THE GREEN BOOK

THE ECUMENICAL INSTITUTE OF THEOLOGY

Fall 2014
July 2014

Dear Students, Prospective Students, and Alums:

To aid in your choice of courses for fall registration we have attached a copy of the “Green Book” descriptions, requirements, and texts for each course.

Please note that the requirements listed for each course may be tentative and therefore subject to final adjustment.

*To purchase books at St. Mary’s Seminary & University Online Bookstore, go to the website [http://stmarys.seminarytextbooks.com/](http://stmarys.seminarytextbooks.com/). In the far left column under Categories, click “E.I. Textbooks Fall 2014.” Next, under “Subcategories” click on your course. The required texts will be displayed on that page.*

If you have any questions or concerns, please call me at 410/864-4202.

Sincerely,

Zenaida

Zenaida E. Bench
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THE ECUMENICAL INSTITUTE OF THEOLOGY

Fall 2014

Monday 6:00-7:30 pm

BS600 Orientation to Biblical Studies Mr. Strait

Prerequisite: NONE

Course Description:
This course will introduce students to academic tools and methods used to study the Bible, thus preparing students both for future Bible courses and for other theological study at the Ecumenical Institute. The course will focus on topics related to biblical study including: 1) the development of the biblical canon; 2) methods and tools for Biblical study; 3) the exegetical process; and 4) the transmission and growth of biblical literature.

Course Requirements:
1. Regular attendance of all class sessions, including preparation for class by carefully reading assigned texts and active participation in the class discussions
2. mid-term exam
3. brief writing assignments
4. short exegesis paper

Required Texts:
A study Bible, preferably the New Oxford Annotated Bible or the Harper Collins Study Bible.


BS611 Introduction to Biblical Hebrew I
Dr. Hancock

Prerequisite: NONE

Course Description:
A basic course on the grammar and vocabulary of biblical Hebrew.

Course Requirements:
- Students should expect to read at most 500 pages of required reading.
- In addition to reading, writing and class participation, students should expect to produce or participate in these additional graded learning activities:
  1. Regular quizzes
  2. Midterm Exam
  3. Final Exam

Required Texts:

Recommended Texts:
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Tuesday 6:00-8:30 pm

BS621 Literature & Theology of the Hebrew Bible Dr. Hancock

Pre/Corequisites: BS600, TH601

Course Description:
An introduction to the theological concept of the Torah, Prophets, and Writings in their historical and social contexts, with consideration of critical methodology and major themes.

Course Requirements:
• Students should expect to read at most 1000 pages of required reading.
• Students should expect to write at most 25 double-spaced pages. These will be comprised of the following:
  1. Final exegesis paper
  2. Short reading-responses papers

• In addition to reading, writing and class participation, students should expect to produce or participate in these additional graded learning activities:
  1. Quizzes
  2. Midterm
  3. Final Exam

Required Texts:


Recommended Texts:
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Thursday 6:00-8:00 pm

BS764 The Book of Revelation & its Interpreters Dr. Gorman

Prerequisites: BS600, TH601

Course Description:

Course Requirements:
• Students should expect to read at most 1200 pages of required reading.
• Students should expect to write at most 15 double-spaced pages. These will be comprised of the following:
  o One short theological or homiletical paper (750 words)
  o A theological exegesis or thematic paper on some aspect of Revelation (2,500 words)
  o A two-page synopsis or outline of the class presentation (see below)
• In addition to reading, writing and class participation, students should expect to produce or participate in these additional graded learning activities:
  o Keeping of an exegetical-theological notebook on the text of Revelation
  o A 15-minute class presentation on the history of reception/interpretation of Revelation

Required Texts:


Recommended Text:


Students interested in the one-credit spirituality supplement course should see the instructor for assignments.
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Tuesday 6:00-8:00 pm

ES/MT524/624 Food & Faith Rabbi Cardin/Dr. Laytham

Pre/Corequisite for ES/MT524: NONE. Pre/Corequisite for ES/MT624 = TH601.

