

## GRADUATE THEOLOGY

**THE 500                      PHILOSOPHY FOR THEOLOGIANS                      1-3sem. hrs.**

Philosophy is essential for theological reflection. Graduate students who have not taken enough semester hours in philosophy at the undergraduate level are required to take this course as an introduction to metaphysics and epistemology necessary for graduate-level theology. In addition, a survey of philosophy from the Greeks to the Moderns is given.

**THE 501                      THE CATHOLIC TRADITION                      1-3 sem. hrs.**

An historical overview of the Catholic Christian tradition, this course is intended for potential students with a limited background in theology or Church history. Students use a basic text and primary source materials to understand the historical and theological developments in the Jewish tradition; the advent, mission, and Passion of Christ and the history of the Church from its origins to the present. Topics such as Trinity, Christ, faith, grace, virtues, sacraments, and Christian relations with Judaism and Islam are addressed.

**THE 510                      THEOLOGY: ORIGINS AND DEVELOPMENT                      3 sem. hrs.**

This course reflects on the principles and methods used in theological inquiry and practice within the Christian tradition, especially the different philosophies operative in theology from the ancient world to the modern. Using primary and secondary sources, as well as examining notions such as being, spirit, faith, nature, grace, history, sacrament, etc., the course elucidates problems and possibilities in contemporary theological discourse.

**THE 520                      THE TRI-PERSONAL GOD                      3 sem. hrs.**

This course covers the mystery of God (and/or gods) in various cultures using primary and secondary sources. This mystery is related to the seeking and understanding of God in the Jewish and especially Christian traditions, as well as the rejection of God (atheism). Characteristics of the divine, such as spirit, unity, simplicity, goodness, omnipresence, trinity, etc., are explored. This course culminates in a study of the Christian proclamation of the Tri-personal God.

**THE 550                      CHURCH HISTORY                      3 sem. hrs.**

Church History traces the development of the early Christian community to the present. This course thematically addresses the divine origin of the Church and its historical pilgrimage as a community of disciples. Events in the New Testament, the Patristic era, the Middle Ages, the encounter with Islam, the schism between the East and West, the Renaissance, the Reformation, and the modern world are explored. This course also discerns continuity and development in the Church by principally engaging primary source documents.

**THE 551                      PATRISTIC AND MEDIEVAL THEOLOGY                      3 sem. hrs.**

This course presents the methods and insights of patristic and medieval theology through a study of major figures and texts. After an overview of the culture and context of the early Church to the medieval Church to 1400, the course looks at Scripture, faith and reason, Christ, Trinity, the Church, liturgy, ethics, and prayer. Authors and literature include but are not limited to Ignatius of Antioch, Justin Martyr, Irenaeus, Clement of Alexandria, Gregory of Nyssa, Hilary of Poitiers,

Augustine, John Chrysostom, Benedict of Nursia, Maximus the Confessor, Anselm, Abelard, Bernard, Bonaventure, and Aquinas.

**THE 552                      LATE MEDIEVAL TO REFORMATION THEOLOGY                      3 sem. hrs.**

Topics, themes, and developments in theology from the fourteenth to the early seventeenth century are explored in depth. Authors and literature include but are not limited to Scotus, Ockham, Thomas à Kempis, Luther, Calvin, Zwingli, the Council of Trent, Ignatius of Loyola, Teresa of Avila, and John of the Cross.

**THE 553                      MODERN AND POSTMODERN THEOLOGY                      3 sem. hrs.**

Topics, themes, and developments in theology from the eighteenth century to the present are explored in depth. Authors and literature include but are not limited to Schleiermacher, Mohler, Newman, Blondel, Barth, Niehbur, de Lubac, Rahner, Tracy, Marion, and Vanhooser.

**THE 560                      THE DEVELOPMENT OF MORAL THEOLOGY                      3 sem. hrs.**

This course presents an overview of Christian moral teaching from Scripture and from Christian contact with Hellenistic philosophy. Subsequent developments in moral theology are evaluated: e.g., concepts such as *arête*/virtue, *phronesis*, goodness/happiness, common good, natural and divine law, rights, principle of double effect, etc.

**THE 561                      CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING                      3 sem. hrs.**

This course reflects on the Church's social teaching from Scripture, the tradition, and especially from Pope Leo XIII's *Rerum Novarum* to the Second Vatican Council. By engaging primary source documents, the course further reflects on the Church's continued growth in its social awareness and activities.

**THE 604                      CHRISTOLOGY                      3 sem. hrs.**

This course seeks to clarify what it means to confess that Jesus of Nazareth is the Christ. The course examines the New Testament; the early councils; the writings of early, medieval, and modern Christian theologians; the development of Christological doctrine in the Church; and contributions of contemporary theologians.

