THE GREEN BOOK

THE ECUMENICAL INSTITUTE OF THEOLOGY

Spring 2015
October 2014

Dear Students, Prospective Students, and Alums:

To aid in your choice of courses for registration for the spring 2015 semester here is the “Green Book” containing 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.

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

Sincerely,

Zenaida

Zenaida E. Bench
Assistant to the Dean
Admissions and Academic Services
zbench@stmarys.edu
Thursday 6:00-8:00 pm

BS511/711 The Gospel of John Fr. Hurst

Prerequisite: NONE for BS511
Prerequisites: BS600, TH601 for BS711

Course Description:
An exploration of the historical context, literary features, spirituality, and theological significance of the fourth Gospel. There will be special emphasis on Johannine Christology, soteriology, and ecclesiology.

Course Requirements:

For BS 511
1. Reading 800 pages
2. Two thematic papers (5-7 pages)
3. One book review (3-5 pages)
4. Final Examination (in class)

For BS 711
1. Reading 800 pages
2. Two exegetical papers (10-12 pages)

Required Texts:

THE ECUMENICAL INSTITUTE OF THEOLOGY

Spring 2015

Wednesday 7:30-9:00 pm

Note later start time!

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:
One of the following translations of the Bible, preferably in a study edition recommended by the instructor: NRSV, RSV, NAB, NIV, TNIV
THE ECUMENICAL INSTITUTE OF THEOLOGY

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Thursday 6:00-8:30 pm

BS612 Introduction to Biblical Hebrew II Dr. Hancock

Prerequisite: BS611

Course Description:
A continuation of BS611 to equip students to read the Hebrew Bible in its original language, with attention to the Hebrew verbal system.

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:
THE ECUMENICAL INSTITUTE OF THEOLOGY

Spring 2015

Monday 6:00-8:30 pm

BS622 Literature & Theology of the New Testament Dr. Gorman

Pre/Corequisites: BS600, TH601

Course Description:
An exploration of the New Testament in its historical and social settings, focusing on the unique purpose and theology of each writing, with attention to the origins of the New Testament canon.

Course Requirements:
- Students should expect to write at most 18 double-spaced pages. These will be comprised of the following:
  - a 1,000-word paper comparing and contrasting a text that appears in all three synoptic gospels: 20%
  - a 2,500-word (research) exegesis paper on one NT text or a thematic paper on one book or author: 35%
  - a 1,000-word paper on the significance of one NT writing for Christian theology: 25%
- In addition to reading, writing and class participation, students should expect to produce or participate in these additional graded learning activities:
  - weekly exegetical worksheets

Required Texts:
ONE of the following:
Thursday 6:00-9:00 pm

Final Class is March 26.

BS/ES716 Biblical & Ecumenical Perspectives on Mary

Dr. Jorgensen

Prerequisites: TH601 and either BS622 or BS635

Course Description:

In recent years, Mary, the mother of Jesus, has evolved from an “ecumenical problem” to a “symbol of unity” within the church catholic. The recapturing of her place in Scripture has been central to ecumenical discussions of Mary. This course traces the biblical, theological, and ecumenical significance of Mary.

Course Requirements:

1. Class participation
2. Four reflection papers on Mary in each of the Gospels
3. One introductory reflection paper (not graded)
4. One extended book review
5. Class discussion leadership and a class presentation
6. Final paper on a research topic of the student’s choice

Required Texts:


Course Description:
An exploration of patterns of liturgical prayer texts, seasons of the year, and sacramental action of Christian churches in the East and West with a focus on how believers experience the liturgy and live from the liturgy they celebrate.

After establishing a definition of spirituality in general, a working definition of liturgical spirituality in particular will guide us into a sampling of liturgical texts, especially Eucharistic Prayer texts and ritual texts from various sacramental rites. The collusion of worldviews also plays a significant role in the reception of rituals and symbols within various cultures. Thus, a consideration of worldviews, especially the primal, classicist, and postmodern, will be discussed to broaden and deepen the learning context.