Course Description:
Food is central to the faith and life of Judaism and Christianity, experienced as a good gift of a loving God. This course examines how Jews and Christians view, prepare, serve, eat and celebrate food. Students will develop a theology and practice of eating faithfully and justly. A key dimension of the course is the opportunity to gain new perspectives on one’s own tradition through a deepened understanding of another’s tradition.

Course Requirements:
- Students should expect to read at most 900 pages of required reading. In some cases, students will watch videos that supplement, complement or replace required reading.
- Students should expect to write at most 22 double-spaced pages. These will be comprised of the following:
  1. Summary reflection on what was learned by keeping a food journal for two weeks. 2-3 pages.
  2. A reflective comparison of two field trip sites, one Jewish and one Christian. 5-6 pages
  3. A summative account of “Food and Faith,” suitable for sharing with a family member the most important learning from the course. 4-5 pages
  4. An analysis of a key biblical passage or liturgical practice from the perspective of a faithful and just theology of eating. 6-8 pages
- In addition to reading, writing and class participation, students should expect to participate in these additional learning activities:
  1. Eating together.
  2. Exploring a grocery store in light of course readings and presentations.
  3. Watching a ‘food movie’ (from a list provided).
  4. One class session held at the Pearlstone Center (if feasible for the class, on Sunday October 12 from 5-7, if not at a normal Tuesday evening time).
  5. One class session at a Baltimore Orchard Project site, harvesting (and eating) fruit, and then discussing what was learned (at a normal Tuesday evening time).

Required Texts:


Wednesday 6:00-8:00 pm

ES/PT718 Christian Worship: History, Principles & Practice Dr. Toole

Pre/Corequisite: TH601

Course Description:
A biblical, theological, historical, cultural, and contemporary study of Christian worship, emphasizing commonalities, denominational distinctives, and current issues.

Course Requirements:
- Attendance in class
- Reading of assignments prior to class to be prepared for discussion (20% of final grade)
- Weekly reflection papers (1-2 pages) related to the class topic (30% of final grade)
- A final 12-page academic paper/project report (50% of final grade)

Required Texts:


Tisdale, Leonora Tubbs. *Preaching as Local Theology and Folk Art*. Fortress, 1999. 0-8006-2773-3 [note: this will be on reserve in the library.]


Course Description:

This course is designed to give an outline of Christian history in its earliest period through the Council of Chalcedon, examining developments in doctrine and practice and the influences of Greco-Roman society and Judaism. For example, we will explore how the early Church organized itself, how different rituals and authority structures evolved, and how the Church faced the challenges of defining its community in relation to society and in relation to the “other”, or groups outside the emerging boundaries of orthodoxy. The course’s goals are as follows: 1) to identify some of the main characters and events of the Church to the mid-fifth century; 2) to wrestle with the theological questions that helped the Church articulate its faith; 3) to critically analyze the primary sources concerning them; and 4) to understand the historical context surrounding each source.

Course Requirements:

- Students should expect to read at most 850 pages of required reading.
- Students should expect to write at most 20 double-spaced pages. These will be comprised of the following:
  1. Two 7-8 page papers, double-spaced
  2. Presentation handout of 1-2 pages
- In addition to reading, writing and class participation, students should expect to produce or participate in these additional graded learning activities:
  1. An oral presentation introducing a primary source author and work from our reading list
  2. A final take home exam based on the lectures and readings

Required Texts:


H/ST605 History of Theological Systems  
Dr. Vicchio

Prerequisite: TH601, ST601

Course Description:
An encounter with systematic theology as illustrated by representative theologians in the history of Christian doctrine.