**THE 610                      ECCLESIOLOGY                      3 sem. hrs.**

The ecclesial dimension of Christian faith is the focal point of this course. The course locates the Church within both a Trinitarian theology and anthropology. Specific topics for exploration include the place of the Church in the Creed, the sacramentality of the Church, a theology of mission, and structure and authority. The course also explores current issues shaping the Church's life and its place in the world.

**THE 611                      VATICAN II: HISTORY AND RECEPTION                      3 sem. hrs.**

This course looks at the developments leading to the Second Vatican Council, floor debates, and drafting of Church documents. The themes emerging from Vatican II are closely considered in order to understand the reception of conciliar teachings. In addition, an in-depth examination of

the four constitutions allows students to further research other conciliar decrees and declarations by tracing common theological perspectives and ongoing debates.

**THE 613                      THEOLOGY, CHURCH, AND POLITICS                      3 sem. hrs.**

This course invites students to explore and to consider a variety of responses to the question of the relationship between Church and the polis/state/nation. Materials are drawn from a range of disciplines—from theology to philosophy, political science, and law. Selected readings include excerpts from the Gospels, Plato, Aristotle, Aquinas, Hobbes, Spinoza, Rousseau, the Federalist Papers, Strauss, liberation theology, and Supreme Court rulings. Emphasis is given to introducing students in a way that is accessible for discussion without prior background.

**THE 614                      THE CHRISTIAN DEVELOPMENT OF                      3 sem. hrs.**  
**LAW AND RIGHTS**

Ancient notions of law and rights were transformed in the Christian ecclesial tradition in the twelfth century and have developed to the present day. However, this legacy is not without complications—historical, philosophical, and theological—and these complications impinge upon the Church’s moral vision for herself and the world. This course examines primary and secondary sources to understand the meanings of right and law today from a Christian perspective.

**THE 620                      CHRISTIAN ANTHROPOLOGY                      3 sem. hrs.**

According to John Paul II, “The human person is the primary and fundamental way for the Church, the way traced out by Christ himself, the way that leads invariably through the mystery of the Incarnation and the Redemption.” This course is a study of the human person as the image of God in the light of biblical revelation, Church teaching, and key theological sources. Insights from thinkers include but are not limited to Augustine, Aquinas, Luther, Kierkegaard, Balthasar, and John Paul II.

**THE 621                      THEOLOGY, CULTURE, AND MISSION                      3 sem. hrs.**

This course examines the interrelation between God’s communication mediated by theology and the specific culture in which the recipient is rooted. Further, especially in the Christian tradition, the way in which theology is transmitted from culture to culture via mission is explored. Using primary and secondary texts, students achieve a deeper cultural awareness of the theological interrelatedness of the individual, community, and world.

**THE 622                      RELIGIOUS TRADITIONS IN THE WORLD                      3 sem. hrs.**

This course is an evaluation of ancient and contemporary views of the notion of religion and an introduction to the anthropological origins of belief in the divine. World religious and philosophical traditions and cultures—e.g. Hindu, Buddhist, Islamic, etc.—are analyzed and explored, including primary sources, in relation to the Christian tradition. Also the notion of atheism, ancient and modern, is explored.

**THE 623                      IMAGES OF MARY AND JESUS                      3 sem. hrs.**

This course compares and contrasts Christological development with Marian images and devotions over the centuries. A close parallel (or lack thereof) allows students to understand the cultural, social, and political backgrounds of the encounters with both Jesus and Mary by the Church. The

articulation of these encounters provides valuable faith statements about both God and the believing community. Thus, in these images of Jesus and Mary, Scripture and tradition have been preserved and handed on. The task for theology today is to uncover the richness of these images as an expression of the tenets of the faith for each generation.

**THE 625                      BIBLICAL THEOLOGY                      3 sem. hrs.**

This course is an introduction to the study of the interplay between theology and Scripture that has been constant and in development since the formation of the New Testament. The first part of this course consists of an examination of Church teaching regarding the nature, inspiration, and interpretation of Scripture in the Catholic tradition. The second part focuses on a select body of texts from the Bible and closely studies their distinctive theology.

**THE 626                      THE OLD TESTAMENT:  
GENESIS THROUGH KINGS                      3 sem. hrs.**

A study of the Pentateuch and the Deuteronomistic History (Deuteronomy to Kings) through lectures and sessions in which students present an exegesis of important passages. In-depth knowledge of these books is essential to understanding the rest of the Bible.

**THE 627                      THE PROPHETS                      3 sem. hrs.**

This course provides an historical, literary, and theological overview of the prophets and the prophetic books in the Hebrew Bible. Although we look at the Former Prophets, most of the class focuses on the Latter (Writing) Prophets. When possible, students read prophetic books in their entirety, but for longer books they read selected texts. By the end of this course students better appreciate the rich diversity of form, style, and theology found in the prophetic books.

