

THSR9302 Supervised Reading Colloquium: Historical Theology

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

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NOBTS Mission Statement

To equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

NOBTS Focal Core Value and Competency Addressed

The focal core value this year is Mission Focus. The key competency addressed is Christian Theological Heritage.

Course Description

A colloquium is “an academic seminar on a broad field of study, usually led by a different lecturer at each meeting” (*American Heritage Dictionary*). The colloquium is designed for and led by resident Doctor of Philosophy and Masters of Theology students under the supervision of the faculty of Theological and Historical Division.

Course Requirements

Presentation of Readings

1. Attend each session. See attached schedule.
2. Prepare for colloquium discussions by completing the assigned reading carefully. Each student should read all the class assignments for each class meeting. All students should read the McGrath survey readings carefully, along with the assigned reading for the each class meeting. Focus on interpreting the author’s thought. Write down observations and questions. Review the assigned reading and your notes before the colloquium and be prepared to contribute to the discussion.
3. Students should seek to use these materials as a lens through which to consider the broader discussion and questions that are raised on these issues. As a result, preparation for the colloquium may extend beyond the reading of the assigned materials to include reflection on topics and issues introduced by these readings.
4. Lead a colloquium session:
 - For each session, each student will be responsible for leading the part of the session that discusses the specific readings assigned to him or her. For each session, each student will be assigned a reading from a historical theology, especially topical polarities found in systematic theology. Students may request particular readings on a first come first served basis, with faculty approval.

- The presenter should read the assigned readings for the presenter, which are sometimes more thorough than for the class as a whole. Give it a careful reading; difficult sections may require rereading.
 - One week prior to a session, each student will distribute to the other seminar members a four to five page single spaced summary of the reading, with interpretive questions that warrant further investigation and discussion as part of the overall effort to understand the assigned reading and the key issues identified from the reading.
 - After distributing summary responses, the student leader may read his/her summary or present an oral overview in no more than ten minutes. This discussion should include addressing the theological and sociological situation of this author, his training and place of service, his general theological perspective, and the key issues addressed in this reading.
 - Lead the colloquium discussion in accordance with the purpose of the session (to understand the assigned readings and the nature of the issues they raise). The session is not simply a time for discussing the views of the student leader. All members need to speak and address the issues. The entire colloquium is responsible for discussing the issues. Discussions should move forward in order to best use the session time. Students should direct the discussion to cover as much of the scope of issues presented by the assigned readings as possible.
5. Students will be graded on their ability to articulate the content of the readings, clarity in focusing questions or items for discussion, and skill in engaging the colloquium in dialogue.

Prepare an annotated bibliography of *each text* read through the semester. Send a copy to each professor and seminar member by the Monday following the last colloquium session.

Book Review

Each seminar participant will prepare and present a critical review of Alister McGrath's *Historical Theology: An Introduction to the History of Christian Thought*. (Students may find Justo Gonzalez's *A History of Christian Thought*. rev ed. 3 vols. Nashville: Abingdon, 1987, useful as an additional resource).

Each review must be prepared and presented with the following:

- Author's credentials and perspectives;
- Overview of material sufficient to give a clear, precise idea of the author's orientation and "project."
- Evaluation of format, ideas, issues, movements, and personages considered in the book.
- Address relevant questions/issues/persons treated and not treated in the book.
- Strengths and weaknesses.

Reviews should be from six to eight single-spaced pages, exclusive of table of contents and bibliography. Parenthetical references may be utilized for references to McGrath's book, but students should use footnotes for all other cited materials, according to Turabian style.

Procedure

Each session will begin with prayer and general announcements. The student leader who will proceed in the manner indicated above. Following the student leader's oral summary, discussion should be engaged with the entire colloquium. Students in the colloquium are invited and responsible to contribute to thoughtful responses to questions posed by the student leader or faculty member.

