THEOLOGICAL STUDIES (THEO)

THEO 1000 - Theological Foundations
Credit(s): 0 or 3 Credits
Prerequisite to all further courses. This course begins the disciplined reflection on religion in the university. Along with providing the basic vocabulary, method of theology, and key theological concepts, it equips the student with the historical, textual, and comparative methods and skills that are foundational for further study on the university level. Offered every semester.

THEO 1005 - Theological Foundations
Credit(s): 3 Credits
Prerequisite to all further courses. This course begins the disciplined reflection on religion in the university. Along with providing the basic vocabulary, method of theology, and key theological concepts, it equips the student with the historical, textual, and comparative methods and skills that are foundational for further study on the university level. Offered every semester.

Restrictions:
Students in the Madrid, Spain campus may not enroll.

Attributes: Prof. Studies Students Only

THEO 1600 - God-Talk: Ultimate Questions in Theology
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course centers around the genre of historical and autobiographical narrative as a way of getting at the ultimate questions at the heart of theology and religion. In dialogue with Jewish and Christian scripture, as well as classic and contemporary spiritual autobiographies written from within the Christian tradition and beyond, students will wrestle with the nature of faith; the nature, existence, and personhood of God; the nature and ends of creation and human life; evil and salvation, and other matters of ultimate concern. Through the narrative, this course will address questions that matter most to the arc of human life.

Prerequisite(s): CORE 1500

THEO 1980 - Independent Study
Credit(s): 1-3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)

THEO 2110 - Old Testament
Credit(s): 3 Credits
Literary and historical study of the Hebrew Bible, its cultural background, main theme, the problems modern thought poses for it, and its permanent significance.

Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000

Attributes: Catholic Studies-Theology, Middle East Studies, Theology BS Requirement (A&S), Theology Old Testament, Theology-Sacred Texts

THEO 2210 - New Testament
Credit(s): 3 Credits
Books of the New Testament; their formation as literary material, message and meaning for the modern world, and transmission via the community.

Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000

Attributes: Catholic Studies-Theology, Middle East Studies, Theology BA Requirement (A&S), Theology BS Requirement (A&S), Theology New Testament, Theology-Sacred Texts

THEO 2230 - Christian Church Since 1500
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course will study how in 2000 years the messianic beliefs of a small group of Jews transformed into a worldwide religion. How have Christian beliefs, practices, and institutions changed over time? We will consider major developments in theology, spirituality, modes of authority, and social structures.

Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000

Attributes: Medieval (Minor) - Theology, Theology BA Requirement (A&S), Theology BS Requirement (A&S)

THEO 2310 - History of Christianity: The First 2000 Years
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course will study how in 2000 years the messianic beliefs of a small group of Jews transformed into a worldwide religion. How have Christian beliefs, practices, and institutions changed over time? We will consider major developments in theology, spirituality, modes of authority, and social structures.

Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000

Attributes: Catholic Studies-Theology, Theology BA Requirement (A&S), Theology BS Requirement (A&S)

THEO 2320 - Seeking God and Building Faith in the Middle Ages
Credit(s): 3 Credits
An interdisciplinary investigation of the beliefs and religious practices of medieval Christians in the age of cathedrals. This course engages some of the most important theologians of the Christian tradition (Augustine, Anselm, Bonaventure, Thomas Aquinas) and encourages reflection on how the content of Christian faith was expressed through communal and personal acts of faith such as building cathedrals, producing manuscripts of religious texts, singing chants, participating in liturgical processions, going on pilgrimage, performing penance, and venerating relics and saints.

Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000

Attributes: Medieval (Minor) - Theology, Theology BA Requirement (A&S), Theology BS Requirement (A&S)

THEO 2330 - American Christianity
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course considers counter-cultural Black religious movements of resistance during the Great Migration, whose origins are directly linked to their attempt to jettison racial categories that were constructed as cultural productions aimed at undermining the dignity of Black people. To this end we will survey Black religions such as the Nation of Islam, Black Spiritual Movements, Hebrew-Israelite organizations, and the Black Coptic Church, toward the goal of understanding how they respond religiously and theologically to the problem of race, imaginatively and pragmatically.

Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000

Attributes: Theology BA Requirement (A&S), Theology BS Requirement (A&S), Theology-Religious Traditions

THEO 2350 - American Christianity
Credit(s): 3 Credits
The history of American Christianity from colonial times to present, Spanish, French English beginnings; Puritanism, the Great Awakenings; Unitarianism, Congregationalism, Methodism; the immigrant churches, Roman Catholic history; Liberalism, Neo-Orthodoxy, Fundamentalism; Black churches, contemporary movements.

Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000
THEO 2355 - American Christianity
Credit(s): 3 Credits
The history of American Christianity from colonial times to present, Spanish, French English beginnings; Puritanism, the Great Awakenings; Unitarianism, Congregationalism, Methodism; the immigrant churches, Roman Catholic history; Liberalism, Neo-Orthodoxy, Fundamentalism; Black churches, contemporary movements.
Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000
Restrictions:
Students in the Madrid, Spain campus may not enroll.
Attributes: Prof. Studies Students Only
THEO 2410 - Making Christianity Credible
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course aims at providing a comprehensive understanding of Christian faith by investigating the historical development and interrelation of its main tenets. Attention will be given to how Christian beliefs arise from, and themselves give distinct shape to, Christian practices in the Church and the world.
Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000
Attributes: Catholic Studies-Theology, Theology BA Requirement (A&S), Theology BS Requirement (A&S)
THEO 2415 - The Church: Yesterday & Today
Credit(s): 3 Credits
Explores how humans have understood the notion of God with emphasis on the Christian traditions, the God of Jesus of Nazareth.
Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000
Attributes: Catholic Studies-Theology, Theology BA Requirement (A&S), Theology BS Requirement (A&S)
THEO 2425 - God in Human Experience
Credit(s): 3 Credits
Explores how humans have understood the notion of God with emphasis on the Christian traditions, the God of Jesus of Nazareth.
THEO 2430 - Jesus and Salvation
Credit(s): 3 Credits
The aim of this course is to provide an integrative understanding of Jesus Christ as he has been proclaimed throughout Christian History up to the present time and his role in salvation.
Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000
Attributes: Catholic Studies-Theology, Theology BA Requirement (A&S), Theology BS Requirement (A&S)
THEO 2510 - Christian Ethics
Credit(s): 3 Credits
An exploration of Christian character (virtues), principles of decision making, conscience formation, authoritative sources (scripture, tradition, magisterium, etc.) with analysis of issues such as war, capital punishment, physician-assisted suicide, abortion, etc.
Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000
Attributes: Catholic Studies-Theology, Health Care Ethics Minor Elect, Theology BA Requirement (A&S), Theology BS Requirement (A&S), Theology-Religious Ethics
THEO 2515 - Social Justice
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course is designed to engage students in the reality of social injustice while introducing them to the variety of ways in which the Christian tradition responds to this reality. Students will study selections from scripture, Catholic Social Teaching, Christian theologians, and the lives of Christian saints and martyrs. This course fulfills the Cultural Diversity in the U.S. Core requirement by addressing issues of racism, classism, and sexism, and by engaging the works of African American, feminist, womanist, and Latino/a theologians. Students should leave the course with a better understanding of Christian perspectives on social justice that can be applied to their own faith or spirituality, political choices, and way of life.
THEO 2520 - Comparative Religious Ethics
Credit(s): 3 Credits
An exploration of several moral issues and the ethical beliefs/practices that are brought to bear on them among various religious traditions around the world. Attention will be devoted to narratives of significant persons who contributed to human dignity, rights, and liberation, especially with regard to ‘the other’.
Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000
Attributes: Foreign Service Elective, Theology BA Requirement (A&S), Theology BS Requirement (A&S), Theology-Religious Ethics
THEO 2525 - Theological Bioethics: Medicine and Morality
Credit(s): 3 Credits
Principles of moral theology and their application to the health care provider and consumer. Specific issues include life-prolonging measures, neonatal care, genetics, experimentation, allocation of resources, and spiritual care of the sick and dying.
Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000
THEO 2530 - Social Injustice/Social Gospel
Credit(s): 3 Credits
The primary goal of this course is to animate SLU’s mission to form leaders who desire to transform society in the spirit of the Gospels. It will pursue this goal as a reciprocal learning class (i.e., at least 30 hours of service learning in the community) that examines social injustice in Saint Louis according to the Gospel call of personal conversion and social transformation. Prerequisite: THEO 1000.
Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000
Attributes: Service Learning, Theology BA Requirement (A&S), Theology BS Requirement (A&S), Urban Poverty - Social Justice
THEO 2535 - Sports, Spirituality and Social Justice
Credit(s): 3 Credits
The primary goal of this course is to explore how Sports, Spirituality and Social Justice intersect and mutually inform each other. It will pursue this goal as a reciprocal learning class, i.e., service learning in the community that requires at least 30 hours of community engagement, as the class examines social injustice in theory and in Saint Louis according to the Gospel call of personal conversion and social transformation.
Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000
Attributes: Theology BA Requirement (A&S), Theology BS Requirement (A&S)
THEO 2610 - The Christian Sacraments
Credit(s): 3 Credits
The Sacraments, the Church as ultimate manifestation of Covenant of the People of God, development of sacraments in apostolic community and patristic age, modern sacramental theology.
Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000
Attributes: Catholic Studies-Theology, Theology BA Requirement (A&S), Theology BS Requirement (A&S)

