

TH601 Introduction to Theological Study as Friendship

Goals

This course has multiple goals: 1) to introduce students to the ecumenical study of theology under the theme of friendship; 2) to survey the major disciplines of theological understanding: biblical, historical, systematic, moral, spiritual and practical; 3) to introduce the tools of theological research and writing; and 4) to develop competence in the techniques and strategies for graduate level critical reading, study and writing (including research papers).

Reading Requirements

Students should expect to read *at most* 750 pages of required reading from the books listed below.

Writing Requirements

Students should expect to write *at most* 24-28 double-spaced pages. These will be composed of the following:

1. Five bi-weekly reflections, 2 pages each (15% of grade)
2. Two journal article critiques/responses, 4-5 pages each (15% of grade)
3. Final research paper, 6-8 pages (40% of grade)

Other

In addition to reading, writing and class participation, students should expect to produce or participate in these additional graded learning activities:

1. Five bi-weekly online discussions, based on videos and class (15%)
2. Complete a library assignment that contributes to the research paper (5%)
3. Graded in-class participation (10%)

Required Texts

Stone, Howard W. and James O. Duke. *How to Think Theologically*, 3rd ed. Minneapolis: Fortress, 2013. ISBN-13: 978-0800699321

Turabian, Kate L. *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 8th ed. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2013. ISBN-13: 978-0226816388

Wadell, Paul J. *Becoming Friends: Worship, Justice, and the Practice of Christian Friendship*. Grand Rapids, MI: Brazos Press, 2002. ISBN-13: 978-1587430510