Class Schedule and Assignments

Date/ session	Topic	Presenter (who)	Presenter (assignment)	Class (assign)
1/24 1:30-4:30	McGrath, <i>Historical Theology</i>		1-93	1-93
1A	Athanasius, <i>On the Incarnation</i>		3-120	3-120
1A	Irenaeus, <i>Against the Heresies</i>		Book 1	Book 1
1B	Origen, <i>Origen On First Principles</i>		Books I-IV	Bks II-III
1C	Clement, <i>Stromateis: Book One to Three</i>		Books 1-3	Books 1-2
1D	Augustine, <i>Confessions</i>		All	All
2/14 1:30-4:30	McGrath, <i>Historical Theology</i>		94-155	94-155
2A	<u>Doctrine of God:</u> Anselm, <i>Why God Became a Man</i>		39-137	39-137
2B	Aquinas, <i>On the Truth of the Catholic Faith: Summa Contra Gentiles</i>		Book 1: God	Ch 12-53
2A	<u>Epistemology/Christology:</u> Kant, <i>Religion within the Limits of Reason Alone</i>		All	Book 1-3
2C	Kierkegaard, <i>Philosophical Fragments</i>		All	All
2C	<u>The Kingdom of God:</u> Niebuhr, <i>An Interpretation of Christian Ethics</i>		All	13-177
2D	Rauschenbusch, <i>The Theology of the Social Gospel</i>		All	All
3/21 1:30-4:30	McGrath, <i>Historical Theology</i>		156-213	156-213
3A	<u>Election:</u> Calvin, <i>Institutes of the Christian Religion</i>		Book 3	Ch 11-19
3B	Arminius, <i>Analysis of the Ninth Chapter of the Epistle to the Romans</i>		All	All
3B	Arminius, <i>The Apology or Defence</i>		Art. 4, 8, 12, 15	Art. 4, 8, 12, 15
3B	Arminius, <i>Declaration of Sentiments</i>		All	All
3B	Arminius, <i>Public Disputations</i>		Chapter 11	Chapter 11
3B	<i>Canon of Dort in Ferm, Readings in the History of Christian Thought</i>		All	All
3B	<i>Remonstrance Ferm, Readings in the History of Christian Thought</i>		All	All

3/21 continued

3C	<u>Neo-Orthodoxy:</u> Barth, <i>Church Dogmatics</i> , vol. II/2		449-506	449-506
3C	Tillich, <i>Systematic Theology</i> , vol. 1		211-89	211-89
3C	<u>The Human Will:</u> Erasmus, <i>On the Freedom of the Will</i> , in Rupp, <i>Luther and Erasmus: Free Will & Salvation</i>		1-97	35-97
3C	Luther, <i>Bondage of the Will</i> , in Rupp, et al., <i>Luther and Erasmus</i>		101-334	141-292
3B	<u>Anthropology/Soteriology:</u> Edwards, <i>IV. A Careful and Strict Inquiry into the Prevailing Notions of the Freedom of the Will</i>		1.3-89	1.3-89
3B	Edwards, <i>V. Dissertation On The End of Which God Created the World</i>		1.94-121	1.94-121
3D	Wesley, <i>The Doctrine of Original Sin</i>		X: 196-464	X: 196-464
3D	Wesley, <i>Free Grace</i>		VII: 373-86	X: 196-464
4/18 1:30-4:30	McGrath, <i>Historical Theology</i>		214-343	214-343
4C	<u>Revelation:</u> Forsyth, <i>The Gospel and Authority</i>		Ch 3, 6, 7	None
4D	Schleiermacher, <i>The Christian Faith</i>		1-141, 259-68	3-128
4D	Schleiermacher, "The Effects of Scripture and of the Redeemer," in <i>Servant of the Word</i>		100-16	100-16
4D	Warfield, <i>The Inspiration and Authority of the Bible</i>		Ch I-IV	Ch II-IV
4A	<u>Ecclesiology:</u> Hubmaier, "On the Christian Baptism of Believers"		All	All
4A	Hubmaier, "Dialogue with Zwingli's Baptism Book"		All	All
4A	Hubmaier, "Old and New Teachers on Believers Baptism"		All	All
4A	Hubmaier, "On Infant Baptism Against Oecholampad"		All	None
4A	Hubmaier, "A Christian Catechism"		All	None
4A	Hubmaier, "A Form of Water Baptism"		All	All
4A	Hubmaier, "A Form of Christ's Supper"		All	None
4A	Hubmaier, "On the Christian Ban"		All	None
4A	Melanchthon, <i>Loci Communes</i>		Locus 13	Locus 13
4B	Zwingli, <i>Commentary on True and False Religion</i>		98-253	98-253
4B	<u>Religious Epistemology/Ecclesiology:</u> Spener, <i>Pia Desideria</i>		All	39-122
4C	Ritschl, <i>Three Essays</i>		51-147, 219-291	51-147, 219-291