Liturgical texts are always enacted in a particular context. Ways in which believers experience liturgical texts within various contexts will permeate the entire course. The language of time, space and sound will be considered: calendars, architecture, art, iconography, and music. Each aspect forms a people to a particular self-perception in relationship to God and to one another.

Windows into the world of liturgical action by way of visual and/or audial sources will help to stimulate imaginations to consider ways in which the act of worship forms and shapes Christian attitudes and behaviors beyond worship to the living of the Christian life and back again to worship.

Course Requirements:
1. 950 pages of reading
2. A class presentation
3. A research paper on a topic of particular interest
4. A 30-minute oral examination on the research paper, other areas of reading, and class discussion

Required Readings:


Liturgical Books of various Christian Liturgical Churches.

Recommended Reading:
An extensive bibliography will be offered on the first day of class.
ES710 Introduction to Islam

Dr. Robertson

Prerequisite: TH601

Course Description:
This is a study of the doctrines, institutions and contemporary world impact of Islam. Students will examine the fundamental teachings of Islam through reading of selected surahs in the Qur'an and selected Hadith. Traditional Islamic hermeneutics and orthopraxy, the relationships between textual (scriptural) interpretations and non-textual (institutional), and developments in the formation of the latest of the three great Abrahamic traditions will provide the context for our discussion of contemporary movements within the world of Islam.

Course Requirements:
1. Punctual class attendance
2. Assigned reading and thoughtful class participation
3. Four 2-page discussion papers, one on a topic assigned for each of the text books
4. A 12-15-page research paper on a topic of student’s special interest in consultation with the instructor

Required Texts:


THE ECUMENICAL INSTITUTE OF THEOLOGY  
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Saturday  1/10, 24; 2/7, 28; 3/14, 28; 4/11  9:00 am-1:00 pm

H603 Modern Church History  Dr. Seville

Pre/Corequisite: TH601

Course Description:
This course is designed to provide a survey of modern Christianity from the 16th century Reforms to the present, examining the ideas and historical traditions that shaped Catholicism, Orthodoxy, and Protestantism. In an effort to try to overcome the notion that Christianity is only a religion of the West, several of our later snapshots will incorporate a global context. We will use various media and cultural viewpoints to understand the different contemporary experiences and problems (social, political, economic, demographic, etc.) that Christianity has faced or continues to face around the world, including Christian reactions to the Holocaust and Chinese communism, Christian foundations of liberation theology and the ecumenical movement, and the unique perspectives brought to missionary endeavors in Japan and diverse African nations.

Course Requirements:
- Students should expect to read at most 850 pages of required reading.
- Students should expect to write at most 26 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
  3. Global Christianity Church Visitation Project (combination research and visitation project of a non-Western church), 8-9 pages, double-spaced
- 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. Global Christianity Church Visitation Project (combination research and visitation project of a non-Western church)

Required Texts:
THE ECUMENICAL INSTITUTE OF THEOLOGY

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Monday 6:00-8:15 pm

First Class is January 26.

H/MT624 Dorothy Day & American Catholicism

Dr. Miller Rubens

Pre/Corequisite: TH601

Course Description:
We will examine the life and legacy of Dorothy Day through her own words. Working thematically, we will read Day’s writings and reflections on poverty, labor rights, building community, pacifism and the role of government, among other topics. In addition to closely reading Day’s texts, we will place her ideas in two historical contexts: (1) 20th century Roman Catholic thought and (2) 20th century American social thought.

Course Requirements:
• Students should expect to read at most 800 pages of required reading.
• Students should expect to write at most 20 double-spaced pages. These will be comprised of the following:
  o Short reflection papers: 6-8 pages each
• In addition to reading, writing and class participation, students should expect to produce or participate in these additional graded learning activities:
  o Regular attendance and participation in class
  o Assigned reading is to be completed prior to class, per syllabus instructions
  o Class trip to Viva House (Baltimore’s Catholic Worker House of Hospitality)
  o The ability to access and read articles from the Dorothy Day archives online at: http://dorothyday.catholicworker.org/

Required Texts:


As mentioned above, students will be expected to access and read many of Dorothy Day’s writings in Catholic Worker at the online archives, which are free and easily accessible at: http://dorothyday.catholicworker.org/.
MT600 Fundamentals of Theological Ethics

