

# Historical Theology

THSR9302 HISTORICAL THEOLOGY READING COLLOQUIUM • SPRING 2015

Jan 29, March 5, April 2, April 30 (all meetings 6:00—9:00pm)  
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

Dr. Jeffrey Riley • Dodd 107 • jriley@nobts.edu • 504.282.4455 ext. 8017

“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 2014-15 is **spiritual vitality**.

## 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 primary source 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, theological tradition, historical significance, research interests, and significant works), a **brief** summary, **critical analysis**, and **discussion questions**.

Each meeting includes a historical theology text(s) that everyone will read before the colloquium. Each student should prepare an outline on the book that includes important theological movements, prominent theological issues, and key persons. Be prepared to discuss the topics when we meet. Be prepared to discuss history and theology in general in light of Fischer’s book.

## Course Texts (Required)

### Historical Theology Texts:

Cross, Richard. *The Medieval Christian Philosophers: An Introduction*. New York: I. B. Tauris, 2014.

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

McGrath, Alister E. *Reformation Thought: An Introduction*. 4<sup>th</sup> ed. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 2012.

Olsen, Roger E. *The Journey of Modern Theology: From Reconstruction to Deconstruction*. Downer's Grove: IVP Academic, 2013.

Pelikan, Jaroslav. *The Christian Tradition: A History of the Development of Doctrine, Vol. 1: The Emergence of the Catholic Tradition (100-600)*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1971.

### Primary Texts: \* note that some texts contain sources for shorter readings:

#### Meeting 1:

St. Athanasius, *On the Incarnation*. Introduction by C. S. Lewis. Popular Patristics Series., ed.

John Behr, no. 23. Yonkers, NY: St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, 2002.

Augustine of Hippo. *The Augustine Catechism: Enchiridion on Faith, Hope, and Love*. Vol. 1, The Augustine Series. Introduction by Boniface Ramsey. Hyde Park, NY: New City Press, 1999.

Augustine of Hippo. *On Christian Teaching (Doctrine)*. Translated by R. P. H. Green. New York: Oxford University Press, 2008.

St. Gregory of Nazianzus. *On God and Christ: The Five Theological Orations and Two Letters to*

*Cledonius*. Popular Patristics Series. ed. John Behr, no. 23. Yonkers, NY: St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, 2002.

\*Origen, *On First Principles*. Foreword by John C. Cavadini. Introduction by Henri D. Lubac. Notre Dame: Ava Maria Press, 2013.

### Meeting 2:

\*Anselm of Canterbury. *The Major Works*. Introduction by Brian Davies and G. R. Evans. Oxford World Classics. New York: Oxford University Press, 1998.

Duns Scotus, John. *Philosophical Writings: A Selection*. Translated with Introduction by Allan

Wolter. Indianapolis: Hackett, 1987.

Erasmus. *Manual of a Christian Knight* (no recommended volume; Kindle editions are available).

\*St. John of Damascus. *Writings: The Fount of Knowledge: The Philosophical Chapters, On Heresies, & On the Orthodox Faith*. The Fathers of the Church, vol. XXXVII. Translated by Frederic H. Chase, Jr. Washington, D. C.: The Catholic University of America Press, 1958.

St. Thomas Aquinas. *Summa Contra Gentiles: Book One: God*. Translation and Introduction by Anton C. Pegis. Notre Dame: University of Notre Dame Press, 1991.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Summa Contra Gentiles: Book Four: Salvation*. Translation and Introduction by Charles J. O'Neal. Notre Dame: University of Notre Dame Press, 1989.

### Meeting 3:

\*Calvin, John. *Institutes of the Christian Religion*. 2 vols. Edited by John T. McNeill. Translated by Ford Lewis Battles. Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1960.

DeSales, St. Francis. *The Catholic Controversy: A Defense of the Faith*. Charlotte, NC: TAN Books, 2012.

Edwards, Jonathan. *The Religious Affections* (no recommended volume; Kindle and free online editions available).

\*Hubmaier, Balthasar. *Balthasar Hubmaier: Theologian of Anabaptism*. Translated and edited by H. Wayne Pipkin and John Howard Yoder. Classics of the Radical Reformation, ed. Cornelius J. Dyck, no. 5. Scottsdale, PA: Herald, 1989.

\*Melancthon, Philip. *Commonplaces: Loci Communes 1521*. Translated by Christian Preus.  
St. Louis: Concordia, 2014.

Rupp, E. Gordon, and Philip S. Watson. *Luther and Erasmus: Free Will and Salvation*. Philadelphia: Westminster, 1969.

Spener, Philip Jacob. *Pia Desideria*. Translated, Edited, and with an Introduction by Theodore G. Tappert. Philadelphia: Fortress, 1964.

Wesley, John. *A Plain Account of Christian Perfection as Believed and Taught by the Reverend Mr. John Wesley, from the Year 1725 to the Year 1777* (no recommended volume; Kindle editions are available). Is available in *The Works of John Wesley*. 3<sup>rd</sup> Ed. Vol. 11 London: Wesleyan Methodist Book Room, 1872; reprint, Grand Rapids: Baker, 2002.

