



St. Augustine's Seminary of Toronto

www.staugustines.on.ca

Course Syllabus

Year 2016-2017

Please consult St. Augustine's Seminary website [www.staugustines.on.ca] to review our *Mission Statement and Program Outcomes*.

Session/Term: 20175 Summer

Online: April 24, 2017 to June 30, 2017

Registration Deadline: April 17, 2017

Withdrawal Deadline: May 12, 2017

Course Code:

SAT1101HF L6101

Course Day and Times:

Online

Course Instructor:

Fr. Joseph Alozie, CCE

Office:

Daily communication via email

Course Title:

Foundations of Theology

Course Location:

N/A

Instructor's Contact Information:

joseph.alozie@utoronto.ca

Office Hours:

daily checking and response to emails

Course Description:

Theology as a scientific enterprise, which is systematic in method and dogmatic in content, needs to be constructed on a firm foundation. Therefore, in this course, basic fundamental and critical themes in theology will be discussed. Such will equip the students with the principles, sources, resources, methodological approach, content, scope and goal of Roman Catholic Theology.

Prerequisites:

None

Learning Outcomes:

Students should:

1. Identify and become familiar with some foundational principles of Catholic theology, located in important sources, relative to central themes.

2. Learn how to engage in the process of theologizing in accordance with the intention/mind of the Church through sound knowledge of the Magisterium as well as the thought of prominent theologians.
3. Acquire and develop appropriate theological vocabulary in order to communicate the message of the incarnate Word, Jesus Christ, in a clear and distinct manner.
4. Recognize and apply theological principles and themes to daily activities of life.
5. Develop original thought and insights through intellectual contact with prominent theologians in relation to relevant themes.
6. Understand and appreciate the historical context in which relevant theological themes and principles emerged and developed.
7. Develop an ability to coordinate various aspects of theological studies and identify their proper link with other disciplines.

Required Text(s):

FIORINZA, FRANCIS SCHÜSSLER and GALVIN, JOHN P. (edd.), *Systematic Theology. Roman Catholic Perspectives*, vol. I, Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1991.

NICHOLS, AIDAN, *The Shape of Catholic Theology*, Collegeville, MN: The Liturgical Press 1991.

Recommended Text (s):

CONGAR, YVES, *The Meaning of Tradition*, A.N. Woodrow (trans.), San Francisco: Ignatius Press 2004.

RATZINGER, JOSEPH, *Called to Communion, Understanding the Church Today*, Adrian Walker (trans.), San Francisco: Ignatius Press 1996.

RAUSCH, THOMAS P., *Systematic Theology. A Roman Catholic Approach*, Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 2016.

Ecclesiastical Documents:

Dogmatic Constitution on the Church, *Lumen Gentium* (available online)

Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation, *Dei Verbum* (available online)

John Paul II, Encyclical Letter *Fides et Ratio* (September 14, 1998). Available online

The New Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2nd revised edition (available online)

Weekly readings are to be accessed through U of T online blackboard. Students are obliged to make references from the required text(s) in the summative assignment.

Expectations:

The course content is distributed within the span of 10 weeks with carefully chosen 12 lecture-

sections. Apart from mid-term assignment which will be due by the end of the 6th lecture-section (namely on or before Saturday May 27, 2017 at 11:59pm), a summative task will be due on or before Tuesday July 4, 2017 at 11:59pm. Required readings are followed up with online lectures, assignments and discussions. The following are expected from the students:

1. Read assigned articles and answer any questions at proper time.
2. Make your own notes and points.
3. Login on to Blackboard as often as possible in order to read the lecture, post your response to the readings and respond to other students' posting on required time-frame and check for announcements.
4. Submit the midterm and summative assignments on time.
5. Complete a final course evaluation form at the end of the course.
6. Respectful communication with peers and instructor

"Feedback" Expectations of the Instructor:

Written feedback will be provided to each post and response, mid-term and summative assignments when necessary either through the Blackboard or email if deemed worthwhile by the instructor.

Method(s) of Evaluation (and Value Contributing to Final Mark):

In this course, there are three methods of evaluation. It follows thus:

- Posts and responses at any lecture section but compulsory during the Weeks 3, 5, 8 and 10 each of the compulsory post and response has 5% of the overall mark. Therefore, $4 \times 5\% = 20\%$. Students are required to post at most 2 days after the beginning of the lecture-section and to respond at least 2 days prior to the end of the lecture-section.
- Mid-term assignment has 30% of the overall mark. Due on Thursday June 1, 2017 by 11:59pm.
- Summative assignment carries 50% of the overall mark. Due on Tuesday July 4, 2017 by 11:59pm.