Course Description:
This course is an introduction to the fundamentals of Christian theological ethics. Following initial discussion of the context and method of contemporary theological ethics, in the first part of the course, we will examine the history of the discipline from the biblical through the patristic, medieval, reformation, and modern periods, as well as survey the histories of philosophical, religious, and professional ethics. Particular attention will be given to Aristotle, Jesus of Nazareth, the New Testament, Augustine of Hippo, Thomas Aquinas, Martin Luther, John Calvin, Immanuel Kant, and John Stuart Mill. In the second part, we will explore major contemporary approaches to theological ethics, including the universal ethics of Karl Barth and Richard McCormick; the subversive ethics of Gustavo Gutiérrez, James Cone, and Rosemary Ruether; and the ecclesial ethics of John Howard Yoder and Stanley Hauerwas. Finally, in the third part, we will discuss the implications of these various approaches for contemporary political ethics (war), economic ethics (work, business and management), sexual ethics (homosexuality), and bioethics (assisted conception). Special attention will be given throughout to both Protestant and Roman Catholic approaches.

Course Requirements:
- Students should expect to read at most 600 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 12 total pages.
  2. A mid-term and final take-home exam of 10-13 pages each.

Required Texts:


THE ECUMENICAL INSTITUTE OF THEOLOGY
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Wednesday 4/15, 22, 29; 5/6 6:00-9:00 pm
Saturday 4/11, 25 9:00 am-4:00 pm

Minimester

PT604 Biblical Storytelling I
Dr. Radosevic

Prerequisite: NONE

Course Description:
An exploration of the power of presenting the biblical story through the practice of embodiment and performance and the role this type of proclamation has played in the Church’s history of preaching, formation, and missions as well as how digital renderings could be used to continue faithful and effective ministry in a post-literate culture and age.

Course Requirements:
- Students should expect to read at most 716 pages of required reading.
- Students should expect to write at most 20 double-spaced pages. These will be comprised of the following:
  - Create a 5-page, annotated file of potential media sources to complement chosen biblical story
  - Develop a 5-page template for introducing and implementing Story and storytelling into your ministry setting
  - Write a 5-page précis on The Bible in Ancient and Modern Media
  - Write a 5-page theological reflection paper on why the use of aural and visual story is essential for ministry in a post-literate age.
- In addition to reading, writing and class participation, students should expect to produce or participate in these additional graded learning activities:
  - Choose a biblical story, internalize that biblical story and tell it in class

Required Texts:

Recommended Texts:
PT709 Preaching in the Black Church Tradition  

Dr. Hunt

Pre/Corequisites: BS600, TH601

Course Description:
A theoretical and practical introduction to preaching, and the role it plays in the African-American church tradition, with the purpose of broadening one’s understanding of the distinctiveness of African-American preaching within the context of congregational life and worship. In the study of African-American preaching, we will examine particular methods, styles and perspectives on preaching through reflection, shared experience, and practical application.

Course Requirements:
1. Students enrolled in PT709 are expected to attend the Festival of Preaching on 4/17 and 4/18, along with the two additional sessions on 4/25 and 5/2. As this is a Minimester course, attendance at all four sessions is required for course completion and in order to receive academic credit.

2. For class on 4/25, the student is to prepare a sermon on a particular pastoral situation in the African-American church context. The sermon will be presented in class (10-12 minutes), and is to be submitted in written form. The purpose of this assignment is to become familiar with the plethora of pastoral issues that the preacher will encounter. The student is to use the assigned text, *The Certain Sound of the Trumpet: Crafting a Sermon of Authority* (Proctor) as a guide in preparing the sermon.

3. For class on 5/2, the student is to prepare a sermon on a particular prophetic situation in the African-American church context. The sermon will be presented in class (10-12 minutes), and is to be submitted in written form. The purpose of this assignment is to become familiar with the many prophetic concerns that the preacher will encounter. The student is to use the assigned text, *The Certain Sound of the Trumpet: Crafting a Sermon of Authority* (Proctor) as a guide in preparing the sermon.

