

**St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute  
Fall 2017**

**Monday, 6:00 – 8:30 pm**

**TH601 Introduction to Theological Study**

**Dr. Brent Laytham and Mr. Adam Urrutia**

**Course Description:**

An introduction to the study of theology, including what theology is and how theology is done. Students will develop the ability to read, think, and write critically and faithfully, through a focus on the ecumenical spectrum of Christian believing.

**Course Requirements:**

This course is being redesigned for Fall 2017. A complete set of requirements will be included in the course syllabus.

- **Reading:** Students should expect to read at most 900 pages of required reading and should come prepared to discuss readings in class.
- **Writing:** There are numerous short writing assignments (including narrative, analysis, and argument). Total writing for the semester will be no more than 25 pages.
- **Other:** Class participation is an essential aspect of our shared learning. Students will read, write, analyze, and discuss in class.

**Required Texts** (total required reading will be no more than 950 pages):

Core, Deborah. *[The Seminary Student Writes](#)*, (Chalice Press, 2000), 128 pages, 978-0827234475  
we will read most of this text

Robinson, Elaine A. *[Exploring Theology](#)*, (Fortress Press, 2014), 120 pages, 978-1451488913  
we will read two thirds of this text

Rae, Murray. *[Christian Theology: The Basics](#)* (Routledge) ISBN-13: 978-0415814942

Hellwig, Monika. *[Understanding Catholicism](#)* (Paulist Press, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, 2002) 978-0809140633

Sutherland, Arthur. *[I Was A Stranger: A Christian Theology of Hospitality](#)* (Abingdon, 2006) 978-0687063246

Various required readings will be posted to Canvas (the online learning course shell) or distributed in class. In addition, students will occasionally procure required readings using Knott Library catalog, databases, or reference resources.

The instructors will be referencing a writing textbook by Graff, Gerald & Cathy Birkenstein called *[They Say /I Say: The Moves That Matter in Academic Writing](#)*, (W. W. Norton & Company, various editions). Students are not required to purchase this textbook, but might find it useful to do so.