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

\*\_\_\_\_\_. *Selected Works of Huldreich Zwingli, (1484-1531) The Reformer of German Switzerland*. Translations from the German by Lawrence A. McLouth. Translations from the Latin by Henry Preble and George W. Gilmore. Edited by Samuel Macauley Jackson. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania, 1901. [Online] available from <http://oll.libertyfund.org/titles/1682>.

#### **Meeting 4:**

Hodge, Archibald A., and Benjamin B. Warfield. *Inspiration*. London: Forgotten Books, 2012.

Newman, John Henry Cardinal. *An Essay on Development of Christian Doctrine*. Assumption Press, 2013.

Packer, J. I. *Fundamentalism and the Word of God: Some Evangelical Principles*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1958.

Schleiermacher, Friedrich. *Brief Outline of Theology as a Field of Knowledge*. 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition.  
With

Essays and Notes by Terrence Tice. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2011.

Tillich, Paul. *Biblical Religion and the Search for Reality*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press,  
1964.

Von Balthasar, Hans Urs. *A Theology of History*. San Francisco: Ignatius, 1994.

## Course Schedule and Assignments

### Meeting #1— Historical Theology & Early Christianity

Pelikan, <i>The Christian Tradition, Vol. 1</i>	Everyone
Fischer, <i>Historian's Fallacies</i>	Everyone
Origen, <i>On First Principles</i> , Bk I--BkII	
Origen, <i>On First Principles</i> , Bk III--BkIV	Tim Bray
Gregory of Nazianzus, <i>On God and Christ: The Five Theological Orations and Two Letters to Cledonius</i>	
Athanasius, <i>On the Incarnation</i>	Chris Schaffer
Augustine, <i>Enchiridion</i>	Luis Muñoz
Augustine, <i>On Christian Teaching</i>	Andrew Hollingsworth

### Meeting #2— Medieval

Cross, <i>The Medieval Christian Philosophers</i>	Everyone
John of Damascus, <i>On the Orthodox Faith</i>	Chris Schaffer
Anselm, <i>Cur Deus Homo</i> (Why God Became Man)	Tim Bray
St. Thomas, <i>Summa Contra Gentiles: Book One: God</i>	Josh Freeman
St. Thomas, <i>Summa Contra Gentiles: Book Four: Salvation</i>	Luis Muñoz
Erasmus, <i>Handbook of the Christian Soldier</i>	Andrew Bailey
Duns Scotus, <i>Philosophical Writings</i>	Andrew Hollingsworth

### Meeting #3—Reformation

McGrath, <i>Reformation Thought</i>	Everyone
Rupp & Watson, <i>Luther and Erasmus: Free Will and Salvation</i>	
Calvin, <i>Institutes (Books Two and Three)</i>	
Readings on Baptism (Hubmaier, Zwingli, Melanchthon); copies provided by Dr. Riley	
St. Francis DeSales, <i>The Catholic Controversies</i>	
Spener, <i>Pia Desideria</i> ,	
Wesley, <i>A Plain Account of Christian Perfection</i>	
Jonathan Edwards, <i>The Religious Affections</i>	

### Meeting #4—Modern

Olsen, Roger E. <i>The Journey of Modern Theology</i>	Everyone
Schleiermacher, <i>Brief Outline of Theology</i>	
Newman, <i>An Essay on the Development of Christian Doctrine</i>	
Hodge and Warfield, <i>Inspiration</i>	
Von Balthasar, <i>A Theology of History</i>	
Packer, J. I. <i>Fundamentalism and the Word of God</i>	
Tillich, <i>Biblical Religion and the Search for Reality</i> .	

## Select Bibliography

- Cross, Richard. *The Medieval Christian Philosophers: An Introduction*. New York: I. B. Tauris, 2014.
- 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.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *A History of Christian Thought, Vol. 2: From Augustine to the Eve of the Reformation*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1987.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *A History of Christian Thought, Vol. 3: From the Protestant Reformation to the Twentieth Century*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1987.
- Grenz, Stanley and Roger Olson. *20<sup>th</sup> Century Theology: God and the World in a Transitional Age*. Downers Grove: IVP, 1993.
- Henry, Carl F. H. *Toward a Recovery of Christian Belief: The Rutherford Lectures*. Wheaton: Crossway Books, 1990.
- 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.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *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.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Historical Theology: An Introduction to the History of Christian Thought*. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 2012.

\_\_\_\_\_. *The Intellectual Origins of the European Reformation*. Malden, MA: Blackwell, 2004.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Iustitia Dei: A History of the Christian Doctrine of Justification*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2005.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Reformation Thought: An Introduction*. 4<sup>th</sup> ed. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 2012.

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\_\_\_\_\_. *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. 1: The Emergence of the Catholic Tradition (100-600)*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1971.

\_\_\_\_\_. *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.

\_\_\_\_\_. *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.

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

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

Van Nieuwenhove, Rik. *An Introduction to Medieval Theology*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2012.