

SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY (ST)

ST 5101 Theology I: Intro to Theology - 3 Hours

This course begins by clarifying the nature, method, and necessity of theology. Discussion then moves to the doctrine of Scripture, including revelation, inspiration, illumination, and inerrancy. This course concludes with the study of the existence and nature of God (including the Trinity), God's works of creation (including angels), and providence. This course meets one ST General Comprehensive requirement for MA students. Auditors are not permitted in General Comp courses unless they have taken previous undergraduate course work in the subject or are not intending to complete the MA program. Offered fall and spring.

ST 5102 Theology II: Christ, Man, Sin & Salvation - 3 Hours

This course covers the study of the person and work of Christ. It treats the nature of man both as a creature and as a sinner, including original sin, imputation of sin, and the nature and consequences of individual acts of sin. Discussion focuses on both the atoning work of Christ and on the application of the work of Christ by the Holy Spirit that runs from election through conversion and justification all the way to glorification. This course meets one ST General Comprehensive requirement for MA students. Auditors are not permitted in General Comp courses unless they have taken previous undergraduate course work in the subject or are not intending to complete the MA program. Offered fall and spring.

ST 5103 Theology III: Holy Spirit, Church, Last Things - 3 Hours

This course begins with the study of the person and work of the Holy Spirit. Focus then shifts to the doctrine of the church. Topics include the nature, mission, function, organization, and ordinances of the church, the use of the gifts of the Holy Spirit in ministry, and the relation of Israel to the church. The course concludes with a treatment of the Last Things in relation to individuals (including the intermediate state and the resurrection of the body) and in relation to the following corporate groups: the church, Israel, and the nations. This course meets one ST General Comprehensive requirement for MA students. Auditors are not permitted in General Comp courses unless they have taken previous undergraduate course work in the subject or are not intending to complete the MA program. Offered fall and spring.

ST 5200 Christian Ethics - 3 Hours

This course discusses biblical teaching on standards of personal conduct and integrity and their relation to the sanctification process. Throughout the course, attention is given to biblical perspectives on contemporary ethical issues facing the church and the minister, such as abortion, euthanasia, capital punishment, sexual ethics (including homosexuality), divorce and remarriage, racism, material possessions, genetic engineering, ecology, war, and the Christian's relation to society and the state.

ST 5201 Theology I: The God of the Gospel - 3 Hours

This course establishes the foundations for systematic theology, reflecting upon the triune God and the God-world relation. It introduces theological methodology and treats the doctrines of general and special revelation, particularly that of Holy Scripture. The course also engages theology proper (the divine perfections and personal attributes of the Holy Trinity) and the works of God in creating and providentially caring for the cosmos, including humans.

ST 5202 Theology II: The Gospel of God - 3 Hours

This course focuses on the gospel, the economy of salvation, the incarnation of the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The course begins by treating the human condition as now fallen, and sin as the backdrop of the gospel. Attention then turns to the work of Christ, particularly the atonement and accomplishment of redemption as the content of the gospel. The course then considers the application and consummation of redemption by examining the work of the Holy Spirit, the nature, mission, and destiny of the church as the gathered people of God as the climax of the gospel. The course concludes with a consideration of how the gospel story ends, for believers and unbelievers in the glory of God's being all in all in the new heaven and the new earth. Prerequisite: ST 5201.

ST 6000 Current Studies in Systematic Theology - 1-4 Hours

Topics selected deal with significant issues related to systematic theology.