Specific Readings Reflecting a Polarity in Theological Subjects

The Church Fathers

Athanasius. *On the Incarnation*.

Augustine. *Confessions*.

Clement. *Stromateis*.

Irenaeus. *Against Heresies*.

Origen. *On First Principles*.

Tertullian. *Against Praxeas*.

The Doctrine of God

Anselm. *Why God Became a Man*.

Aquinas. *On the Truth of the Catholic Faith: Summa Contra Gentiles*, book one: *God*.

Epistemology\Christology

Kant, Immanuel. *Religion within the Limits of Reason Alone*.

Kierkegaard, Soren. *Philosophical Fragments*.

The Kingdom of God

Niebuhr, Reinhold. *An Interpretation of Christian Ethics*.

Rauschenbusch, Walter. *The Theology of the Social Gospel*.

Election

Calvin, John. *Institutes of the Christian Religion*, book three.

The Canons of Dort.

Armenius, James. *Analysis of the Ninth Chapter of the Epistle to the Romans*; and *The Apology or Defence*, articles IV, VIII, XII, XV; and *Declaration of Sentiments*; and *Public Disputations: XI—On the Free Will of Man and Its Powers*.

For *Canon of Dort* and *Remonstrance*, see Robert L. Ferm, *Readings in the History of Christian Thought*. New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1964.

Neo-Orthodox

Barth, Karl. *Church Dogmatics*, vol. II/2. Ed. G. W. Bromiley and T. F. Torrance. Trans. G. W. Bromiley, J. C. Campbell, Iain Wilson, J. Strathearn McNab, Harold Knight, and R. A. Stewart. Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark, 1957.

Tillich, Paul. *Systematic Theology*, vol. 1. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1951.

Will

Erasmus, Desiderius. *On the Freedom of the Will*.

Luther, Martin. *Bondage of the Will*.

Both found in *Luther and Erasmus: Free Will and Salvation*, ed. and trans. E. Gordon Rupp and Philip S. Watson.

Anthropology/Soteriology

Edwards, Jonathan. *The End for Which God Created, and Freedom of the Will*.

Wesley, John. *The Doctrine of Original Sin*, X: 196-464, and *Free Grace*, VII: 373-86.

Revelation

Forsyth, P. T. *The Gospel and Authority: A P.T. Forsyth Reader*, ch. 3, 6, 7.

Schleiermacher, Friedrich Daniel Ernst. *The Christian Faith*, 1-141, 259-68; and “The Effects of Scripture and of the Redeemer,” in *Servant of the Word*, 100-16.

Warfield. *The Inspiration and Authority of the Bible*, ch I-IV.

Ecclesiology

Hubmaier, Balthazar. “On the Christian Baptism of Believers,” “Dialogue with Zwingli’s Baptism Book,” “Old and New Teachers on Believers Baptism,” “On Infant Baptism Against Oecolampad,” “A Christian Catechism,” “A Form of Water Baptism,” “A Form for Christ’s Supper,” “On the Christian Ban.”