Midterm Assignment

Write a research paper of not less than three and not more than four pages on any of the following themes we have discussed:

- a. Christian God
- b. Divine Revelation
- c. Faith and Reason
- d. Christ and the Holy Spirit

The paper will be marked principally based on four criteria, namely: a) its level of theological insights and profundity b) its systematic approach c) its relevance to one's faith and ability to

relate with lived religious experiences and d) its obedience to laws of scientific research. Mid-term assignment has 30% of the overall mark and is due on Thursday June 1, 2017 by 11:59pm.

Summative Assignment

Select any of the following themes:

- a. Ecclesia
- b. Scripture and Tradition
- c. Episcopate
- d. Magisterium and Infallibility
- e. Apologetics
- f. Mary in the Church and Salvation

With the help of theologians, especially those whose ideas were presented during this course, write a 6 to 7 page paper on the selected theme. Relate the selected theme with at least three other themes within our course syllabus. The paper will be marked based on the following criteria: a) its ability to relate the selected theme with i) other themes and ii) other aspects of theological discipline b) its ability to draw from scriptural sources and *depositum fidei* in tradition (patristic, medieval, modern and contemporary sources) c) its level of theological insights and profundity d) its systematic approach e) its relevance to one's faith and ability to relate with lived religious experiences f) its obedience to laws of scientific research and g) its capacity to critically present fundamental theological ideas with clarity and distinctiveness. The Summative assignment carries 50% of the overall mark and is due on Tuesday July 4, 2017 by 11:59pm.

Referencing Style Guide:

Papers are to be prepared according to the rules laid down in Kate L. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations: Chicago Style for Students & Researchers*. 8th edition. Revised and edited by Wayne C. Booth, Gregory G. Colomb, Joseph M. Williams, and the University of Chicago Press Editorial Staff. Chicago: Univ. of Chicago Press, 2013, available in the St. Augustine's Seminary Library. The academic writing resources, which includes a quick guide to the Turabian style, can be found on the SAS website:

http://www.staugustines.on.ca/library/academic_writing_resources

Policies and Procedures:

Students who enroll in courses agree by virtue of that enrolment to abide by all of the academic and non-academic policies, rules and regulations of the University and St. Augustine's Seminary (SAS) of Toronto [or their home TST college], as set out in the Student Handbook, and confirm responsibility for payment of associated fees, and agree to ensure that the accuracy of personal information such as the current mailing address, telephone number, and utoronto.ca email address is maintained.

All students should read the Toronto School of Theology Basic Degree handbook: <http://www.tst.edu/sites/default/files/BDHandbook%2014-15%20FNL.pdf>

All students should be aware of the Key Academic Dates:

http://staugustines.on.ca/current_students/registrar/academic_calendar

SAS students should familiarize themselves with St. Augustine’s student policies: The SAS Bulletin; SAS Fee Schedule; SAS Refund Policy; SAS Grievance Policy; SAS Student Code of Conduct; and Consent to Use of Personal Information. The SAS Handbook is available on our website: www.staugustines.on.ca/current_students/student_information

Attendance Policy: For on-site course and online courses, attendance is expected. Students who miss more than 3 classes for an on-site course cannot pass the course. All absences must be reported to the instructor. In an online course, failure to log onto the course and participate as instructed for 3 weeks similarly cannot pass the course – see section called “Expectations”.

Grading Schematic:

Letter Grade	Numerical Equivalents	Grade Point	Grasp of Subject Matter	Other qualities expected of students
A RANGE: Excellent: Student shows original thinking, analytic and synthetic ability, critical evaluations, and broad knowledge base.				
A+	90-100	4.0	Profound and Creative	Strong evidence of original thought, of analytic and synthetic ability; sound and penetrating critical evaluations which identify assumptions of those they study as well as their own; mastery of an extensive knowledge base
A	85-89	4.0	Outstanding	
A-	80-84	3.7	Excellent	Clear evidence of original thinking, of analytic and synthetic ability; sound critical evaluations; broad knowledge base
B RANGE: Good: Student shows critical capacity and analytic ability, understanding of relevant issues, familiarity with the literature.				
B+	77-79	3.3	Very Good	Good critical capacity and analytic ability; reasonable understanding of relevant issues; good familiarity with the literature
B	73-76	3.0	Good	
B-	70-72	2.7	Satisfactory at a post-baccalaureate level.	Adequate critical capacity and analytic ability; some understanding of relevant issues; some familiarity with the literature
FZ	0-69	0	Failure	Failure to meet the above criteria

Academic Integrity:

All TST students are subject to U of T’s “Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters.” Copies of the code are available at www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm. Please take special note of the section on plagiarism. For a helpful set of guidelines on how to avoid plagiarism, see www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources/how-not-to-plagiarize. This is part of a more general—and equally helpful—website that provides advice on academic writing (<http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice>).