THEO 2700 - Arch City Religion: Religious Life and Practice in St. Louis
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course places the religious life of St. Louis at the center of the city's history, civic landscape, and public cultures. While anchored in the local context, the course engages a wide range of global religious traditions and diasporic communities in the city as well as analytical frameworks of religion in/of the city drawn from case studies throughout the United States. In addition to the instructional content of this course, students also develop skills as researchers and storytellers through audio and visual projects that draw from archival, historical, ethnographic, and digital research.
Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000
Attributes: Theology BA Requirement (A&S), Theology BS Requirement (A&S)

THEO 2710 - Religions of the World
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course is an introduction to the history, belief-systems, practices, and divisions of the world's major religions. It focuses especially on Hinduism, Sikhism, Buddhism, Jainism, Confucianism, Taoism, Shintoism, Zoroastrianism, Judaism, Christianity, Islam, the Baha'i Faith, and Native American spirituality.
Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000

THEO 2715 - Jerusalem: Three Faiths, One City
Credit(s): 3 Credits
DESCRIPTION: This course (under this name only) satisfies the criteria for the College of Arts and Sciences Cultural Diversity component of the Core. A survey analysis of the three Abrahamic faiths and their history, civic landscape, and public cultures. While anchored in the local context, the course engages a wide range of global religious traditions and diasporic communities in the city as well as analytical frameworks of religion in/of the city drawn from case studies throughout the United States. In addition to the instructional content of this course, students also develop skills as researchers and storytellers through audio and visual projects that draw from archival, historical, ethnographic, and digital research.
Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000

THEO 2725 - The Qur'an and the Bible
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course explores the different ways in which Biblical stories and motifs are reworked in the Qur'an as a means to investigate the latter's scriptural and historical background, make its theology more accessible to non-Muslim students, implement interfaith dialogue, and reflect on the role of religion in today's world. (Offered in Fall)
Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000
Attributes: Theology BA Requirement (A&S)

THEO 2730 - Stranger Things: Peoples and Places through Religious Travelers' Eyes
Credit(s): 3 Credits
Introductory survey of religious travel literature & ethnography from antiquity to the early modern era. Compares Jewish, Christian, Muslim, and other traditions. Emphasizes critical and dynamic appreciation of the wide range of ways that authors have portrayed unfamiliar people and places throughout history. Reflects on the religious attitudes which are both the cause and result of such portraits.
Attributes: Medieval (Major) - Philosophy, Medieval (Minor) - Philosophy, Theology BA Requirement (A&S), Theology BS Requirement (A&S)

THEO 2755 - Islam: Religion, Culture, and Society
Credit(s): 3 Credits
An overview of fundamental beliefs and values of the religious tradition called Islam, using primary textual and visual sources from a range of cultural contexts, with special attention to how the story of Islam offers insight into the interplay of religion and culture: wherever Islam has taken root, it has become inculturated even as it has Islamized its new host culture.
Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000
Attributes: Cultural Diversity in the EU, Catholic Studies-Theology, Foreign Service Elective, Global Citizenship (A&S), Theology BA Requirement (A&S), Theology BS Requirement (A&S), Theology-Religious Traditions

THEO 2770 - Muslims, Christians, and Jews in Medieval Spain
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course will cover the history and achievements of what was once a multi-religious, multi-cultural civilization and explore the lessons we can learn from a time when Muslims, Christians and Jews lived and worked together, especially in the areas of theology, commerce, culture and art.
Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000
Attributes: Theology BA Requirement (A&S), Theology BS Requirement (A&S)

THEO 2815 - Psychology and the Soul
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course considers the intersection between psychology and theological conceptions of the soul and self. This course provides the student the critical means by which to think about the relationship between psychology and religious beliefs and experiences.
Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000
Attributes: Theology BA Requirement (A&S), Theology BS Requirement (A&S)