**THE 628                      THE WISDOM LITERATURE                      3 sem. hrs.**

Wisdom literature comprises the Old Testament books of Job, Proverbs, Quohelth (Ecclesiastes), Sirach, the Book of Wisdom, and by extension the Song of Songs. This course traces the development of the wisdom literature through the Second Temple and into the New Testament period, showing how Christian authors drew upon these resources.

**THE 629                      BIBLICAL THEMES AND NARRATIVES                      3 sem. hrs.**

This course surveys several key themes that emerge and re-emerge in the Christian Bible (encompassing both the Old and New Testaments). These themes include creation and eschatology, election and the nations; covenant and law, mediator/suffering servant, divine justice, sin and forgiveness, manifestations of God (e.g., Wisdom, Word, Spirit), Kingdom of God, and resurrection.

**THE 631                      THE NEW TESTAMENT: GOSPELS AND ACTS                      3 sem. hrs.**

The New Testament is a collection of diverse writings that are central to Christian faith and life. This course introduces students to the literary characteristics, historical context, and theological content of the Gospels and Acts. This course engages topics of concern for the Church today, including the poor and marginalized in the Gospels, the relationship of the earliest followers of Jesus to Jews and Judaism, the role of Scripture (i.e., the OT) in early Christian beliefs and practices, and religious experience.

**THE 632**                      **THE APOSTLE PAUL**                      **3 sem. hrs.**

This course is a study of Paul's life, an investigation of all thirteen letters attributed to him, and an examination of the key theological themes of these letters.

**THE 633**                      **NEW TESTAMENT PASTORAL  
EPISTLES AND WRITINGS**                      **3 sem. hrs.**

This course examines the key theological themes of various epistles attributed to other apostles, as well as writings and literary forms, such as Apocalypse, that complete the New Testament.

**THE 641**                      **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:  
PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE**                      **3 sem. hrs.**

This course highlights the history of the Church's educational ministry. Students read classical and contemporary documents—from Scripture to Augustine to Montessori—as a treasury of wisdom for religious education and pastoral ministry. The course closely parallels the history of theology, of the Church, and of western education. Finally, students compare and contrast modern currents in pedagogical theory and practice with the tradition.

**THE 642**                      **CHRISTIAN CONTRIBUTIONS TO SCIENCE**                      **3 sem. hrs.**

A brief history of the philosophy of science from the Levant, Arabia, and Europe frames this course. The focus of the course is the theological and philosophical principles that led to the growth of modern science in Christian Europe; the harmony and ruptures among theology, Church and science; the partial break in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries; and currents and developments in science and the Christian tradition to the present.

**THE 643**                      **CHRISTIAN CONTRIBUTIONS  
TO MEDICINE AND HEALING**                      **3 sem. hrs.**

This course examines the purposes and meaning of medicine and healing in the context of particular religious traditions and practices, focusing particularly on the Christian tradition's corporal works of mercy, the foundation of hospitals, and ethical engagement with modern science. By examining the history, theology, and practices of these traditions, participants grapple with the purpose of medicine.

**THE 644**                      **CHRISTIAN LITERATURE**                      **3 sem. hrs.**

Many of the world's greatest authors were formed by the Christian tradition, many of the most recognized literary forms derive from the Bible, and many great works of literature demand of readers' evaluative judgments of the good, the true, and the beautiful that can only rightly be understood from the perspective of Christian principles. After an examination of literature and truth, theological aesthetics, and the literary character of the Bible, there is a survey of literature from the patristic era to the present, including Augustine, Bernard of Clairvaux, Dante, Shakespeare, Milton, C.S. Lewis, and others.

**THE 645**                      **CHRISTIAN ART AND ARCHITECTURE**                      **3 sem. hrs.**

This course examines Christian faith and spirituality as appropriated, projected, and modeled in various forms of visual art and design in various epochs, including painting and sculpture, as well as the construction of palaces, cities, and cathedrals.

**THE 646                      CHRISTIAN CULTURE AND MUSIC                      3 sem. hrs.**

This course provides a framework to understand how music has informed Christian worship, thought, and practice. In turn, students see how Christian thought and life have transformed various styles and periods, from the “music of the spheres” to Rock-n-Roll.

**THE 647                      CHRISTIAN VIRTUE, ECONOMICS,  
AND BUSINESS                      3 sem. hrs.**

Ancient and modern views of economy and markets are compared and contrasted with the moral vision of the Gospel, along with the Christian understanding of virtue. Students read an array of sources and materials in order to discern the complex history of the Christian promotion of economics and business, for example, in understanding the common good or prohibitions against usury, avarice, etc.

