

Fall 2017 Course Descriptions

Philosophy and Humanities

LT 501 - Elementary Latin I (3)

This course focuses on mastery of the morphology and syntax of classical Latin in order to provide students with a solid basis to read classical, patristic, medieval, and Renaissance Latin literature of all genres.

LT 701 - Introduction to Medieval Latin Language and Literature (3)

An introduction to the Latin language and literature of the medieval period with emphasis on the close reading of selected philosophical and theological texts. Designed primarily to equip students to read medieval Latin texts with an appreciation of their characteristic vocabulary, syntax and style, and secondarily to introduce them to the principal areas of medieval Latin scholarship, including bibliographies, collections, and repertories of sources, and lexica and other reference aids for the study of Latin works composed in the Middle Ages. *Prerequisite: LT 502 - Elementary Latin II or equivalent.*

PH 501 - Introduction to the Life and Works of St. Thomas Aquinas (3)

This survey course will introduce the student to the life and works of St. Thomas Aquinas. To this end, we will read Jean-Pierre Torrell's *Saint Thomas Aquinas: The Person and His Work* and examine closely samples of Aquinas' works. So as not to depend on a single author as our guide, we will also consult Joseph Pieper's *Guide to Thomas Aquinas*, and miscellaneous articles or selections from other publications. We will note the different kinds of works Aquinas produced, the dates and context of their composition, as well as Thomas' own spirituality and the evolution of his thought on particular points.

PH 501C – Wisdom and Love (3)

This course is organized around the Thomistic doctrine of the three wisdoms: philosophical, theological, and infused or mystical wisdom. Special attention will be paid to the objects, ends, and modes of each, as well as the unity of wisdom. Each of these wisdoms has its own corresponding form of skepticism, and so the course will also reply to each form of skepticism. Those replies require a careful study of the role of love in knowledge, properly affective or connatural knowledge, and love in general.

PH 511 - Ancient Philosophy (3)

The course begins with a detailed study of the fragments of the major Pre-Socratic philosophers. This study prepares the way for extensive reading of primary Platonic and Aristotelian texts, exploring the fundamental issues with which they are engaged and the central elements in their respective positions.

PH 513 - Modern Philosophy (3)

A study of the development of the Western philosophical tradition beginning with the Renaissance through the French Revolution (1400-1800). Special emphasis is placed on the transformation of this tradition inspired by the competing Rationalist and Empiricist attempts to appropriate the results and methods of the Scientific Revolution. This course concludes with the resolution of this opposition effected by Kant's critical philosophy.

PH 521 - Logic (3)

This course will offer an introduction to Aristotelian logic, organized around the threefold distinction between apprehension, judgment, and reasoning. In addition to forming intellectual habits through assigned problems, the course will introduce students to reading Aristotle's texts, with selected readings from his logical works, especially the *Categories*, *De interpretatione*, *Prior Analytics*, and *Posterior Analytics*.

PH 523 - Philosophy of Nature (Cosmology) (3)

This course will provide an overview of several major ethical theories, as they are presented in works from the history of philosophy. The course will examine Aristotle's *Nicomachean Ethics*, St. Thomas Aquinas's *Treatise on Law in the Summa theologiae*, Immanuel Kant's *Groundwork for the Metaphysics of Morals*, and John Stuart Mill's *Utilitarianism*. The course will conclude with consideration of the relationship between moral philosophy and moral theology.

PH 551 - Philosophy of Being (Metaphysics) (3)

This course offers a Thomistic consideration of metaphysics, the science that studies being in general. The course begins by identifying the subject matter and scope of this science, the nature of being, its attributes, its divisions, and its causes. Topics to be addressed include the problem of the one and the many, the analogous nature of being, participation theory, and the existence and attributes of the first being, *viz.*, God. The course presumes that students have a basic familiarity with Aristotelian natural philosophy (supplementary readings will be provided for students who do not).

Sacred Scripture**SS 581 - Elementary Greek I (3)**

First course in a two-semester sequence giving intensive grounding in the forms, vocabulary, and syntax of Attic and New Testament Greek; frequent exercises in reading and writing Greek.

SS 611 - Pentateuch (3)

An introduction to the first five books of the Bible and to the ways the Old Testament has been interpreted in Catholic tradition. Special attention will be given to the history of the interpretation of the Pentateuch in Judaism and Christianity.

SS 632 - Wisdom Literature (3)

An introductory survey of the wisdom literature of the Old Testament, including *Proverbs*, *Job*, *Qoheleth (Ecclesiastes)*, *Sirach*, and the *Book of Wisdom*, as well as a consideration of wisdom traditions elsewhere in the Bible (e.g., *Deuteronomy*, the *Psalms*, the *Song of Songs*, and the New Testament). Prominent themes to be discussed include fear of the Lord, suffering, the problem of evil, and the personification of wisdom.