ST 6011 Global Theologies - 2 Hours

The Northside Chicago Theological Institute is a consortium of five theological seminaries on the north side of Chicago that jointly sponsors a Global Theologies course each fall. The course is conducted in a one-evening and two-weekends retreat format on the campus of St. Mary of the Lake Seminary in Mundelein. Globalization has produced an increased encounter between different cultures and religions. These encounters have brought new questions to theology which never before have been asked. The questions challenge Christian theologians to think anew about the basic doctrines of the faith. The seminar will explore dimensions of theology opened by globalization, such as 'Christology: Christ as Healer and Ancestor in Africa,' 'Anthropology: Human Identity in Shame-Based Cultures of the Far East,' and 'Pneumatology: The Holy Spirit in Latin American Pentecostalism.' Discussion of these topics will be led by the diverse faculty of NCTI and ACTS and will seek to include a variety of perspectives: Roman Catholic and Protestant, Ecumenical and Evangelical. Special attention will be paid to how these questions present challenges to evangelism, apologetics and ecumenism. A minimal meal/lodging fee is charged. May be repeated as topic changes. Credit / No Credit. Offered fall.

ST 6700 Personhood in Theological & Philosophical Perspective - 3 Hours

Analysis of the role played by this key concept in bioethical debate against the background of philosophical and theological usage.

ST 6710 Wesleyan Theology - 3 Hours

An introduction to the theology of John Wesley and a survey of subsequent theological developments in what became known as Wesleyan doctrine from the early nineteenth century to the present. The survey will include representative theologians from the broader family of Methodism with emphasis on those within the United Methodist tradition.

ST 7070 Models of Sanctification - 3 Hours

A course involving a biblical and theological investigation of several models of sanctification held within Christian movements and denominations. Emphasizes understanding of each model, as well as encouraging students to develop their own biblically based model capable of implementation within a ministry context.

ST 7200 Theological Ethics - 3 Hours

This course is an examination of how Christian ethics moves from biblical and systematic theology to moral theology and how theological commitments (e.g., theology proper, anthropology, Christology, soteriology, pneumatology, ecclesiology) structure and govern moral reflection. It explores the application of a robust, moral-theological framework to issues of contemporary personal, pastoral, and societal importance (such as personhood and human dignity, biomedical technologies, sexual ethics, and the pursuit of peace, justice, and reconciliation). Prerequisites: ST 5201 and 5202.

ST 7395 Hermeneutics - 3 Hours

The science of biblical interpretation with examination and explanation of the various systems of such. Using selected passages of Scripture, the disciplines necessary in biblical interpretation come to be understood and developed.

ST 7477 MA Major Comprehensive Exam - 0 Hours

A department-specific Major Comprehensive Exam required in some MA programs. Registration should be completed at the beginning of the semester for the regularly scheduled exam date later that semester. Credit is posted when the Exam is passed; No Credit if the Exam is failed or not completed.

ST 7485 MA Thesis - 0-3 Hours

MA thesis writers register for ST 7485 in the department of their concentration. Prerequisite: Approved thesis proposal on file in the Dean's Office and other department-specific prerequisites. Counts as full-time academic status. (35 hours of academic work per week.) Letter grade or Credit / No Credit as arranged with the department. No grade is posted for this course until the thesis is completed and approved.

ST 7486 MA Thesis Extension - 0 Hours

A total of three semesters extension for ST 7485 may be granted when progress is being made on the thesis. Extension fee when not enrolled in other courses. Counts as full-time academic status (35 hours of academic work per week.) for the first semester, quarter time thereafter. CR is posted when substantive thesis progress is made, NC when inadequate progress is made.

ST 7501 Guided Research - 1-4 Hours

Independent research on an approved selected topic under a faculty member in the department bearing the course prefix. May be repeated for credit as the subject matter changes. Available in all departments. Letter grade or Credit / No Credit as arranged with faculty member.

ST 7505 Use of Scripture and Theology - 3 Hours

This course examines the manifold ways in which theologians, ancient and modern, evangelical and non-evangelical, Western and non-Western, view and especially use Scripture to formulate theological proposals, with regard both to Christian doctrine and practice. The course compares prominent schools of interpretation within the broader theological landscape and constructively suggests ways to extend the logic of Scriptural teaching into contemporary contexts. The twin questions, 'What does it mean to be biblical?' and 'How ought biblical authority actually work?' are addressed by developing an account of how the ancient biblical writings that comprise Scripture (divine discourse) generate and govern contemporary theological understanding and practice. Several case studies are employed to help students learn how to move from biblical exegesis to systematic theological reflection, and thus to become self-consciously evangelical theologians who know how rightly to handle the word of truth.