Course Requirements:
1. Regular attendance and participation
2. Five 5-7-page papers

Required Texts:


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Saturday 9/6, 20; 10/4, 18; 11/1, 15; 12/6 9:00 am-1:00 pm

H/ST751 Wesleys: An Intro. to the Life & Thought of John & Charles Wesley  Dr. Brannan

Pre/Corequisite: TH601

Course Description:
Utilizing the writings of John Wesley (1703-1791) and the hymns of Charles Wesley (1707-1788) as primary sources, the course will explore the personal background and social influences which shaped the key themes of the theology and thought of the two brothers. It will seek to discern some of the concepts for the Christian life which flow from the ideas of John (one of “the two greatest Anglicans of the eighteenth century”–Stephen Neill, Anglicanism, 1965) and Charles (“the greatest hymn-writer in English”–Rowan Williams, in Q&A at St. Mary’s, April 3, 2014).

Course Requirements:
• Students should expect to read at most 850 pages of required reading.
• Students should expect to write at most 12 double-spaced pages. These will be comprised of the following:
  o One brief paper of approximately 12 pages on a topic of Wesleyan theological, spiritual, or social thought - due at the concluding session of the course.

In addition to reading, writing and class participation, students should expect to produce or participate in these additional graded learning activities:
• Leadership of one brief portion of a classroom session (individual or shared, depending on topic and class size);
• A brief, objective "test" given near mid-term, focusing on facts and terms significant to the life and/or thought of the Wesleys.
• Class attendance and participation are particularly important as occasional audio-visual material will form a part of presentations.

Required Texts:


Thursday 6:00-8:00 pm

MT548/748 The Theological Ethics of Stanley Hauerwas Dr. Berry

Prerequisite: for MT548: NONE. Prerequisite for MT748 = TH601.

Course Description:
This course is an introduction to the theological ethics of Stanley Hauerwas, arguably the most significant Christian ethicist writing in the United States today. Following initial discussion of the life and work of Hauerwas and his interpretation of the history of Christian ethics, the first part of the course will examine the development of his fundamental theological ethics, including his emphasis on character and virtue ethics, story and narrative theology, community and scriptural interpretation, and the church and peacemaking. The second part of the course will then treat his approach to various issues in applied theological ethics, including sex and marriage and homosexuality (sexual ethics), abortion and physician-assisted suicide (bioethics), and church-state relations and war and peace (social ethics). Finally, the third part of the course will consider Hauerwas’ engagement with the work of other Protestant ethicists and Catholic moral theologians, addressing in particular the criticisms that have been made of his theological project.

Course Requirements:
- Students should expect to read at most 900 pages of required reading.
- Students should expect to write at most 25 double-spaced pages. These will be comprised of the following:
  1. Weekly one-page papers, with the semester cap of 13 total pages
  2. A research paper of 8-10 pages (MT548) or 10-12 pages (MT748)
- In addition to reading, writing and class participation, students should expect to produce or participate in these additional required learning activities:
  1. An oral presentation of 20-25 minutes

Required Texts:


A number of essays will also be made available electronically.
PT601 Foundations of Christian Ministry

Pre/Corequisite: TH601

Course Description:
A survey of the biblical, theological and spiritual foundations of ministry, and an examination of the expressions of lay and ordained ministry in the various Christian traditions.

Course Requirements:
- Class participation and completion of reading about 850 pages, plus handouts. 10%
- Students will write a ‘call’ paper, reflecting on aspects of their personal call to ministry. (2-4 pages) 10%
- Students will write a faith-development paper, reflecting on the challenges characteristic of one specific age group in their church. (5-7 pages) 20%
- Students will write a paper describing their own denomination’s understanding of both lay and ordained ministry. Paper will involve interviewing knowledgeable persons who know the church and the denomination’s history and polity. Students will also research appropriate books on their denomination’s understanding of ministry. (10 pages) 30%
- Interview/observation paper with a ministry leader from a tradition different from the student’s own. Person to be interviewed must be approved by instructor before beginning. (8 pages) 30%

Required Texts:

Recommended Texts:
Myers, William H. *God’s Yes was Louder than My No*. Eerdmans, 1994. 0-8028-0109-0.
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Wednesday 6:00-8:00 pm

PT725 Problems of the Contemporary Family Dr. Fosarelli

Pre/Co-Requisite: TH601

Course Description:

Families today experience many crises. This course will explore a number of these crises (e.g., divorce, single parenthood, poverty/homelessness, loss of employment, chronic illness, death, grieving) from both a socio-psychological perspective and a pastoral perspective. How common are these problems? How is the Church called to respond on a societal and individual level? How can we respond in the most pastoral way to children and adults in need?