SS 640 - Synoptic Gospels (3)

This course provides an introduction to the gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke. Following introductory considerations including the nature of a gospel, critical methods, and the Synoptic Problem, each synoptic gospel will be studied in terms of its historical context, literary style, and theological aspects including Christology, soteriology, and discipleship. Select passages will be considered through a close exegetical study to illustrate the unique aspects of each gospel. Finally, the Acts of the Apostles will be studied as a continuation of Luke's Gospel.

SS 645 - Johannine Writings (3)

This course offers an introduction to the Gospel of John, the Letters of John, and the Book of Revelation. Following a consideration of theories of authorship, dating, genre, and community regarding these works, each of the Johannine writings will be studied in terms of its historical, literary, and theological contexts with an emphasis on Christology, soteriology, and discipleship. Patristic and Thomistic readings will also be considered.

SS 650 - Pauline Letters (3)

This course provides an introduction to the life and letters of St. Paul through the study of Paul's letters, the Acts of the Apostles, and some noncanonical texts. Introductory issues include the conversion, missionary work, and martyrdom of Paul, as well as the rhetorical aspects of ancient letters. The main part of the course focuses on a close study of each of the letters attributed to Paul in terms of early Christian communities and key theological ideas such as Christian anthropology, justification, grace, and eschatology. Patristic readings of some of the letters will also be considered, as well as later traditions of Paul in the early church.

SS 671 - Introduction to Classical Hebrew I (3)

An intensive introduction to Biblical Hebrew using Basics of Biblical Hebrew by Pratico and Van Pelt. In the first semester attention will be given to mastering the basics of Hebrew grammar, acquiring fluency in pronunciation, and building vocabulary.

SS 672 - Introduction to Classical Hebrew II (3)

The second semester of an introduction to Biblical Hebrew using Basics of Biblical Hebrew by Pratico and Van Pelt. Attention will be given to completing the introductory grammar and preparing for the transition to reading texts from the Hebrew Bible.

SS 700B - Catholic Biblical Interpretation from Early Christianity to Today

This course offers a survey of Catholic exegesis from the Early Church to today. After an initial consideration of principles found in Sacred Scripture, we will read the systematic discussions of exegesis in *On First Principles* by Origen and *On Christian Doctrine* by St. Augustine, consider the nature of typology and allegory, and read some exegesis from St. Ambrose, St. Jerome, and others. We will then consider how this exegesis developed in the medieval period, represented by St. Thomas Aquinas. Next, we will discuss the rise of the historical-critical method in the modern period and the challenges it posed for Catholic exegesis, reflected in various papal encyclicals and other Magisterial documents. The course concludes with the work of Benedict XVI, who has called for an authentic biblical hermeneutics that combines the faith-based approach of the Fathers with the tools of the historical-critical method.

Systematic Theology

ST 601 - Nature and Method of Theology (3)

A study of the nature of theological thinking as an intellectual inquiry, arising from faith and having God himself and his promises as its proper subject matter. The course presents an interpretation of significant current trends in the light of the history of theology, with emphasis on medieval and modern theology. Shaped by Thomas Aquinas's conception of theology as *sacra doctrina*, the course advances proposals about such topics as revelation, scripture and tradition, faith and reason, the use of philosophy in theology, the nature of doctrines and their development, and the role of authority.

ST 611 - Creation and the Human Person (3)

Divine gratuity is the point of reference for this theological study of the spiritual, material and spiritual-material orders in their relation to God and to each other. In particular, the gifts of cosmos and the human person provide the axes for an inquiry into the meaning and purpose of creation, divine Providence, a theological appraisal of the cosmos, the problem of evil, and the nature and origin of the human person as image of God. St. Thomas Aquinas serves as master guide who himself provides principles for extracting the perennial from the passing in a theological domain where a balanced fidelity to the perduring and responsiveness to the contemporary are especially mandated.