ST 7510 Survey of Contemporary Theology - 3-4 Hours

Background and development of modern theological movements (The New Catholicism, Liberalism, Fundamentalism, Neoorthodoxy, and so on) and individual representatives of such (Kierkegaard, Barth, Brunner, Bultmann, R. Niebuhr, Tillich, Cullmann, Kung, Rahner, Moltmann, Schillebeeckx, Pannenberg, et al.).

ST 7612 Technology and Culture - 3-4 Hours

Technological innovations of the past 200 years have defined the modern world. Human inventions have left indelible marks on culture and civilization. By all accounts, the twenty-first century will be the information and biotechnology century. Historically, Christians have responded differently to technology—some repudiating it, others embracing it. This course will analyze the impact of technology on contemporary culture and the church, including the movement from papyrus to cyberspace and from pottery to cloning. Students will be equipped to think Christianly about technology.

ST 7710 Biblical and Theological Anthropology: Race, Ethnicity, Nationality - 3-4 Hours

The doctrine of humanity, 'faith seeks understanding' of humankind and the world of human making coram Deo, before God are examined in this course. Participants will interact critically and constructively with an array of theoretical perspectives (in biblical and theological studies and philosophical, social scientific and historical research) relevant to 'race,' ethnicity and nationality: schemas by which contemporary human social existence is interpreted, ordered, and altered. We will develop a theological framework and a multi-disciplinary matrix of theories and concepts with which to (1) assess past and present instantiations of these various forms of community and models of social identity, and (2) discern which aspects are more and less commensurate with the normative patterns set forth in the Scriptural account of the drama of creation and redemption. This course aims to equip participants to engage in more acute analysis of prevalent assumptions, truth-claims, values, and practices (held by unreflective Christians and non-Christians alike) in the various sociocultural contexts in which they live, in order to bring authentically Christian patterns of embodied witness and practice to bear within their spheres of influence.

ST 7715 Political Theologies - 3-4 Hours

A course designed to clarify what constitutes a 'political theology' and to investigate the biblical and theological bases of representative political theologies. Discussion focuses around such systems as liberation theology, black theology, and feminist theology.

ST 7720 New Testament Ethics - 3-4 Hours

The study of various approaches to this type of biblical engagement, serves as a starting point for this course. It considers further methodological considerations for the determination of what specific biblical passages can contribute to the formulation of specific ethical standards. Issues that will receive significant attention include: divorce and remarriage, responses to warfare, racial/ethnic conflicts, homosexuality, and abortion.

ST 7911 Colloquium in Systematic Theology - 1 Hour

Integrative seminar for all students majoring in theology on various topics of contemporary concern. May be repeated. Credit / No Credit.

ST 7975 MA/ThM Comp Exam Prep - 0 Hours

An optional registration status for students preparing for their Major Comprehensive Exam and who are not taking other courses during the semester of preparation. This registration ensures continuity in your TEDS program and defers continuation fees. Available for only two semesters during which student must complete Comprehensive Exams or their academic status in the program will be jeopardized. Counts as quarter-time academic status. Contact the Records Office for registration.

ST 7976 MA or ThM Thesis Proposal Prep - 0 Hours

An optional registration status for students preparing for their Thesis Proposal and who are not taking other courses during the semester of preparation. (May not be taken when another course is taken.) This registration ensures continuity in your TEDS program and defers continuation fees. Available for only one semester during which students must complete their Proposal or their academic status in the program will be jeopardized. Counts as quarter-time academic status.