Required Texts:
**The Ecumenical Institute of Theology**

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**PT799 Ministry-in-Context**

**Dr. Fosarelli**

**Tuesday**

1/13, 27; 2/10, 24; 3/10, 24; 4/14, 28; 5/5

6:00-8:00 pm

**Prerequisite:** Approval of the placement experience prior to enrollment in the course.

**Course Description:**

A cumulative experience in which students approaching the completion of their M.A. in Church Ministries integrate practical knowledge from a required field placement (as part of this course), information presented in this seminar, and pertinent material from their entire course of studies.

**Course Requirements:**

1. Attendance at and participation in all sessions
2. Completion of all readings in a timely fashion
3. A minimum of 120 hours in the field placement executing the “project” or ministry
4. 15-20 page paper summarizing the experience plus all corroborating artifacts.

**Required Texts:**


Thursday, Friday, Saturday 2/12-14 Attend MAC Conference 2/28 at E.I. 9:00 am-4:00 pm

February Intensive

RE/SP734 Faith Development through the Life Cycle Dr. Richardson

Prerequisite: Full attendance at the MAC.

Note: the E.I. will take care of the registration process for the MAC for all enrolled students. Therefore, do NOT register yourself for the MAC.

Course Description:
Building on sessions from the Mid-Atlantic Congress (a Catholic conference), this course examines models of psychological, moral, faith, and spiritual development through all the life stages, and their implications for the church’s ministry of formation and education. Students of ANY denomination may attend the conference and take the course.

Course Requirements:
1. Select one stage of development and write a focused 8-10 page paper on that stage. Include a "learning experience" which addresses various pertinent issues related to the stage.
2. Read Corrine Ware’s, Discover Your Spiritual Type. Follow instruction on how to complete the Spirituality Wheel Selector inventory. (You may select the Catholic or Jewish version found in the appendix as appropriate.) Upon completion, you are to write a 2-3 page reflection on the results of the selector inventory.
3. Attend certain required workshops at MAC. Submit a one-page summary and reflection for each required workshop at MAC and a one-sentence summary for each additional workshop attended.
4. Students will write a 4-5 page paper entitled "Faith is...."

Required Reading:

Recommended:
THE ECUMENICAL INSTITUTE OF THEOLOGY
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Tuesday 6:00-8:30 pm

ST601 Foundations of Systematic Theology  Dr. Laytham

Pre/Corequisite: TH601

Course Description:
Theology is faith seeking understanding, it is Christian hope finding expression, it is gospel love giving reasons. Theology is the joyful work of prayer and praise, of worship and witness, of speaking to and about God. Systematic theology is the ordered articulation of the content of Christian belief with attention to the coherence of its sources, practices, structures and methods. ST601 surveys basic theological topics, such as revelation, Jesus Christ, the Triune God, sin and grace, and church and sacraments, with attention to historical development, theological method, and some contemporary interpretations of Christian doctrine. In other words, we will attend to the tapestry of the gospel in the company of faithful friends like Irenaeus, Augustine, Thomas, Luther, Calvin, Barth and Rahner, for the sake of the church’s mission in its contemporary contexts.

Course Requirements:
1. Attendance and active participation
2. Weekly readings (students will read no more than 950 pages during the term) with short responses (alternating weeks: 1-2 page papers, online discussions of )
3. One exploration of a theological question or interest (a short paper of 5-7 pages)
4. A final summative reflection paper (about 3 pages)

Required Texts:
John Webster, Kathryn Tanner and Iain Torrance, eds., The Oxford Handbook of Systematic Theology. Oxford, 2007. ISBN 978-0199569649. We’ll read about two thirds of this text!
Other readings will be made available through Moodle.
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Spring 2015

Wednesday 6:00-7:20 pm

TH601 Introduction to Theological Study as Friendship Dr. 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 40 double-spaced pages. These will be composed of the following:
  1. Weekly two-page reflections
  2. Two five-page journal article critiques
  3. 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:
  4. Online discussion, based on videos of lectures
  5. Library assignment
  6. Graded in-class participation

Required Texts:

Recommended Texts: Available online or on library reserve