a) The following examples of plagiarism [not limited to these examples] are violations of St. Augustine’s Seminary of Toronto’s policy on Academic Integrity, as outlined in the Toronto School of Theology Basic Degree Handbook section 15 and the University of Toronto’s *Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters*:

- (i) using another’s ideas without accurate citations;

- (ii) using the words of another (e.g., author, instructor, information source), without quotation marks (or appropriate indentation) and proper citation;
 - (iii) paraphrasing the work of others without putting the idea into one's own words but instead by just changing a few words or rearranging the sentence structure;
 - (iv) not correctly referencing all direct quotes or borrowed ideas;
 - (v) submitting an assignment (in whole or in part) for credit multiple times.
- b. When an assignment is submitted in all courses, it represents one's own efforts and:
- (i) Any proofreading by another is limited to indicating areas of concern such as spelling, grammatical or formatting errors which are then corrected by the student. Proofreading is not to indicate errors of substance related to the argument or research limitations of the assignment.
 - (ii) The final version of the assignment is handed in and not a draft.
 - (iii) A student's assignment (answers/content) is kept to his/her self and will not be shared with others, unless otherwise directed by the instructor. Discussing an assignment is a useful academic activity; however, students must accept the responsibility for properly documenting ideas presented in their final assignments. If an assignment is shared for proofreading purposes (see b. (i) above) students should be encouraged to keep an accurate record of their research, and versions of their assignments. Any reproduction of an assignment by another for the purpose of the same assignment is still considered plagiarism.
 - (iv) If students are to work collaboratively on an assignment, then a notation as to who was responsible for the idea and for the writing of the idea is to be indicated.

Late Policy on Assignments:

All assignments are expected to be completed by the deadline indicated.

Should any assignment or paper be submitted after the due date, 5% will be deducted for each calendar day it is late.

Any exception to this policy requires the permission of the instructor who will take into account the particular situation of the student or the case of documented illness or some other such serious reason.

Should an instructor extend the due date for an assignment, the penalty will be applied after the new deadline.

Any possibility of waiving the penalty may require consultation and approval of the Academic Dean.

Policy on Unclaimed Term Work:

Any term work that has not been claimed by students will be held for four (4) months from the end of the final examination period for the term in which the work was assigned. At the conclusion of this time, all unclaimed term work will be destroyed according to SAS Records Retention Policy.

If a student is unable to retrieve their term work in person and would like the material returned, they must include a self-addressed, stamped (with proper postage) envelope. The documents requested will be returned after the final grades for the course are made available through ROSI.

Recording Lectures:

Recording lectures by any means is strictly prohibited without the written prior permission of the instructor. If permission is obtained, the recording may be used only for Academic purposes in the course and should not be published or circulated in any form, including written. The recording remains the intellectual property of the instructor and institution.

Tentative Schedule of Lectures/Modules (with Required Readings):

Week 1 Monday April 24, 2017 Orientation

Learn to use the Blackboard; meet classmates and instructor by self-introduction; get the materials ready for necessary readings, become acquainted with evaluations and due dates and ask questions if necessary.

1. Aidan Nichols, *The shape of Catholic Theology*, Collegeville, MN: The Liturgical Press, 1991, 268-343.

Week 2 Friday April 28, 2017 General Introduction to Theology

1. Avery Dulles, "The Criteria of Catholic Theology", in *Communio* XXII (Summer 1995): pp. 301-315.
2. Thomas P. Rausch, *Systematic Theology. A Roman Catholic Approach*, Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 2016, pp. 1-24.

Week 3 Thursday May 4, 2017 Triune God (Christian God)

1. David Tracy, "Approaching the Christian Understanding of God", in *Systematic Theology. Roman Catholic Perspectives*, edited by Fiorenza Francis Schüssler and Galvin John P., vol. I, Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1991, pp. 133-148.
2. Giles Emery, "Entering into Trinitarian Faith", in *The Trinity. An Introduction to Catholic Doctrine on the Triune God*, trans. By Matthew Levering, Washington, DC, Catholic University of America, 2011, pp. 1-21.