ST 7980 MA Major Research Paper - 0-1 Hours

MA participants completing the two capstone research paper option must register for ST 7980 in their department concurrent with registration for the advanced elective course in which they are writing a MA capstone research paper (MA/PR). Paper parameters are found in the Academic Handbook and paper objectives are specifically articulated in consultation with the faculty member on the online Capstone Proposal Form. Registration occurs twice at the same time as registration for the course, once for each paper. Credit / No Credit. (Both the course and the paper must be graded C- or better to receive credit for the paper.)

ST 8000 Seminar: Current Issues in Theology - 2-4 Hours

Lectures or seminar in a distinctive area of biblical or systematic theology; topics chosen in relation to the special competence of resident and visiting faculty, as well as current interests and needs.

ST 8030 The Problem of Evil - 3-4 Hours

An examination of one of the traditional problems for Christian theism. After initially clarifying the nature of this attack against theism, discussion turns to different defenses and theodicies offered in response to this problem. Treatment will cover the problem in both its logical and evidential forms.

ST 8040 Justification - 3-4 Hours

This course considers the biblical and theological foundations of this doctrine. It explores these foundational elements incorporating a historical perspective. Influential thinkers will be studied in the flow of important eras in the Church ranging from the time of Augustine to contemporary discussions. Recent conversations between members of the Protestant camp and Roman Catholics on justification, as well as on the New Perspective, will be engaged.

ST 8050 Pneumatology - 3-4 Hours

A study of the person and work of the Holy Spirit, including a defense of His deity and personality, his work in the Old Testament, the life of Christ, and the New Testament era, as well as discussion of contemporary issues related to this doctrine, such as tongues, divine healing, and prophecy.

ST 8310 Theology of Augustine - 3-4 Hours

Augustine stands as a foundational thinker in Roman Catholic, Protestant, and Orthodox traditions. He was a critical thinker at a critical time in the life of the Church. This course will consider the life and times of Augustine as informing elements in his theological development. Some of his best known works will be read and discussed to identify particular theological stances. These stances were also affected by what he saw as specific challenges to biblical faith arising from movements, such as Manichaeism, Donatism, and Pelagianism.

ST 8360 Karl Barth - 3 Hours

A critical analysis of the origins, developments, and major contours of Barth's theology from his earliest writings to his later Church Dogmatics through a study of selected primary texts. Special attention will be given to Barth's theological method, hermeneutics, and doctrine of the Word of God, as well as to other central theological topics (e.g., election, providence, the relation of dogmatics to ethics).

ST 8390 Recent & Contemporary Theologians - 3-4 Hours

Lectures or seminar in the work and writing of an important theologian of the present or recent past. Theologians selected for study reflect the special competence of resident and visiting faculty.

ST 8410 Theology in Contemporary Literature - 3 Hours

Works by authors such as Melville, Dostoevsky, Conrad, Shaw, Beckett, Updike, Lewis, Tolkien, Eliot, Auden, Williams, Fry, Buder, Joyce, Camus, Kafka, Faulkner, Salinger, and MacDonald are read and analyzed, and their theological perspective and implications are discussed. Offered on demand.

ST 8720 Postmodern Theology - 3 Hours

A study of the postmodern situation and of the various theological responses to which it has given rise. The first part of the course examines recent attempts to distinguish the modern from the postmodern. Special attention will be given to studying eight types of theological responses to the postmodern condition.

ST 8730 Theology of the Spirit World - 3-4 Hours

This course facilitates an exploration of the relationship between the material world and the spiritual world. 'God's Covenant-Kingdom' (Syckman) serves as an organizing structure for particular topics. These include: the nature of God's providence, spiritual warfare, necromancy, ancestor worship, and magic.

ST 8980 ThM Major Research Paper - 0-1 Hours

ThM participants completing the two capstone research paper option must register for - 8980 in their department concurrent with registration for the advanced elective course in which they are writing a ThM capstone research paper. Paper parameters are found in the Academic Handbook and paper objectives are specifically articulated in consultation with the faculty member on the online Capstone Proposal Form. Registration occurs twice at the same time as registration for the course, once for each paper. Credit / No Credit. (Both the course and the paper must be graded 'C-' or better to receive credit for the paper.)