**THE 650                      LITURGY AND SACRAMENTS                      3 sem. hrs.**

This overview and systematic study of constitutive elements of liturgical rites and sacramental theology analyzes the historical developments that facilitate understanding of contemporary practices.

**THE 651                      THEOLOGY AND EUCHARIST                      3 sem. hrs.**

This course reflects on the theology of the Eucharist, as it has developed throughout the history of the Church, and seeks a contemporary understanding of traditional doctrines in the light of Vatican II and the reformed ritual for the Eucharistic liturgy.

**THE 652                      HISTORY OF THE LITURGY                      3 sem. hrs.**

This course follows the history that is traced from Jewish rites and rituals, early Christian liturgical innovations, from medieval and reformed types of worship to Vatican II and the present.

**THE 653                      SACRAMENTAL THEOLOGY                      3 sem. hrs.**

This course assists students in understanding the sacramental dimension of their faith. After exploring sacrament in etymological, ontological, and phenomenological senses, students examine each sacrament, both in its role in the life of the Church, as well as in personal faith. The historical background and contemporary issues about the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist), the Sacraments of Healing (Reconciliation and the Sacrament of the Sick), and the Sacraments of Vocation (Marriage and Holy Orders) are addressed.

**THE 660                      REASONING, BELIEVING, AND INTERPRETING                      3 sem. hrs.**

This course examines the relationship among reason, belief, and interpretation in the Christian tradition. Modern hermeneutics and philosophy (including the social sciences) are explored as the means of communicating the relationship between these three ways of knowing.

**THE 661                      CONTEMPORARY MORAL THEOLOGY                      3 sem. hrs.**

Through the analysis of Scripture, Church teaching, Christian anthropology, and modern and post-modern ethics, this course examines contemporary debates in moral theology.

**THE 670**                      **AUGUSTINE AND THE DAWN OF**                      **3 sem. hrs.**  
**CHRISTIAN EUROPE**

This course examines the Church's pivot from the ancient world to the formation of Christian Europe, with St. Augustine's theology at the center. Background on his life and thought, as well as readings in major and minor works, helps students appreciate this seminal Christian theologian.

**THE 671**                      **AQUINAS AND THE MEDIEVAL RENAISSANCE**                      **3 sem. hrs.**

This course presents the advent of Aristotelian thought in thirteenth-century Christendom and its spurring of both theological and philosophical innovations and reactions in Christian life and thought. At the heart of this drama, St. Thomas Aquinas's dynamic synthesis of philosophy and theology are examined through his various writings and in selected commentaries.

**THE 672**                      **NEWMAN AND THE 19TH CENTURY**                      **3 sem. hrs.**

A look at the Anglican and Catholic thought of John Henry Newman in the context of the nineteenth century, including the Oxford Movement, German and French theologies, Vatican I, and the growth of various scientific and atheistic philosophies from Darwinism to Marxism.

**THE 673**                      **LA NOUVELLE THEOLOGIE AND**                      **3 sem. hrs.**  
**THE 20TH CENTURY**

An overview of the neo-scholastic revival of the late nineteenth century and the reaction of thinkers such as Blondel, Rousselot, and De Lubac, as well as their related theologies from Rahner to von Balthasar and Ratzinger and the authors of the Second Vatican Council.

**THE 674**                      **THEOLOGY AFTER VATICAN II**                      **3 sem. hrs.**

This course examines the various theologies that arose in the wake of Vatican II. Themes such as hermeneutics, deconstruction, formations of power, gender, race, and ethnicity are explored. Thinkers as diverse as Gadamer, Caputo, Tracy, Cone, Johnson, and others are considered.

**THE 675**                      **SPECIAL TOPICS IN THEOLOGY**                      **3 sem. hrs.**

This course provides an opportunity for students to study selected topics in theology or religious studies.

**THE 680**                      **RESEACH SEMINAR AND THESIS**                      **6 sem. hrs.**

This course introduces students to research and writing methodologies, as well as resources for a theological research paper in a seminar format. The goal is for students to prepare for further academic work at the doctoral level. Students must form an advisory committee and then produce and defend a 50-100 page thesis on a topic approved by a faculty member in Theology.

**THE 690**                      **PROFESSIONAL PRACTICUM**                      **6 sem. hrs.**

This course combines either professional work students currently do or service work that they may want to do with theological reflection through reading, writing, and discussion. Students must also form an advisory committee and develop a list of twenty books or equivalent articles, under the direction of a Theology faculty member, from which a series of comprehensive exams is drawn. The goal is to see how students will apply theology to their chosen work, to test students' overall grasp of the discipline of theology, and their ability to synthesize and communicate the knowledge they have acquired. The exam has an oral and a written component.

