CATALOG DESCRIPTION:
“This course covers the study of the person and work of Christ. It treats the nature of man/woman 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.”

COURSE OBJECTIVES: After taking this course, students should be able to

1. Perceive and reflect upon the dense inter-connectivity of dogma, specifically as it pertains to theological loci covered in this course.
2. Isolate and discuss the central biblical data, which inform questions of theological anthropology, the doctrine of sin, Christology, atonement theology and soteriology.
3. Describe with care and sympathy the central formulations of catholic dogma (e.g. Chalcedonian Christology) and reformation era, Protestant confessionalism (e.g. doctrines of grace).
4. Engage inter-confessional disagreements with charity and conviction.
5. Articulate and celebrate the Gospel with theological depth and clarity.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS: Students must

1. Attend all classes and read all text assignments.

2. Compose two reading reflections (3-5 pages) on self-chosen selections from the assigned reading. Each reflection must include two distinct sections: 1) a succinct and accurate synopsis of the selection’s argument; and 2) a series of questions or theses, which the remainder of the reflection goes on briefly to engage. You may only write one reflection paper per Unit topic.

NB: Of these reflections, only one may directly address the topic/question, which the student elects for his or her paper. The section of text upon which you focus your reflection must contain a line of argument that you can summarize and engage.

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1Students who feel they have covered these topics already in an earlier degree program are encouraged to refer to the TEDS guidelines for “Admission and Advanced Program Placement” located on page 186 of the 2012-2013 catalog.

2A form for reporting reading totals will be distributed via moodle.

3I.E. You cannot write more than one reflection on Christology, etc.
3. Complete a reading comprehension quiz via moodle.

4. Compose a research paper of 10-12 pages engaging **one** of the following topics:

**RESEARCH PAPERS**
- Compose an in-depth study of a major theologian—focusing upon a doctrine covered within this class (e.g. Calvin on election; Wesley on holiness; Augustine on original sin; Cyril of Alexandria on Christology; etc.)
- Compose a research paper, which focuses upon an aspect of, or critical question pertaining to a theological locus covered in this class.

**DIALOGUE PAPERS**
- You are invited to participate in a debate at MIT, which focuses upon the question: “What does it mean to be human?” Your ‘opponent’ is a prominent trans-humanist. Compose the resulting dialogue—exercising care to represent both sides of the debate with clarity and fairness.
- Compose a dialogue in which two ‘un-likeminded’ theologians discuss the doctrine of election.

**SERMON PAPERS**
- Compose a theologically nuanced sermon, which expounds and proclaims a doctrine addressed in this class (e.g.: the doctrine of justification by faith, the atonement, sin, etc).
- Compose a theologically nuanced sermon or Sunday School lesson, entitled: “Orthodox Christology: What It Is and Why It Matters”

**NB** → Sermon papers are to evince an equal depth and extent of research into both primary and secondary sources as would be expected for a research paper. The style and format will differ, but the substance should be comparable.

**DUE DATES**

1. A statement indicating the percentage of assigned reading completed throughout the course is due by **December 5**. These reading reports may be sent to the professor electronically.

2. The two reading reflections are due on **October 23** (reflection 1) and **November 6** (reflection 2) You are NOT required to turn in reflections in any particular order (I.E. the topic need not correspond with the lecture unit currently under discussion).

3. The reading quiz will take place in late April (details TBA).

4. The final paper must be handed by the **December 10**

**REQUIRED TEXTS:**

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*See also paper guidelines below.*


Assorted primary texts available via moodle.

NB: Please note the fact that you are not required to read the Horton text its entirety. For the appropriate reading selections, refer to the following unit schedule.

COURSE SCHEDULE:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SESSION 1: October 2-3</th>
<th>UNIT I: PROLEPTIC BOOKEND (Reading: TBD)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Session #1</strong>:</td>
<td>“Credo, Method and the Circle of Dogma”</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>UNIT II</strong>: THEOLOGICAL ANTHROPOLOGY AND THE DOCTRINE OF SIN (Reading: Horton, Chapters 12-13; Plantinga, <em>Not the Way It’s Supposed to Be</em>, entire book)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Session #2</strong>:</td>
<td>“What Does It Mean to Be Human?: Part I”</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Session #3</strong>:</td>
<td>“What Does It Mean to Be Human?: Part II”</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Session #4</strong>:</td>
<td>Reading: Plantinga, <em>Not the Way It’s Supposed to Be</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SESSION #2: October 23-24</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Session #5</strong>:</td>
<td>“The Human Condition(s): Freedom and Bondage”</td>
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<td><strong>SESSION #3: October 25-26</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>UNIT III</strong>: CHRISTOLOGY (Reading: Horton, Chapter 14; John of Damascus, <em>The Orthodox Faith</em>, PDF selection)</td>
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<td><strong>Session #6</strong>:</td>
<td>“Partitive Hermeneutics”</td>
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*Adjustments to the lay-out of lectures will be made at the discretion of the professor. In the case of a change, students should remain on the reading schedule indicated in the original syllabus.*
Reading: Horton, Chapter 14