Melanchthon. *Loci Communes*, Locus 13: “Baptism.”

Zwingli. *Commentary on True and False Religion*: from the chapter, “The Christian Religion” to the chapter, “The Eucharist” (98-253).

Religious Epistemology/Ecclesiology

Ritschl, Albrecht. *Three Essays*: “‘Prolegomena’ to *The History of Pietism*”; “*Instruction in the Christian Religion*.”

Spener, Philipp Jakob. *Pia Desideria*.

History

Harnack, Adolph von. *History of Dogma*.

Schweitzer, Albert. *The Quest of the Historical Jesus: A Critical Study of Its Progress from Reimarus to Wrede*.

Reading List: Historical Theology: Primary Sources

Anselm. *Why God Became a Man*. Ed. and trans. Jasper Hopkins and Herbert W. Richardson. Lewiston, NY: Edwin Mellen, 1980.

Arminius, James. *The Works of James Arminius*. Trans. James Nichols and William Nichols. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1986.

Athanasius. *On the Incarnation*. Intro. C. S. Lewis Crestwood, NY: St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, 1944.

Augustine, *Confessions*. Trans. Henry Chadwick. Oxford, NY: Oxford University Press, 1991.

Barth, Karl. *Church Dogmatics*, vol. II/2. Ed. G. W. Bromiley and T. F. Torrance. Trans. G. W. Bromiley, J. C. Campbell, Iain Wilson, J. Strathearn McNab, Harold Knight, and R. A. Stewart. Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark, 1957.

- Calvin, John. *Institutes of the Christian Religion*. 2 vols. Ed. John T. McNeill. Trans. Ford Lewis Battles. Philadelphia: Westminster, 1960.
- Edwards, Jonathan. *The Works of Jonathan Edwards*. Rev. Edward Hickman. 2 vols. Carlisle, PA: Banner of Truth Trust, 1990.
- Erasmus, Desiderius. "On the Freedom of the Will." In *Luther and Erasmus: Free Will and Salvation*. The Library of Christian Classics: Ichthus Edition. Ed. and trans. E. Gordon Rupp, 35-97. Philadelphia: Westminster, 1969.
- Forsyth, Peter Taylor. *The Gospel and Authority: A P. T. Forsyth Reader*. Ed. by Marvin W. Anderson. Minneapolis: Augsburg, 1971.
- Hubmaier, Balthasar. *Balthasar Hubmaier: Theologian of Anabaptism*. Ed. and trans. H. Wayne Pipkin and John Howard Yoder. Classics of the Radical Reformation, ed. Cornelius J. Dyck, no. 5. Scottsdale, PA: Herald, 1989.
- Irenaeus. *Against Heresies: Book One*. New York: Paulist, 1992.
- Kant, Immanuel. *Religion within the Limits of Reason Alone*. Trans. Theodore M. Greene and Hoyt H. Hudson. New York: Harper & Row, 1960.
- Kiekegaard, Soren. *Philosophical Fragments: Johannes Climacus*. Ed. and trans. Howard and Edna Hong. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1985.
- Luther, Martin. "On the Bondage of the Will." In *Luther and Erasmus: Free Will and Salvation*. The Library of Christian Classics: Ichthus ed. Ed. and trans. Philip S. Watson, 101-334. Philadelphia: Westminster, 1969.
- Niebuhr, Reinhold. *An Interpretation of Christian Ethics*. New York: Meridian, 1935.
- Origen. *On First Principles*. Trans. G. W. Butterworth. New York: Harper and Row, 1966.
- Rauschenbusch, Walter. *A Theology for the Social Gospel*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1945.
- Ritschl, Albrecht. *Three Essays*. Trans. Philip Hefner. Philadelphia: Fortress, 1972.
- Schleiermacher, Friedrich. *The Christian Faith*. Ed. H. R. Mackintosh and J. S. Stewart. Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark, 1948.
- _____. *Servant of the Word: Selected Sermons of Friedrich Schleiermacher*. Trans. Dawn De Vries. Fortress Texts in Modern Theology. Philadelphia: Fortress, 1987.
- Schweitzer, Albert. *The Quest of the Historical Jesus: A Critical Study of Its Progress from Reimarus to Wrede*. Trans. W. Montgomery. New York: MacMillan, 1968. Reprint, Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1998.
- Spener, Philip Jacob. *Pia Desideria*. Ed. and trans. Theodore G. Tappert. Philadelphia: Fortress, 1964.
- Tertullian. *Against Praxeas*. In *Ante-Nicene Fathers, Vol. 3: Latin Christianity: Its Founder, Tertullian. I. Apologetic; II. Anti-Marcion; III. Ethical*, ed. Alexander Roberts and James Donaldson. Rev. A. Cleveland Coxe. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1999.
- Tillich, Paul. *Systematic Theology*, vol. 1. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1951.
- Thomas Aquinas. *On the Truth of the Catholic Faith: Summa Contra Gentiles*. Book One, *God*. Trans. Anton G. Pegis. Garden City, NY: Image, 1955
- Warfield, Benjamin Breckenridge. *The Inspiration and Authority of the Bible*. Edited by Samuel G. Craig. Intro. Cornelius Van Til. Philadelphia: Presbyterian and Reformed, 1948.