ST 621 - Basic Elements of Christology (3)

A systematic approach to Christology guides this course's review of key historical moments in the Church's theological elucidation of the mystery of Christ. After situating it within the larger theological domain and clarifying its nature, Christology is examined from the perspectives of a Catholic reading of Sacred Scripture, its development in the controversies and councils of the early Church, and St. Thomas Aquinas's synthesis in the *Summa Theologiae's* tract on Christ. Finally, modern developments and questions are critically addressed with an eye toward outlining an adequate Christology for the future. *Prerequisites: ST 601 - Nature and Method of Theology, ST 604 - Triune God and ST 611 - Creation and the Human Person.*

ST 638 - Sacrament of Orders (3)

This course will examine the theology of the sacrament of Holy Orders, including the episcopacy and the diaconate, but focusing particularly upon the priesthood. Attention will be given to the historical origins of the three-fold hierarchy, to classical theologies of Holy Orders (particularly in the Thomist tradition), and to the spirituality of the priesthood. Modern magisterial teachings of the Church and contemporary questions and controversies will also be considered theologically.

ST 700/800D Christ and the Trinity (3)

This course will examine the intersection of Trinitarian and Christological doctrine, and the questions that theologians (patristic, medieval, and contemporary) have posed about it. How does Christ reveal the Trinity? How is it that, seeing Christ, one sees the Father? What is the relationship between Christ and the Holy Spirit? Can we articulate an orthodox Spirit

Christology? Is Christ's crucifixion a Trinitarian event? Does Christ as man pray to the Trinity, or only to the Father? In answering these questions, special (but not exclusive) attention will be paid to the thought of St. Thomas Aquinas, in comparison with other patristic and medieval authors, and in conversation with contemporary theology

ST 754 - Theology of Mary and Joseph, Wife and Husband, Parents of Jesus (3)

Theology of Mary and Joseph, Wife and Husband, Parents of Jesus (3) This course is designed to synthesize two traditional branches of theology.: Mariology and Josephology. Following an understanding of Mary's call as a divine mother, transformed by grace with a call to become an associate of her Son in the redemption, what unites the two branches is the marriage between Mary and Joseph, their common end of preparing Jesus for his mission; Mary herself in her early life before the public ministry of her Son is also aided for her mission by Joseph on account of their marriage.

ST 806 - Nature-Grace Controversies in Modern Catholic and Protestant Theology (3)

This seminar examines influential debates regarding nature and grace in modern Catholic and Protestant theology. Special attention is given to the Sunaturel debate regarding the final end of the human person, and to the analogia entis debate, regarding the relations of philosophy and theology. Of particular concern will be to consider how these two distinct debates affected one another in the development of modern Catholic theology. Readings in Scheeben, Barth, Brunner, Soehngen, de Lubac, Rahner, von Balthasar, the second Vatican Council and a variety of contemporary Thomist authors.

ST 823 - St. Thomas and the Thomists (3)

This course examines the thought of St. Thomas Aquinas among his followers from the 15th to the 17th century (e.g., Capreolus, Cajetan, de Vitoria, Soto, Bañez, and John of St. Thomas, among others) in their attempt to understand and develop it, in order to pass on its wisdom and to use its resources in response to the questions and problems of their age. Subjects of particular interest include: the debates with Franciscan theologians; the advent of nominalism; questions about grace and the de Auxiliis controversy; the Reformation, the Council of Trent and its implementation; and the rise of casuistry, probabilism and Jansenism.

ST 881 - Thomistic Seminar I (3)

This seminar will consider the thought of St. Thomas Aquinas in dialogue with the 21st century. We will undertake our investigation by considering Aquinas' understanding of theology *as wisdom* over against the post-Enlightenment tendency to interpret religious experience in terms of practical ends. A central question to be treated in our study will be the place of metaphysics in theology. The *Summa Theologiae* will serve as the text of first recourse to Thomas' own thought. In accord with the seminar format, class time will be devoted to discussion rather than lecture, and each student will submit a research paper at the end of the semester. The papers will be presented by the students in class toward the end of the semester.

Moral and Spiritual Theology

MT 601 - Principles of Christian Moral Life I (3)

A two-semester exploration of the Catholic moral tradition from scriptural, doctrinal, historical, and systematic perspectives. The doctrinal part is supplemented by a continual reference to Scriptural moral teachings; the historical survey probes the specific contributions of the various Christian ages to Catholic morality; the systematic treatment uncovers the foundational moral teachings of St. Thomas as expressed in the *Summa Theologiae* along with their metaphysical, anthropological, and theological roots. Happiness and human ends, actions and passions, and sin and virtue are placed within a moral setting enclosed within the larger domain of divine grace penetrating human nature. Contemporary theological approaches are examined in order to assess their contributions and shortcomings.

MT 611 - Theological Virtues (3)

This class examines in depth St. Thomas Aquinas's teaching on the theological virtues of faith, hope, and charity as expressed in the *Summa Theologiae*. Textual analysis will serve to uncover the systematic power of the treatise on the theological virtues as well as the treatise's role within St. Thomas's larger theological vision. Attention is given to the Scriptural roots of this teaching on the theological virtues and the placement of these virtues within the Catholic theological tradition.