**Session #7:**
“Conceptual Hewing”
Reading: John of Damascus, *The Orthodox Faith*, PDF selection

**Session #8:**
“Gospel and Dogma”
Reading: John of Damascus, *The Orthodox Faith*, PDF selection

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<th>SESSION #3: November 6-7</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>UNIT IV: THE ATONEMENT</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>(Reading: Horton, Chapters 15-16; Athanasius, <em>On the Incarnation</em>, Entire Book)</td>
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**Session #9:**
“Soteriological Grammars: Biblical and Imaginative”
Athanasius, *On the Incarnation*

**Session #10:**
“Contemporary Questions: Violence and Punition”
Horton, Chapters 15-16

**UNIT V: SALVATION**
(Reading Horton, Chapters 17-21; Luther, “Treatise on the Freedom of a Christian”, entire treatise [on moodle]; Hooker, “Learned Discourse”, PDF selection on moodle; Wesley “The New Birth”)

**Session #11:**
“Union with Christ and the Meaning of Grace”
Reading: Horton, Chapters 17-18; and Luther, “Treatise on the Freedom of a Christian”

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<th>SESSION #4: December 4-5</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Session #12:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>“By Which the Church…”</td>
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<td>Reading: Horton, Chapter 19; Hooker, “Learned Discourse”</td>
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<th>Session #13:</th>
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<tr>
<td>“Let Sin Not Reign”</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Reading Comprehension Quiz</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Reading: Horton, Chapters 20-21; Wesley, “The New Birth”</td>
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**ANALEPTIC BOOKEND**
(Reading TBD)

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<tr>
<th>Session #14:</th>
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<tr>
<td>“Election, Assurance and Ordo Salutis”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reading: Calvin, <em>Institutes of the Christian Religion</em>, PDF Selection; and non-Calvinist representative, TBD.</td>
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December 5: *Reading Report Due*
December 10: *Final Paper Due*
COURSE GRADES
Grades will be determined on the following basis:
Reading 20%
Reading Reflections: 20%
Comprehension Quiz: 20%
PAPER: 40%

Grading Scale: A (95-100%); A- (90-94%); B+ (88-89%); B (82-87%); B- (80-81%); C+ (78-79%); C (72-76%); C- (70-71%); D+ (68-69%); D (62-67%); D- (60-61%); F (0-59%).

Grading criteria for reflections
Grammar/ style etc.—20%
Accurate and adequate synopsis—40%
Constructive engagement—40%

Grading criteria for papers
Grammar/ style/ formatting—20%
Organizational clarity/ thesis—30%
Strength of argument/ evidence/ use of secondary sources—50%

VIII. PAPER WRITING GUIDELINES
- Stay focused on the chosen question or topic. If the question or topic allows it, provide a clear and concise thesis, which the remainder of your paper goes on to develop and defend.
- Make it clear on your title page which topic or question you have chosen.
- Do not exceed or fall short of the page parameters unless you receive special permission from the professor. Title page and bibliography are not included in the page count.
- Be sure to include components that will give your paper a clear structure (I.E. a clearly articulated introduction, an extended section of argument, and a synthetic conclusion).]
- Cite the sources you consult with footnotes.
- Use a uniform method of notation. Make sure that your paper is typed, double-spaced and 12 font (Times New Roman).
- You are expected to have at least three unassigned books or articles on your bibliography in addition to whatever use is made of course texts—in the case of a dialogue paper, make use of three such sources to broaden and deepen your knowledge of the issue in question, even if these sources do not appear explicitly within the body of your composition.

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6Dialogue papers may satisfy the ‘introduction’ and ‘conclusion’ sections by adding a moderator figure.
7For direction on style and format considerations, consult the TIU guidelines at: https://my.tiu.edu/academics/writing-resources.dot
8For help on how to track down sources within the field of biblical and systematic theology, consult the library’s theology subject guide at http://rolfing.tiu.libguides.com/theology.