Week 4 Wednesday May 10, 2017 Divine Revelation

1. Avery Dulles, "Faith and Revelation" in, *Systematic Theology. Roman Catholic Perspectives*, FIORENZA, FRANCIS SCHÜSSLER and GALVIN, JOHN P. (edd.), vol. I, Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1991, pp. 91-127.
2. Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation (*Dei Verbum*, November 18, 1965)

Week 5 Wednesday May 17, 2017 Faith and Reason

1. Heinrich Fries, *Fundamental Theology*, translated by Robert J. Daly, S.J, Washington, D.C: The Catholic University of American Press, 1996, pp. 10-22 & pp. 118-129.
2. John Paul II, Encyclical Letter *Fides et Ratio* (September 14, 1998)

Week 6 Wednesday May 24, 2017 Christ and the Holy Spirit

1. Francois-Xavier Durrwell, *Holy Spirit of God, an essay in biblical theology*, translated by Sister Benedict Davies OSU, London: Geoffrey Chapman, 1986, pp. 1-28.
2. Gerald O'Collins, S.J., *Christology. A Biblical, Historical and Systematic Study of Jesus*, second edition, New York: Oxford University Press, 2009, pp. 119-157.

Reading Week Sunday May 28, 2017

Week 7 Friday June 2, 2017 Ecclesia

1. Joseph Ratzinger, *Called to Communion, Understanding the Church Today*, translated by Adrian Walker San Francisco: Ignatius Press 1996, pp. 13-45.
2. Dogmatic Constitution on the Church (*Lumen Gentium*, November 21, 1964), chapters 1 & 2.

Week 8 Wednesday June 7, 2017 Scripture and Tradition

1. Nichols Aidan, *The Shape of Catholic Theology*, Collegeville, MN: The Liturgical Press 1991, pp. 99-140; 165-180.

Week 9 Monday June 12, 2017 Episcopate

1. Dogmatic Constitution on the Church (*Lumen Gentium*, November 21, 1964), chapter 3
2. Decree on the Pastoral Office of Bishops in the Church (*Christus Dominus*, October 28, 1965)

Week 10 Saturday June 17, 2017 Magisterium and Infallibility

1. Nichols Aidan, *The Shape of Catholic Theology*, Collegeville, MN: The Liturgical Press 1991, pp.248-260.

Week 11 Friday June 23, 2017 Apologetics

1. Avery Cardinal Dulles, *A History of Apologetics*, San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 2005, pp. 1-25.
2. René Latourelle, S.J., *Theology: science of salvation*, translated by Sister Mary Dominic, N.Y.: Alba House 1969, pp. 97-111.

Week 12 Wednesday June 28, 2017

Mary in the Church and Salvation

1. Dogmatic Constitution on the Church (*Lumen Gentium*, November 21, 1964), chapter 8
2. Thomas P. Rausch, *Who is Jesus? An introduction to Christology*, Collegeville, MN: The Liturgical Press 1991, pp. 183-204.

Week 13 Friday June 30, 2017

Summative Task Week

Summative task will be due on Tuesday July 4, 2017 at 11:59pm.

N/B: Any reference book that is less than 50 pages will be provided in a PDF form. Ecclesiastical documents can be accessed online.

Select Bibliography:

Congar, Yves, *The meaning of Tradition*, reprinted, 1964. Foreword by Avery Dulles, San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 2004.

Doré, Joseph, "Theology's Responsibility and Tasks in Today's Church and World", in *Theological Studies* 65 (December 2004): 699-711.

Dulles, Avery, "Criteria of Catholic Theology", in *Communio XXII* (Summer 1995): 301-315.

-----, *The Craft of Theology: From Symbol to System*, New edition, 1995.

-----, *Models of the Church*, New York: Image Book, 1978.

-----, *Models of Revelation*, New York: Image Book, 1985.

Fiorenza, Francis Schüssler and Galvin, John P. (edd.), *Systematic Theology. Roman Catholic Perspectives*, vol. I, Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1991.

Fries, Heinrich, *Fundamental Theology*, translated by Robert J. Daly, S.J, Washington, D.C: The Catholic University of American Press, 1996.

Levering, Matthew, *Engaging the Doctrine of Revelation, The Mediation of the Gospel through Church and Scripture*, Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2014.

Lonergan, Bernard, *Method in Theology*, 2nd edition, New York: Herder and Herder, 1972.

Newman, John Henry, *An Essay on the Development of Christian Doctrine* (1878). Foreword by Ian Ker, Notre Dame: Notre Dame UP, 1989.

Nicholas, Aidan, *The shape of Catholic Theology. And Introduction to Its Sources, Principles and History*, Collegeville, MN: The Liturgical Press, 1991.

O'Collins, Gerald, *Rethinking Fundamental Theology*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2011.

Ratzinger, Joseph, *Called to Communion, Understanding the Church Today*, Adrian Walker (trans.), San Francisco: Ignatius Press 1996.

Rausch, Thomas P., *Systematic Theology. A Roman Catholic Approach*, Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 2016.

Sullivan, Francis, A., *Creative Fidelity. Weighing and Interpreting Documents of the Magisterium*, New York and Mahwah: Paulist Press, 1996.