ST 8985 ThM Thesis - 0-3 Hours

ThM thesis writers register for ST 8985 in the department of their concentration. Prerequisite: Approved thesis proposal on file in the Dean's Office and other department-specific prerequisites. Counts as full-time academic status. (35 hours of academic work per week.) Letter grade or Credit / No Credit as arranged with the department.

ST 8986 ThM Thesis Extension - 0 Hours

A total of three semesters extension for ST 8986 may be granted when progress is being made on the thesis. Extension fee when not enrolled in other courses. Counts as full-time academic status for the first semester, quarter time thereafter. No Credit.

ST 9000 Issues in Systematic Theology - 1-4 Hours

Topics are chosen to reflect research interests of faculty or program participants or that explore matters of concern to systematic theology. May be repeated.

ST 9001 Guided Research - 1-4 Hours

Selected topics usually extended from foundational studies in seminars or courses. Available in all PhD programs. May be repeated for a maximum of twelve hours in PhD/EDS and PhD/ICS programs; may be repeated for a maximum of six hours in the PhD/THS program. Letter grade or Credit / No Credit.

ST 9011 Private Study - 0 Hours

In special circumstances, a student may register for one or more semesters of Private Study in order to meet the requirements for candidacy. Only for PhD/THS students in CH, NT, OT, ST departments. Counts as full-time student status when registrant affirms that a minimum of thirty-five hours per week (half-time is 15 hours per week) are invested in doctoral study and the requisite form has been completed at the time of registration in the Academic Doctoral Office. May be repeated four times. No Credit.

ST 9100 Advanced Theological Prolegomena - 3-4 Hours

A course designed to explore the integrative character of Christian theology, focusing the contributions of the separate theological disciplines on the constructive and creative task of Systematic Theology. Students are encouraged to develop an approach that is integrative, orthodox, and creative, through the critical assessment of the theological proposals of evangelical and nonevangelical theologians. To be taken concurrently ST 9110. Offered fall.

ST 9110 The Theological Scholar - 2 Hours

An orientation to doctoral-level scholarship (the development of an argument, research philosophy and methodology, good writing skills, dissertation preparation), to program specifics, and to the doctoral community life and ethos. It will also include papers presented by four professors, one from each of the THS departments, to illustrate and generate discussion about "theological integration." Must be taken in conjunction with DST 9100 (Advanced Theological Prolegomena) in the first semester after matriculation. Required of all PhD/THS students.

ST 9150 Continuity and Discontinuity Between the Testaments - 3-4 Hours

Investigation of the relation of the Old Testament to the New as foundational to theological discourse. The issue of continuity and discontinuity is treated as it relates to such topics as hermeneutics, salvation, the law of God, the people of God, kingdom promises, and a person's overall theological system. Emphasis on various forms of continuity and discontinuity answers to the question of how the testaments relate.

ST 9222 Principles of Higher Education - 2 Hours

A discussion of the educational process, activities, and the instructional techniques used in higher education. Offered spring.

ST 9450 Historical Theol: The Atonement - 3-4 Hours

This course examines the proclamation of the atoning work of Christ from the earliest days to the present, including the 'classic' views of the patristic period, medieval interpretations, Reformation doctrine, Arminian and moral government views, and recent interpretations and distortions, including criticism of these views from a conservative evangelical perspective.

ST 9600 Philosophy & Theology - 3-4 Hours

Demonstration of the integral relation between philosophy and theological studies. Treatment of the general uses of philosophy in theology as well as the specific ways philosophy and theology interface (e.g., theological discussions that incorporate philosophy and philosophical considerations of theological topics). Topics involve such philosophical fields as ethics, epistemology, metaphysics, philosophy of action, philosophy of science, philosophy of mind, and philosophy of language.

