonalities with Catholicism. The course will be divided into three sections. The first part of the course, will deal with the history and origins of Shiism from its birth in the Arabian peninsula in the seventh century. We will look at the history of the early Islam and the most important events which split the two major Islamic traditions. In the second unit, the Shia doctrines, practices, political leadership and movements, gender, social relations and cultural norms will be explored. The last portion of the course will focus on the similarities and common grounds between Shiism and Catholicism in which we will hopefully uncover the roots that remain deeply entangled and intertwined in the histories and philosophies of Christians and Muslims.

THEO 60947/Liturgical Celebrations II

W 9:00-11:30am

Instructor: Tom Jones

This course examines the theology and practice of infant baptism, weddings, funerals and anointing of the sick, with emphasis on ministerial roles.

THEO 60950/Preaching III

F 9:00-11:30am

Instructor: Craig Satterlee

A continuation of Preaching II, with emphasis on the theological dimensions of preaching. The main work of the course will be preparation, delivery, and review of homilies. Assigned readings to be discussed in class. In addition to preaching and reading assignments, each student will prepare a short paper on a theology of preaching.

THEO 60951/Reconciliation Ministry

T 11:00-12:15am

Instructor: Peter Jarret

Reconciliation Ministry is designed to: (1) introduce ministry students to the history and theology of the sacrament of reconciliation; (2) provide an initial "confessional experience" (practicum) from which students can benefit from guidance, supervision, and constructive criticism; (3) assist students in understanding the importance of penance/reconciliation in the life and ministry of the church.

THEO 63001/Synthesis Seminar

M 9:30-11:30am

Instructor: Michael Connors

Note: Third-year M.Div. students only. The Synthesis Seminar is both a point of arrival and a point of departure-arrival, in that it seeks to ingrate the course of formal studies with one's theology of ministry, and departure in that it is provisional, leaving one with questions for the journey. Each participant chooses a topic that will serve as a focus for synthesis. Synthesis is the operative word; this is not research on an entirely new topic. Synthesis should illustrate both theological and ministerial preparedness. In developing the topic, attention is to be paid to at least three theological areas (Scripture, ecclesiology, patristics, ethics, and practical theology). Class notes, papers, and examinations may provide a basis for research.

THEO 65932/Images and Models of Ministry II

W 10:00-11:30am

Instructor: Michael Connors

Through supervision and seminars, the tools of field education will be developed. Focus will be on diagnosing skills, clarifying goals, concretizing objectives, identifying methods of learning, and understanding the theology implied therein. Students are required to keep a ministry journal; write a contract, a critical incident, and a two-page reflection paper on readings; and the end-of-the-semester evaluation of field placement.

THEO 65934/Articulating Faith II

W 10:00-11:30am

Instructor: Jan Poorman

Note: Second-year M.Div. students only. Field Education is an integral component of education for ecclesial ministry. Through field education, students pursue the integration of theological competence with pastoral skill in a developing identity as a public minister. The goal of the second year of field education is facility in articulating the Christian faith, particularly as understood in Roman Catholic

tradition, and in fostering the development of faith with others. The goal is approached through a threefold constellation of learning contexts: field work in a ministry placement, supervision of that work, and a field education seminar. The primary learning dynamic for the seminar is dialogical and includes conversation about assigned texts and critical incidents as reported by participants using the prescribed case study method for this course.

THEO 67001/MTS Colloquium

W 4:30-6:00pm

Instructor: Gabriel Reynolds

Required for all M.A. and M.T.S. students.