MT 700G – Christian Spirituality Through the Ages (3)

This course is a survey of the tradition of spiritual theology in the West from the New Testament to contemporary times. The lectures will be based on an historical outline while focusing on the theological and spiritual principles emphasized at different times through the centuries. Reading assignments will favor primary sources of the spiritual tradition. A 15-20 page research paper based on the writings of a major work or author, will be required.

MT 708/808 - Contemporary Interpretations of Natural Law (3)

The seminar will begin with a brief historical survey of the idea of natural law in catholic theology. However, the main focus of the seminar will be on the writings of contemporary theologians such as Germain Grisez, John Finnis, Martin Rhonheimer, Jean Porter, Pamela Hall, Robert George, and Russell Hittinger. Students will be responsible for leading seminar discussions, for brief written responses to each week's reading and for a 25 page research paper.

Church History

HS 501 - Early and Medieval Church History (3)

Addressing the period from Christ to 1300 AD, primary patristic texts and ecumenical councils will receive particular attention. Dogmatic development on the following will be examined within their respective liturgical and theological contexts: Trinity, Christology, the scriptural canon, the papacy, and temporal authority. Early Church persecution, religious orders, reform movements, and the slow drift and sudden schism of the Churches, East, and West, are also considered.

Historical Theology

HT 753 – Patrology (3)

This is an introductory course to the study of the Fathers of the Church, both East and West. Lectures will consider issues of the cultures, languages, lives, writings, and opponents of the Fathers in order to understand the Fathers' authoritative theological contributions to the formation of the early Church and relevance to the Church today. A close study of the primary sources by the students is expected. Because the ideas and images of Sacred Scripture lie at the heart of patristic literature, we will especially see how the Fathers interpret Sacred Scripture through their various genres.

Pastoral Studies

PS 601 - Introduction to Pastoral Ministry (3)

This course is designed to provide the students with a theological and speculative/practical introduction to priestly pastoral ministry in the Church today. The pastoral ministry of priests will be considered first in relation to the priesthood of Christ and of His Church. The life and work of priests will be related to the life and mission of lay people, noting the ways in which the pastoral ministry of priests differs from, supports, and at times collaborates with the mission of the laity. The sacramental ministry of priests will be considered, especially in the Holy Eucharist and Penance, together with the related work of teaching, preaching, governing and spiritual direction. The course will offer some practical guidance for meeting various pastoral challenges, and for keeping a rule of spiritual life appropriate to either diocesan or religious priests. A supervised pastoral placement in an approved setting is required.

PS 621 - Introduction to Church Law (3)

This course introduces basic concepts concerning law in the Church, how it is made and interpreted, and how it is applied in various situations. It also examines the status of persons in general, the computation of time, and the law on sacraments and temporal goods. Requirements in this course include active class participation, required readings, assigned cases and studies, and a final written examination.

PS 622 - Book II: The People of God in Church Law (3)

This course introduces Book II of the *Code of Canon Law*, on the People of God. Topics covered include the rights and obligations of the Christian faithful, the organization of official ministry, the selection, training, ministry, and life of deacons and priests, and the hierarchical constitution of the Church. Theological-canonical reflections on the Petrine office, the Roman Curia, the structures and nature of the particular church, the office of bishop, the office of pastor, and the structure of the parish. The course concludes with a study of institutes of consecrated life and societies of apostolic life, with contemporary applications. Requirements in this course include active class participation, required readings, assigned cases and studies, and final written examination.

PS 661 - Ministries Practicum (1)

A practicum taken in preparation for the ministries of acolyte and reader. History and offices of these ministries, the lectionary, public proclamation, and service at the altar.

PS 662 - Deacon Practicum (2)

Taken in the semester before ordination to the diaconate, the practicum includes instruction in tasks of ministry which the future deacon will encounter in his summer and school year ministry.

PS 672 - Preaching: Preparation and Presentation (3)

A laboratory which gives the preacher practical experience in constructing and delivering sermons and homilies. Video-taping and playback. *Limited to 8. Pre-requisite: PS 671 - Theology and History of Preaching or by permission of professor.*

PS 802 - Teaching and Learning: Theory and Practice (3)

This introductory course begins with an examination of basic principles of Catholic educational theory for various educational contexts: adult catechesis, secondary education and collegiate teaching. Students will be introduced to effective teaching practices through topics such as styles of learning and teaching methods suited to those styles, preparing and delivering class lectures, teaching observations, Lectio Coram presentations, and other practical methodologies. During the practicum component of the course, students will offer class presentations and teach in a pastoral setting.

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