ST 9610 God, Time, and Eternity - 3-4 Hours

An investigation of the biblical, theological, historical, and philosophical issues and arguments surrounding the question of divine eternity as temporal or atemporal. The topic is treated as it relates to an understanding of divine attributes of immutability, simplicity, and omniscience and to the question of how God acts in the world.

ST 9620 Models of God - 3-4 Hours

A course designed to investigate various contemporary evangelical and non-evangelical conceptions of God such as classical Christian theism, process theism, and open theism. Focus will especially be on how each model conceives the divine person (divine attributes in particular) and divine control over and action in the world. The various models will be evaluated not only in terms of their biblical and theological validity, but also their religious adequacy.

ST 9710 Matters of Life & Death - 3-4 Hours

This seminar develops biblical perspectives on the major bioethical issues of the day (abortion, assisted suicide, access to health care, assisted reproduction, genetic intervention, and so on) through in-depth word studies of the various Old Testament and New Testament words for 'life' and 'death.' Similarities and differences between biblical and other perspectives particularly influential in contemporary culture are explored.

ST 9720 Prayer and Providence - 3-4 Hours

An examination of prayer, providence and models of God's relation to the world with particular attention paid to the discussions in classical theism, process thought, the openness of God school and biblical personalism with a view to answering the practical question of what does prayer change. Put another way, does God really answer prayer?.

ST 9975 Comprehensive Exam Preparation - 0-3 Hours

An independent study facilitating student preparation for the comprehensive examination. PhD/EDS and PhD/ICS program participants may repeat the course twice for a total of three hours. PhD/THS program participants may repeat it once. Only PhD/THS program participants in the Old Testament and Ancient Near Eastern History, Archaeology, and Languages Focus or with an EDS or ICS minor may take it for zero credit hours. Counts as full-time student status when enrolled for 3 hours or when registrant affirms that a minimum of thirty-five hours per week are invested in comprehensive exam preparation and the requisite form has been completed at the time of registration in the Academic Doctoral Office. Counts as half-time student status when enrolled for 2 hours or when registrant affirms that a minimum of fifteen hours per week are invested in comprehensive exam preparation and the requisite form has been completed at the time of registration in the Academic Doctoral Office. Credit / No Credit.

ST 9990 Dissertation Proposal Prep - 0-3 Hours

An independent study facilitating student preparation for the dissertation proposal. Only PhD/EDS and PhD/ICS program participants may repeat this course twice for a total of 3 hours. PhD/THS program participants may repeat this course once for a total of 3 hours. Only PhD/THS program participants in the Old Testament and Ancient Near Eastern History, Archaeology, and Languages Focus or with an EDS or ICS minor may take it for zero credit hours. Counts as full-time student status when enrolled for 3 hours or when registrant affirms that a minimum of thirty-five hours per week are invested in dissertation proposal preparation and the requisite form has been completed at the time of registration in the Academic Doctoral Office. Counts as half-time student status when enrolled for 2 hours or when registrant affirms that a minimum of fifteen hours per week are invested in dissertation proposal preparation and the requisite form has been completed at the time of registration in the Academic Doctoral Office. Credit / No Credit.

ST 9991 Dissertation Research - 1-4 Hours

Courses taken for dissertation writing that embodies the results of original research and makes a genuine contribution to knowledge in the field of concentration. PhD students are eligible to register for Dissertation Research after the official acceptance of the proposal, and may register for two to six semesters totaling 6 hours. Counts as full-time student status when enrolled for 3 hours or when registrant affirms that a minimum of thirty-five hours per week are invested on the dissertation and the requisite form has been completed at the time of registration in the Academic Doctoral Office. Counts as half-time student status when enrolled for 2 hours or when registrant affirms that a minimum of fifteen hours per week are invested on the dissertation and the requisite form has been completed at the time of registration in the Academic Doctoral Office. Credit / No Credit.

ST 9992 Dissertation Extension - 0 Hours

One or more dissertation extension courses for the writing of the dissertation. Registrants for this course will be assessed a continuation fee. Less than half-time student status. No Credit.