

SYLLABUS

Introduction to Sacred Theology

THEO 505 INTRODUCTION TO THEOLOGY & THEO 515 FUNDAMENTAL THEOLOGY

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

Department: Holy Spirit College, Theology

Course: THEO 505 and 515, 3 credit hours

Term: Fall 2018 (August 28 – December 13)

Course Location: Jerusalem Classroom, Malta Hall on the Holy Spirit Parish Campus

Course Time: Tues. and Thurs. at 9:30am-11:00am -or- Tues. and Thurs. at 7:00pm-8:30pm

Instructor: Dr. Chris Gustafson

Instructor Email: CGustafson@holyspiritcollege.org

Office Location: Administrative Office, Malta Hall

Office Hours: Mon.-Fri 1:00 pm-5:00 pm, or by appointment

This syllabus provides a general plan for the course. Deviations may be necessary.

II. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Introduction to Sacred Theology combines THEO 505 INTRODUCTION TO THEOLOGY (1.5 credit) and THEO 515 FUNDAMENTAL THEOLOGY (1.5 credit)

Course Descriptions:

INTRODUCTION TO THEOLOGY: In the Catholic intellectual tradition, sacred theology pursued as an academic discipline involves “faith seeking understanding”. To acquire this understanding, one must prayerfully immerse himself or herself in what Augustine calls the *scientia fidei*, “the science of faith.” As an introduction to this discipline, this course provides an overview of both the contemplative and practical areas of theological inquiry. Students will obtain familiarity with all of the special fields of theology and how they integrate together into a unified whole. Students will also obtain a preliminary understanding of the basic notions and vocabulary employed in theology, the general history of the development of Catholic theology, and the distinctive characteristics of particular schools of thought and individual theologians (1.5 credit hours).

FUNDAMENTAL THEOLOGY: Sacred theology takes its starting point with Divine Revelation, God’s self-communication to the Hebrew Patriarchs, Prophets, and the original Apostles, a historical event which culminates in the Person of Jesus Christ. This course will explore the event of Divine Revelation, consider the means whereby this Revelation is transmitted (Scripture, Tradition, and the Magisterium), examine how doctrine provides a symbol of this communication and develops over time, and investigate the theological virtue of faith which is oriented toward God through the medium of his historical self-revelation. The course will also treat the distinction between public and private revelation, inspiration and prophecy, the *fides quae* and the *fides qua*, as well as that between faith and works (1.5 credit hours).



III. STUDENT OUTCOMES

1. Students will gain a thorough understanding of the nature of Sacred Theology and Divine Revelation.
2. They will understand the different spheres of Sacred Theology including Theology proper, Christology, Soteriology, Pneumatology, Grace, the Theology of Creation, Eschatology, Ecclesiology, Mariology, Moral Theology, Liturgy and the Sacraments, Spiritual Theology, Church History and Canon Law.
3. Students will have a thorough understanding of the fonts of Revelation, including Sacred Scripture, Patristics and the Magisterium of the Church.
4. They will come away with a grasp of the Creed and Catholic doctrine along with a knowledge of the levels of assent required to different levels of Church teaching.
5. Students will read major selections from the aforementioned spheres of Sacred Theology so that they might become thoroughly familiar with the subject.

IV. STUDENT OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT STRATEGIES

The student's familiarity with the five key objectives stated above is assessed by means of classroom participation, reading quizzes, and two exams.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING POLICY:

1. *Overall grades.* Typically, final grades will not be posted in order to respect student privacy. The final course grade is obtained from reading quizzes, a mid-term exam, a final exam and student participation. The course grade cannot be changed after it is submitted at the end of the semester.
2. *Exam grades.* A report of a student's grade on exams will ordinarily be returned within one week. Printed exams taken in-class cannot be kept by the student. Progress reports including exam grades may be given periodically for each student to keep.
3. *Quiz grades.* A quiz will be randomly given at the beginning of class. Students may request to see their quiz grades at any point in the semester.
4. *Paper grade:* This course involves completion of one paper (10-15 pgs.) on a theological work of the student's choosing. More information regarding the paper assignment will be given in class. It is expected that student papers will be original. Please review the institutional policy on plagiarism and academic honesty. A copy of the student's paper should be submitted *in class* on or before the assigned due date. It is recommended that a rough draft of the paper be given to the instructor halfway through the course so that it might be monitored and recommendations given. Papers are ordinarily returned for the student to keep within two weeks of submission.
5. *Participation.* Attendance, timeliness, and prepared discussion are important factors considered when establishing a student's participation grade. Material in the texts should be read in a timely fashion.
6. *Extra credit.* Extra credit assignments will be given only at the instructor's discretion. No extra credit will be given once the academic term is over.
7. *Incompletes.* If a student desires an "incomplete" for the course, he or she must request the incomplete *prior* to the last day of class with no exceptions. Incompletes are given only for extenuating circumstances and all work must be completed by the agreed upon date of completion (see the Catalog for more details)

regarding the standard resolution dates for incomplete coursework). After this date, the student's grade will not be changed.

8. The course grade will be determined as follows:

Reading Quizzes (given randomly)	100 points
Participation (Attendance & Preparedness)	250 points
Paper	200 points
Mid-Term Exam	200 points
<u>Final Exam</u>	<u>250 points</u>
(Total)	1000 points)

A	1000-940	B-	839-800	D+	699-670
A-	939-900	C+	799-770	D	669-640
B+	899-870	C	769-740	D-	639-600
B	869-840	C-	739-700	F	Below 600

VI. REQUIRED TEXTS:

1. Aquilina, Mike. *The Fathers of the Church, Third Edition*. Huntington, IN: Our Sunday Visitor, 2013.
2. *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. New York, NY: Catholic Book Publishing Company. 1994. (Any edition of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* is fine)
3. *The Didache Bible (Revised Standard Version – Second Catholic Edition)*. San Francisco, CA: Ignatius, 2015.
4. Ott, Ludwig. *Fundamentals of Catholic Dogma*. Charlotte, NC: TAN books, 1974.
5. Sheed, F.J. *Theology for Beginners*. Ann Arbor, MI: Servant books, 1981.
6. Vatican Council II: The Conciliar and Post Conciliar Documents. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1992 (Any Edition by Austin Flannery or from the Vatican Website is fine).

VII. ADDITIONAL COURSE NOTES

1. Please turn off all cell phones and electronic devices other than laptop computers. *If using a laptop, one should sit in the back of the room in order not to distract other students.*
2. If exams are given in-class, no laptops may be used on in-class test dates.
3. All bags and purses must be zipped and put under the desk on in-class test dates.
4. *Please keep your eyes on your own work* during in-class quizzes and exams. If a student is looking at another student's quiz or exam (or if a student is displaying his or her quiz or exam in a conspicuous way), after a warning, the quiz or exam will be given a grade of 'zero.'
5. *Please refrain from talking during in-class quizzes or exams.* If there is talking during a quiz or exam, after a warning, that student's quiz or exam will be given a grade of 'zero.'
6. *Please keep excessive talking to a minimum* during the lecture. Talking is distracting for those students who are attempting to listen. If excessive talking continues during a lecture after a warning, points will be subtracted from that student's participation grade.