Wesley, John. *The Works of John Wesley*. 3d ed. Vol. 1-14. London: Wesleyan Methodist Book Room, 1872; reprint, Grand Rapids: Baker, 2002.

Zwingli, Ulrich. *Commentary on True and False Religion*. Ed. Samuel Macauley Jackson and Clarence Nevin Heller. Durham, NC: Labyrinth, 1981.

Reading List: Historical Theology

Bromiley, Geoffrey W. *Historical Theology: An Introduction*. Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark, 1978.

Burkill, T. A. *The Evolution of Christian Thought*. Ithaca, New York: Cornell University Press, 1971.

Evans, G. R. *The Medieval Theologians: An Introduction to Theology in the Medieval Period*. Cambridge, MA: Blackwell, 2001.

Ferm, Robert L. *Readings in the History of Christian Thought*. New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1964.

Gonzalez, Justo L. *A History of Christian Thought*. Rev. ed. 3 vols. Nashville: Abingdon, 1987.

Hardy, Edward R., ed. *Christology of the Later Fathers*, The Library of Christian Classics. Philadelphia: Westminster John Knox, 1995.

Harnack, Adolf. *History of Dogma*. London: Williams 7 Norgate, 1896-99.

Kelly, J.N.D. *Early Christian Doctrines*. Rev. ed. Philadelphia: Harper, 1988.

Lindberg, Carter. *The European Reformations*. Cambridge, MA: Blackwell, 1996.

_____. *The Reformation Theologians: An Introduction to Theology in the Early Modern Period* (The Great Theologians). Oxford/Cambridge, MA: Blackwell, 2002.

McGiffert, A. C. *A History of Christian Thought*, 2 vols. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1946.

McGrath, Alister E. *Historical Theology: An Introduction to the History of Christian Thought*. Cambridge, MA: Blackwell, 1998.

Norris, Richard A., ed. *The Christological Controversy*, Sources of Early Christian Thought, Philadelphia: Fortress, 1980.

Workman, Herbert. *Christian Thought to Reformation*. London: Duckworth and Company, 1947.

Reading List: Encyclopedia and Dictionary Articles

Elwell, Walter A., ed. *Evangelical Dictionary of Theology*. 2d ed. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2001.

Richardson, Alan and John Bowden, eds. *The Westminster Dictionary of Christian Theology*. Philadelphia: Westminster, 1983.

Buttrick, George A., ed. *The Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible*. Vols. 1-4.

Bromiley, Geoffrey W., ed. *The International Standard Bible Encyclopedia*. Rev. ed. Vols. 1-4.