

**ECUMENICAL INSTITUTE OF THEOLOGY**  
**SPRING 2016**

**Thursday**

**7:30 – 8:50 pm**

**TH601 Introduction to Theological Study as Friendship**

**Dr. Ed Richardson**

**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* 20-24 double-spaced pages. These will be composed of the following:
  1. One journal article critiques/response, submitted twice, 4-6 pages (20% of grade)
  2. Five bi-weekly reflections, 2 pages each (20% of grade)
  3. Final research paper, 6-8 pages (40% of grade)
- In addition to reading, writing and class participation, students should expect to produce or participate in these additional graded learning activities:
  1. Weekly online discussions, based on videos and class discussion.
  2. Complete a library assignment that contributes to the research paper (10%)
  3. Graded in-class participation which includes in-class writing exercises. (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 978-1587430510