7. *Class attendance and participation grade.* Attendance is required for each class. Roll will be taken in each class. If the student is not present when the roll is called, the student will be marked absent. Per institutional policy (see below), students are given two grace absences for a 3 credit course and one grace absence for a 1.5 credit course. After the grace absence(s), *without a valid reason for missing class*, points will be subtracted from the student's participation grade for *each* subsequent class missed. *Valid reasons include: verifiable medical problem, hospitalization, verifiable athletic commitment, auto accident, jury duty – involuntary reasons for missing class.* Students exceeding more than four total absences (more than 2 weeks of class) without a valid reason may be at risk for administrative withdrawal from the class. The roll will be taken approximately 5-10 min. into the class period. Since tardiness is distracting for other students, if a student arrives after the time when the roll is called, they will be marked tardy for that day. No changes will be made to the attendance record unless there is a valid reason for the student's absence or tardiness.
8. *Make-up quizzes.* The purpose of the quiz is to verify that the student is reading the homework which is assigned. As such, quizzes cannot be made up. If a random quiz is given while a student is absent, the quizzes that were taken will simply be averaged together for the final quiz score.
9. *Make-up exams.* If in-class exams are given during the course, make-up exams will be given only at the instructor's discretion. *Make-up exams must be requested (either in person or via email) before the scheduled exam time.* If a make-up exam is requested via email, the email must be dated at a time prior to the class time. There must be a valid reason for a make-up exam (see discussion of class attendance above for valid reasons). Make-up exam requests after the scheduled exam time may or may not be granted, depending on the student's reason for not emailing a request prior to the exam time.
10. *Institutional Class Attendance Policy.* Timely attendance at every class is required for all students working on a degree unless a student is ill or some unforeseen difficulty arises. More than *two* unexcused absences (or 3 hrs. of class) will lower the class participation component of a student's grade. A student who misses 9 hrs. or more of class without a legitimate excuse risks being automatically dropped from the course. Student tardiness (arriving ten minutes late to class or more) also counts as an absence. Proper academic etiquette involves students notifying their course instructor *before class* if they will miss a class. Student excuses for absences need to be submitted in writing to the course instructor (for example, by email). A course instructor may elect to defer evaluation of the student excuse to the Academic Dean if he or she desires.
11. *Values Commitment and Plagiarism.* All students are expected to adhere to the Holy Spirit College Honor Code: *I pledge on my honor that I will not lie, steal, or cheat, nor condone others doing so.* Plagiarism is a very serious form of academic dishonesty. Students plagiarize when they do not give credit to the sources of their writing – the words, information, ideas, or opinions of others. Holy Spirit College takes plagiarism and all forms of academic dishonesty very seriously. Students of Holy Spirit College are expected to avoid plagiarism of any sort. Students who plagiarize or otherwise cheat are subject to penalties up to and including dismissal from the College.

Thurs. 9/13 - Topic 9: Magisterium
 Topic 8: St. Jerome (Second Half)

Homework for next class: Homework Sheet 8: *Sacred Scriptures*, Gospel of Matthew 16:13-20; *The Fathers of the Church*, Introduction (second half); CCC Part 1, Section 1, Chapter 2, Article 1 “The Revelation of God” (nos. 51-73).

Homework for next class: Homework Sheet 9: *The Fathers of the Church*, St. Jerome, p. 234ff.; *Fundamentals of Catholic Dogma*, Introduction; CCC Part 1, Section 1, Chapter 2, Article 2 “The Transmission of Divine Revelation” (nos. 74-100).

Week 4 Tues. 9/18 - Topic 10: The Creed
 Topic 11: Church Councils (First Half)

Homework for next class: Homework Sheet 10: *Sacred Scriptures*, The Gospel of Matthew 28:16-20; Pope Paul VI, *Credo of the People of God* (Please read it very carefully); *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, Part 1, Section 1, Chapter 2, Article 3 “Sacred Scripture” (nos. 101-141).

Thurs. 9/20 - Topic 12: Levels of Assent
 Topic 11: Church Councils (Second Half)

Homework for next class: Homework Sheet 11: *Sacred Scriptures*, Letter to the Hebrews, Chapter 11 to Chapter 12:2; *Theology for Beginners*, ch. 3 “The Infinite Spirit”; *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, Part 1, Section 1, Chapter 3 “Man’s Response to God” (nos. 142-184).

Homework for next class: Homework Sheet 12: *The Fathers of the Church*, St. Irenaeus, p. 101ff; *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, Part 1, Section 2 “The Profession of the Christian Faith: The Creeds” (nos. 185-197).

Week 5 Tues. 9/25 - Topic 13: The Unity of God
 Topic 14: St. Augustine (First Half)

Homework for next class: Homework Sheet 13: *Sacred Scriptures*, The Book of Deuteronomy 6:4-9; *Theology for Beginners*, ch. 4 “The Blessed Trinity”; *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, Part 1, Section 2 Chapter 1, Article 1, Paragraph 1 “I believe in God” (nos. 198-231).