Course Requirements:

1. Attendance in class, reading of assignments prior to class to be fully prepared to discuss that evening's topic. (15% of final grade)
2. A reflection paper (3-5 pages) on a family [and its problem(s)] in Scripture. (15% of final grade)
3. A mid-term paper (7-10 pages) exploring the student’s denominational position on a) families in general or b) a particular problem facing families. (30% of final grade)
4. A final paper (10-15 pages) exploring a particular problem facing families. N.B. This can be a problem that was discussed in class or one of the student's choosing (with approval of the professor). (40% of final grade)

Required Texts:


Articles on specific problems, as needed/assigned.
PT734 Ministry in the African-American Community

Course Description:
A theoretical and practical analysis of issues related to the practice of ministry in African-American settings, both pastoral and lay, with particular focus on the areas of congregational leadership, program development, spiritual disciplines, and community engagement.

Course Requirements:
- Attendance and participation in class is required.
- Assigned reading is to be completed prior to class as outlined in the syllabus.
- Students should expect to read at most 750 pages of required reading.
- Students should expect to write at most 23 double-spaced pages. These will be comprised of the following:
  - Each student will lead a class discussion of one of the assigned readings. A 1-2 page written summary is to be provided for class participants on the night of the presentation.
  - A personal reflection paper (4-6 pages) on your understanding of ministry in African-American communities, and what relevance such ministry has had on your life and faith journey
  - A research paper (12-15 pages) on some aspect of ministry in the African-American community.

Required Texts:
SP610 Spiritual Traditions for the Contemporary Church  
Dr. Thomas

Pre/Corequisite: TH601

Course Description:
A consideration of spiritual traditions such as Celtic, Franciscan, Jesuit, Carmelite, Orthodox, Wesleyan, African, Pentecostal, and Baptist in their historical contexts through classics written by saints.

Course Requirements:
1. Complete assigned readings.
2. A matching quiz taken from a study sheet on the major figures studied
3. Papers based on two of the spiritual traditions studied in class. Students must attend a worship service in the tradition, interview a pastor, priest, monk, or nun, and provide research on the tradition and its spirituality. One paper will be on a Roman Catholic spiritual tradition (for example, Benedictine, Cistercian, Trappist, Franciscan, Carmelite, or Jesuit) and the second will be on a Protestant spiritual tradition (for example, Lutheran, Reformed, Presbyterian, Methodist/Wesleyan, Pentecostal/Charismatic, African-American, or Baptist). Each of these papers will be 6 pages in length.
4. A 6-8 page paper that will analyze one theme from The Discourses by the Orthodox writer Symeon the New Theologian.

Required Texts:


Guided Study

SP642 Spiritual Practice of [Parent Course]: A One-credit Spirituality Practicum

Prerequisite:
Registration in one of the following parent courses: Book of Revelation; Food & Faith; Christian Worship; Early Christian Church; Live & Thought of John & Charles Wesley

Course Description:
A Spirituality Practice course is a guided reflective experience. Students enrolled in certain foundational courses can now enroll in an additional one-credit spirituality course. These “Spirituality Practice” courses are experiential and reflective, allowing students to engage in spiritual practice(s) related to the content of the foundational course. We believe this option is appealing for several reasons. First, it is an affordable way to accelerate degree completion. E.g., a student who normally takes one course per term could add in a Spirituality Practice course each term and have 12 hours rather than 9 after just 3 terms. Second, it will offer guidance in integrating the intellectual and spiritual dimensions of a course. Third, the Spirituality Practice courses are pass/fail (unless a student petitions for a grade). Finally, three of these one-hour practice courses will together be counted as a general elective, or a track elective in the MACM Spirituality track. (They may not count as the required SP course in the MA in Theology.)

