

Historical Theology



THSR9302 HISTORICAL THEOLOGY READING COLLOQUIUM • SPRING 2013

Jan 25 (2-4 pm), Feb 22 (9-11 am), March 25 (1-3 pm), April 26 (9-11 am)
& May 13 (1-3 pm) • New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

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**“Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us,
let us lay aside every encumbrance, and the sin which so easily entangles us, and
let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,
fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith...”**

HEBREWS 12:1-2 (NASB)

Seminary Mission Statement

Our mission is to equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

Core Value and Key Competency

The primary core value of the Seminary addressed in this course is **Doctrinal Integrity**. The primary key competency in ministry addressed is **Christian Theological Heritage**. Our core value for 2012-13 is **servant leadership**.

Course Description

This 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, with focused readings in Historical Theology.

Statement on Biblical Authority

In order to develop competent theological researchers for the twenty-first century church and academy, students in this course will be exposed to seminal works in Christian theology from a wide array of theological perspectives, including the influential works of many prominent non-evangelical theologians. Students are expected to become familiar with and demonstrate advanced, biblically guided critical engagement with the works of these thinkers.

The course instructor operates under the assumption that the Bible is the inspired, totally true and trustworthy Word of God which is “profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness” (2 Tim. 3:16). The Baptist Faith and Message (2000) provides the confessional framework in which I lead the course.

Reading Assignments (100%)

All students will read every text in the course and should be prepared to discuss every book assigned. For each class meeting, students will prepare and present a **critical book review** based on the text assigned to them. These book reviews should be 4-6 single-spaced pages in length and should include a bibliographic entry, brief biographical data about the author (including dates, degrees, theological tradition, academic positions held, research interests, and significant works), a **brief** summary, **critical analysis**, and **discussion questions**.

Course Texts (Required)

Evans, G.R. *Philosophy and Theology in the Middle Ages*. New York: Routledge, 1994.

Evans, Richard J. *In Defense of History*. New York: W. W. Norton, 2000.

Fischer, David Hackett. *Historian's Fallacies: Toward a Logic of Historical Thought*. New York: Harper & Row, 1970.

Franke, John R. *The Character of Theology: An Introduction to Its Nature, Task, and Purpose*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2005.

Gonzalez, Justo. *A History of Christian Thought, Vol. 1: From the Beginnings to the Council of Chalcedon*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1987.

Gonzalez, Justo. *A History of Christian Thought, Vol. 2: From Augustine to the Eve of the Reformation*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1987.

Gonzalez, Justo. *A History of Christian Thought, Vol. 3: From the Protestant Reformation to the Twentieth Century*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1987.

Grenz, Stanley and Roger Olson. *20th Century Theology: God and the World in a Transitional Age*. Downers Grove: IVP, 1993.

Keener, Craig. *The Historical Jesus of the Gospels*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2009.

Kelly, J.N.D. *Early Christian Doctrines*. New York: HarperCollins, 1978.

Klink, Edward and Darian Lockett. *Understanding Biblical Theology: A Comparison of Theory and Practice*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2012.

Licona, Mike. *The Resurrection of Jesus: A New Historiographical Approach*. Downers Grove: IVP, 2010.

Lints, Richard, *The Fabric of Theology: A Prolegomenon to Evangelical Theology*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1993.

Livingston, James C. *Modern Christian Thought: The Enlightenment and the Nineteenth Century*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2006.

Livingston, James C. *Modern Christian Thought: The Twentieth Century*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2006.

McCullagh, C.B. *The Truth of History*. New York: Routledge, 1997.

McGrath, Alister E. *The Genesis of Doctrine: A Study in the Foundations of Doctrinal Criticism*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1990.

*McGrath, Alister E. *Historical Theology: An Introduction to the History of Christian Thought*. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 2012.

McGrath, Alister E. *The Intellectual Origins of the European Reformation*. Malden, MA: Blackwell, 2004.

McGrath, Alister E. *Iustitia Dei: A History of the Christian Doctrine of Justification*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2005.

*McGrath, Alister E. *Reformation Thought: An Introduction*. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 2012.

Olsen, Roger E. *The Story of Christian Theology: Twenty Centuries of Tradition & Reform*. Downers Grove: IVP, 1999.

Pelikan, Jaroslav. *The Christian Tradition: A History of the Development of Doctrine, Vol. 2: The Spirit of Eastern Christendom (600-1700)*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1977.

Pelikan, Jaroslav. *The Christian Tradition: A History of the Development of Doctrine, Vol. 3: The Growth of Medieval Theology (600-1300)*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1980.

Pelikan, Jaroslav. *The Christian Tradition: A History of the Development of Doctrine, Vol. 4: Reformation of Church and Dogma (1300-1700)*. Chicago: Chicago University Press, 1985.

Pelikan, Jaroslav. *The Christian Tradition: A History of the Development of Doctrine, Vol. 5: Christian Doctrine and Modern Culture (since 1700)*. Chicago: Chicago University Press, 1991.

* The student is allowed to acquire an older edition of these texts (one edition earlier than listed in the bibliography).

Course Schedule and Assignments

Meeting #1—Historiography and Theology in History (1/25)

Fischer, <i>Historian's Fallacies</i>	Suluma
Evans, <i>In Defense of History</i>	Turner
McCullagh, <i>The Truth of History</i>	Cox
Franke, <i>The Character of Theology</i>	Walker
Lints, <i>The Fabric of Theology</i>	Milstead

Meeting #2—Early Christianity (2/22)

McGrath, <i>Historical Theology</i> (Intro, Section 1) Olsen, <i>The Story of Christian Theology</i> (Part I-IV)	Everyone
Keener, <i>The Historical Jesus of the Gospels</i>	Turner
Licona, <i>The Resurrection of Jesus</i>	Milstead
Kelly, <i>Early Christian Doctrines</i>	Suluma
Gonzalez, <i>A History of Christian Thought, Vol. 1</i>	Cox
Klink & Lockett, <i>Understanding Biblical Theology</i>	Walker

Meeting #3—Medieval to Reformation (3/25)

McGrath, <i>HT</i> (Section 2) Olsen (Part V-VI)	Everyone
Evans, <i>Philosophy & Theology in the Middle Ages</i>	Walker
McGrath, <i>The Intellectual Origins of the Euro Ref.</i>	Milstead
Pelikan, <i>The Christian Tradition, Vol. 2</i>	Turner
Pelikan, <i>The Christian Tradition, Vol. 3</i>	Suluma
Gonzalez, <i>A History of Christian Thought, Vol. 2</i>	Cox

Meeting #4—Reformation to Modern (4/26)

McGrath, <i>HT</i> (Section 3) Olsen (Part VII-VIII)	Everyone
McGrath, <i>Reformation Thought</i>	Walker
Gonzalez, <i>A History of Christian Thought, Vol. 3</i>	Cox
Livingston, <i>Modern Christian Thought: Enl-19th</i>	Milstead
Pelikan, <i>The Christian Tradition, Vol. 4</i>	Turner
Pelikan, <i>The Christian Tradition, Vol. 5</i>	Suluma

Meeting #5—Twentieth and Twenty-First Century (5/13)

McGrath, <i>HT</i> (Section 4) Olsen (Part IX, Conclusion)	Everyone
Livingston, <i>Modern Christian Thought: 20th (ch 1-8)</i>	Turner
Livingston, <i>Modern Christian Thought: 20th (ch 9-16)</i>	Suluma
Grenz & Olsen, <i>20th Century Theology</i>	Cox
McGrath, <i>The Genesis of Doctrine</i>	Walker
McGrath, <i>Iustitia Dei</i>	Milstead