Thurs. 9/27 - Topic 15: The Trinity of God
 Topic 14: St. Augustine (Second Half)

Homework for next class: Homework Sheet 14: *Sacred Scriptures*, Gospel of Mark Ch 1; *Theology for Beginners*, ch. 5 “The Three Persons”; *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, Part 1, Section 2 Chapter 1, Article 1, Paragraphs 2-3 “The Father”, “The Almighty” (nos. 232-278).

Homework for next class: Homework Sheet 15: *The Fathers of the Church*, St. Augustine, p. 245ff; *Theology for Beginners*, ch. 6 “The Human Mind and the Doctrine of the Trinity”

Thurs. 11/8 - Topic 32: Church History
 Topic 31: The Virtues (Second Half)

Homework for next class: Homework Sheet 31: *Sacred Scriptures*, Wisdom 8:7; 1 Cor 13:13; *Theology for Beginners*, ch. 15 “The Mother of God”; *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, Part 1, Article 9, Para 1 (nos. 748-780).

Homework for next class: Homework Sheet 32: *The Fathers of the Church*, St. Gregory of Nazianzus, p. 173ff; *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, Part 1, Article 9, Para 2 (nos. 781-810).

Week 12 Tues. 11/13 - Topic 33: Mary and the Saints
 Topic 34: The Gifts of the Holy Spirit (First Half)

Homework for next class: Homework Sheet 33: *Sacred Scriptures*, Revelation chapter 12; *Theology for Beginners*, ch. 16 “Grace, Virtues, Gifts”; *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, Part 1, Article 9, Para 3 (nos. 811-829).

Thurs. 11/15 - Topic 35: Liturgy and the Sacraments
 Topic 34: The Gifts of the Holy Spirit (Second Half)

Homework for next class: Homework Sheet 34: *Sacred Scriptures*, Revelation chapters 4-5; *Theology for Beginners*, ch. 17 “The Sacraments”; *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, Part 1, Article 9, Para 3 (nos. 830-870).

Homework for next class: Homework Sheet 35: *The Fathers of the Church*, St. Ambrose of Milan, p. 193ff; *Theology for Beginners*, ch. 18 “The Eucharist and the Mass.”

Week 13 Tues. 11/20 - Topic 36: The Eucharist and the Mass

Homework for next class: Homework Sheet 36: *Sacred Scriptures*, Gospel of John Chapter 6; *The Fathers of the Church*, St. Leo the Great, p. 268ff; *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, Part 1, Article 9, Para 4 (nos. 871-996).

Thurs. 11/22 - No Class – Thanksgiving

Week 14 Tues. 11/27 - Topic 37: Moral Theology
 Topic 38: The Beatitudes (First Half)

Homework for next class: Homework Sheet 37: *Sacred Scriptures*, Gospel of Matthew chapter 5; *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, Part 1, Article 9, Para 4 (nos. 897-945).

Thurs. 11/29 - Topic 39: Spiritual Theology
Topic 38: The Beatitudes (Second Half)

Homework for next class: Homework Sheet 38: *The Fathers of the Church*, St. Gregory the Great, p. 290ff; *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, Part 1, Article 9, Para 5-6 “The Communion of Saints”, “Mary – Mother of Christ, Mother of the Church” (nos. 946-975).

Homework for next class: Homework Sheet 39: *The Fathers of the Church*, The Mothers of the Church (313-321); *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, Part 1, Article 10 “I Believe in the Forgiveness of Sins” (nos. 986-987).

Week 15 Tues. 12/4 - Topic 40: The Resurrection of the Body
Topic 41: Pope Benedict XVI (First Half)

Homework for next class: Homework Sheet 40: *Sacred Scriptures, Theology for Beginners*, ch. 19 “The Next Life”; *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, Part 1, Article 11 “I Believe in the Resurrection of the Body” (nos. 988-1019).

Thurs. 12/6 - Topic 42: Eschatology
Topic 41: Pope Benedict XVI (Second Half)

Homework for next class: Homework Sheet 41: *The Fathers of the Church*, St. John Chrysostom, p. 209ff; *Theology for Beginners*, ch. 20 “The End of the World”; *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, Part 1, Article 12 “I Believe in Life Everlasting” (nos. 1020-1060).