Foundational Courses that are eligible for the one-credit Spirituality Practice course are:
SP642 Spiritual Practice of the Book of Revelation & Its Interpreters
SP642 Spiritual Practice of Food & Faith
SP642 Spiritual Practice of Christian Worship: History, Principles & Practice
SP642 Spiritual Practice of the Early Christian Church

Course Requirements:
Students will meet with the instructor only twice (rather than weekly), once at the beginning and once at the end of the term. Each meeting will be one hour. A Spirituality Practice course may require modest additional reading focused on the spiritual or devotional dimensions of the foundational subject. It will require reflective writing that offers some account of the experience. The primary work of the course will be the assigned spiritual practice(s), which might include prayer, meditation, journaling, mindful engagements, conversation, pilgrimage, etc.
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Wednesday

ST690 - Perspectives in Roman Catholic Theology

Prerequisite: TH601, ST601

Course Description:
A survey of the task, methods, sources and principal doctrines of Roman Catholic Theology, including God and Trinity, the person and work of Jesus Christ, the Spirit, the Church, grace, liturgy, sacraments and eschatology. The course uses conciliar documents and the Catechism of the Catholic Church along with relatively recent writings of various theologians.

Course Requirements:
- Students should expect to read at most 1,000 pages of required reading.
- Students should expect to write at most 30 double-spaced pages. These will be comprised of the following:
  o Answers to essay questions on two take-home examinations: 20 pages
  o Term paper: 10 pages
- In addition to reading, writing and class participation, students should expect to produce or participate in these additional graded learning activities:
  o Oral presentation of term paper to the class.

Required Texts:


TH601 Introduction to Theological Study as Friendship

Rev. Dr. Ed Richardson
Rev. Dr. Christopher Dreisbach

Prerequisite: NONE

Course Description:
This course introduces ecumenical study of theology under the theme of friendship. It surveys the major disciplines of theological understanding: biblical, historical, systematic, moral, spiritual and practical. It introduces the tools of theological research and writing. And it develops competence in the techniques and strategies for graduate level critical reading, study and writing (including research papers).

Course Requirements:
- Students should expect to read at most 750 pages of required reading.
- Students should expect to write at most 30 double-spaced pages. These will be composed of the following:
  - Weekly one-page reflections
  - Two five-page journal article critiques
  - Final five-page research paper
- In addition to reading, writing and class participation, students should expect to produce or participate in these additional graded learning activities:
  - On line discussion, based on videos of lectures
  - Library assignment
  - Graded in-class participation

Required Texts:
Tuesday 6:00-8:00 pm

TH799 Theology Colloquium: Generosity  Dr. Sutherland

Prerequisite: minimum GPA of 3.5, completion of 39 credits, and intention to graduate in the current academic year; or matriculation in the C.A.S. program

Course Description:
This is an interdisciplinary seminar on generosity. The course is interested in giving and sharing as a theme in scripture, theology, philosophy, and literature. Particular attention is paid to generosity as a divine attribute and human appreciation of God’s good gifts to us. The course takes up topics such as stewardship and tithing, the vices of stinginess, greed, and hoarding, the private service of the public’s greater good, and non-financial aspects of generosity critical to Christian living: forgiveness, empathy, and optimism.

Course Requirements:
1. Class Presentations
2. 7 Book Reviews (2 pages each)
3. 1 Research Paper (15-20 pages)

Required Texts:
Axel, Gabriel. "Babette's Feast." 103 minutes. Denmark: MGM, 1998. (DVD) ASIN: B000053VBK (rent via Netflix or similar)