

**St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute  
Fall 2021**

**Class Day & Time: Thursday, 6:00-8:30 pm**

**Course Name & Number: ST601 Foundations of Systematic Theology**

**Instructor: Dr. Mark Gorman**

**Course Description**

This course introduces Christian systematic theology, whose subject matter includes God and all things in relation to God. Topics will include core doctrines of the Christian tradition as well as various ways to organize and understand the relationships between those doctrines.

**Course Requirements:**

- **Reading:** Students should expect to read at most 600 pages of required reading and should come prepared to discuss readings in class.
- **Writing:** Required writing assignments:
  - A weekly 2-page summary of course readings (10% of final grade; graded for completion)
  - A 5-page paper analyzing a single topic in one week's readings (20% of final grade)
  - A 5-page paper analyzing the relationship of two topics (20% of final grade)
  - A 6-8-page paper analyzing a work of theology chosen by each student (30% of final grade)
- **Other:** Other activities (including class participation) contributing to final grade:
  - Class participation (5% of final grade)
  - Take-home exam (15% of final grade)

**Required Texts:**

Karl Barth, *Dogmatics in Outline* (Harper Perennial, 1959). **ISBN-13:** 978-0061300561

Frederick Christian Bauerschmidt and Thomas Aquinas, *Holy Teaching: Introducing the Summa Theologiae of Thomas Aquinas* (Brazos Press, 2005). **ISBN-13:** 978-1587430350.

*Also, students will choose one of the following in consultation with the instructor by week 3 of the semester:*

Bryan Bantum, *The Death of Race: Building a New Christianity in a Racial World* (Fortress Press, 2016). **ISBN-13:** 978-1506408880

David Bentley Hart, *The Doors of the Sea: Where Was God in the Tsunami?* (Eerdmans, 2011) **ISBN-13:** 978-0802866868

Christopher L. Heuertz and Christine D. Pohl, *Friendship at the Margins: Discovering Mutuality in Service and Mission* (IVP, 2010). **ISBN-13:** 978-0830834549

Emmanuel Katangole and Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove, *Mirror to the Church: Resurrecting Faith after Genocide in Rwanda* (Zondervan, 2009). **ISBN-13:** 978-0310284895

C.S. Lewis, *The Great Divorce* (HarperOne, Revised ed., 2015). **ISBN-13:** 978-0060652951

**MAT Degree Outcome(s) Addressed by This Course:**

- analyze Christian texts, convictions, and practices within the major developments and diversities of Christian tradition. (2T)
- interpret the world in all its dimensions theologically. (3T)
- integrate ecumenical understanding and respect in articulating one's own faith identity and engaging with others. (4T)

**MACM Degree Outcome(s) Addressed by This Course:**

- a firm understanding of the Christian Scripture and pertinent Church Tradition through the ability to apply that understanding in analyzing and responding to pastoral / ministry encounters (1 CM)