Homework for next class: Homework Sheet 42: Gospel of Matthew, Chapter 16; Read Canons 747-755; *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, Part 1, Article 12 “I Believe in Life Everlasting” (nos. 1061-1065).

Week 16 Tues. 12/11 - Topic 43: The New Evangelization
Topic 44: Glorious St. Joseph

Homework: Study for Final Exam

Thurs. 12/13 - **Final Exam**

ADDITIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY FOR FURTHER STUDY

Akin, Jimmy. *The Drama of Salvation*. San Diego, CA: Catholic Answers Press, 2015.

Aquinas, St. Thomas. *Summa Theologiae*. Translated by Dominicans of the English Province. 3 vols. New York: Benzinger, 1947.

Aumann, Jordan, OP. *Spiritual Theology*. Allen, TX: Christian Classics [Thomas More], 1980.

Benedict XVI. *Jesus of Nazareth*. New York, NY: Doubleday, 2007.

Catherine of Siena, St. *The Dialogue of St. Catherine of Siena*. Rockford, IL: Tan, 2010.

Emory, Gilles, OP. *The Trinity: An Introduction to the Doctrine of the Triune God*. Washington D.C.:

Catholic University of America Press, 2011.

Handbook of Indulgences: Norms and Grants. New York, NY: Catholic Book Publishing Co., 1991.

Hardon, John. *Catholic Dictionary.* New York, NY: Image, 1980.

John of the Cross, St. *The Collected Works of St. John of the Cross.* Trans. Kieran Kavanaugh et al. Washington, DC: ICS Publications, 1973.

John Paul II, St. *The Church: Mystery, Sacrament, Community (A Catechesis on the Creed – Volume Four)* Boston, MA: Pauline Books and Media, 1998.

John Paul II, St. *God: Father and Creator (A Catechesis on the Creed – Volume One)* Boston, MA: Pauline Books and Media, 1996.

John Paul II, St. *Jesus: Son and Savior (A Catechesis on the Creed – Volume Two)* Boston, MA: Pauline Books and Media, 1996.

John Paul II, St. *The Spirit: Giver of Life and Love (A Catechesis on the Creed – Volume Three)* Boston, MA: Pauline Books and Media, 1996.

John Paul II, St. *The Trinity's Embrace: God's Saving Plan (A Catechesis on Salvation History – Volume Six)* Boston, MA: Pauline Books and Media, 2002.

John Paul II, St. *Theotokos: Woman, Mother, Disciple (A Catechesis on Mary, Mother of God - Volume Five)* Boston, MA: Pauline Books and Media, 1999.

Kreeft, Peter, *You Can Understand the Bible.* San Francisco, CA: Ignatius Press, 2005

May, William. *Catholic Sexual Ethics: A Summary, Explanation and Defense (3rd Edition).* Huntington, IN: Our Sunday Visitor, 2011.

May, William. *An Introduction to Moral Theology.* Huntington, IN: Our Sunday Visitor, 2007.

Pieper, Josef. *The Four Cardinal Virtues.* South Bend IN: Univ. Notre Dame Press, 1966.

Pieper, Josef. *Faith, Hope, Love.* San Francisco, CA: Ignatius, 1997.

Tanner, Norman, SJ. *Decrees of the Ecumenical Councils (Vols. 1 & 2).* Washington D.C.: Sheed and Ward, 1990.

Thomas à Kempis. *The Imitation of Christ.* Rockville, IL: TAN, 1991.

Ward, Benedicta. *The Sayings of the Desert Fathers.* Collegeville, MN: Cistercian Publications, 1975

Student's Prayer

by St. Thomas Aquinas

Creator of all things, true source of light and wisdom, origin of all being, graciously let a ray of your light penetrate the darkness of my understanding.

Take from me the double darkness in which I have been born, an obscurity of sin and ignorance.

Give me a keen understanding, a retentive memory, and the ability to grasp things correctly and fundamentally.

Grant me the talent of being exact in my explanations and the ability to express myself with thoroughness and charm.

Point out the beginning, direct the progress, and help in the completion. I ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