THEO 2820 - Religion and Science
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course examines the history and recent development of three disciplines—cosmology, physics, and biology—how religion and science have related to one another in the past and relate to one another in contemporary research and reflection. A final part of the course considers some issues that involve multiple scientific disciplines (e.g., extraterrestrial intelligence, environmentalism, etc.). Credit not given for both THEO 2820 and BIOL 2560 Cross-listed with PHIL 3600.
Attributes: Catholic Studies-Theology, Theology BA Requirement (A&S), Theology BS Requirement (A&S)
THEO 2840 - Christianity and Literature
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course explores works of literature as privileged sites for theological reflection on religious mysteries – the mystery of God and the mystery of the human person. Engaging the religious imagination of important literary thinkers, this course examines such dynamics as sin and grace, faith and doubt, forgiveness and reconciliation, solitude and community.
Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000
Attributes: Catholic Studies-Theology, Theology BA Requirement (A&S), Theology BS Requirement (A&S)

THEO 2900 - Love and the Human Condition
Credit(s): 3 Credits
A theological exploration of human existence as constituted by love, desire, sin and the yearning for salvation. Through examination of classic texts/themes from the Christian tradition, this course will focus on the complex relationship between human and divine love. Specific topics to be covered include: affectivity, knowledge, freedom, built, friendship, self-sacrifice, and human sexuality.
Attributes: Catholic Studies-Theology, Theology BA Requirement (A&S), Theology BS Requirement (A&S)

THEO 2905 - Death and Suffering
Credit(s): 3 Credits
Judeo-Christian response to the mystery of suffering, the meaning of death, healing as a religious experience. Reference to the bible, contemporary Christian theology, and social studies.
Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000
Attributes: Theology BA Requirement (A&S), Theology BS Requirement (A&S)

THEO 2930 - Special Topics
Credit(s): 2 or 3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)
Attributes: Theology BA Requirement (A&S), Theology BS Requirement (A&S)

THEO 2980 - Independent Study
Credit(s): 1-3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)
Attributes: Theology BA Requirement (A&S), Theology BS Requirement (A&S)

THEO 3110 - Pentateuch
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course examines the first five books of the bible, analyzing key figures such as Abraham and Moses, as well as major theological themes such as covenant, the nature of God, the purpose of biblical law, and the Ten Commandments.
Prerequisite(s): (1 Course from THEO 2001-2999 or THEO 1000)
Attributes: Middle East Studies, Theology BA Requirement (A&S), Theology-Sacred Texts

THEO 3115 - Old Testament: Prophets
Credit(s): 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): (THEO 2000 or 1 Course from THEO 2001-2999)
Attributes: Middle East Studies, Service Learning, Theology BA Requirement (A&S), Theology Old Testament, Theology-Sacred Texts

THEO 3130 - Ancient Israel and the Near East
Credit(s): 3 Credits
An examination of the history and religion of ancient Israel within its Near Eastern context. This examination will allow students to identify similarities and differences between texts from the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament and other texts from the ancient Near East. (Offered in Fall)
Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000; 1 Course from THEO 2000-2999
Attributes: Theology BA Requirement (A&S)

THEO 3145 - The Life and Theology of Augustine of Hippo
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course examines the life and theology of St. Augustine of Hippo (354-430). We will focus on Augustine’s central writings, including Confessions, The Trinity and his writings on grace.
Prerequisite(s): (THEO 2000 or 1 Course from THEO 2001-2999)
Attributes: Catholic Studies-Theology, Medieval (Minor) - Theology, Theology BA Requirement (A&S)

THEO 3150 - One Jesus, Four Portraits: The Gospels
Credit(s): 3 Credits
Offers a comparative study of the canonical Gospels.
Attributes: Catholic Studies-Theology, Theology BA Requirement (A&S), Theology New Testament, Theology-Sacred Texts

THEO 3220 - Archaeology and the Bible
Credit(s): 3 Credits
An examination of the historical and cultural context of the Old Testament/Hebrew Bible through the archaeological evidence found in the Southern Levant. Special attention is given to evidence related to worship and religious beliefs. (Offered in Fall)
Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000; 1 Course from THEO 2000-2999
Attributes: Theology BA Requirement (A&S)

THEO 3310 - Rise of Christianity
Credit(s): 3 Credits
The history of early Christianity from Jesus Christ to the Council of Chalcedon in 451 A.D. The variety of early Christianity, geographical expansion, Gnosticism, emergence in the Roman world, Christian art, Trinitarian and Christological controversies.
Prerequisite(s): (THEO 2000 or 1 Course from THEO 2001-2999)
Attributes: Catholic Studies-Theology, Theology BA Requirement (A&S)

THEO 3325 - The Reformations of the 16th Century
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This is a study of the Protestant Reformation and the Catholic Reformation in the 16th century.
Prerequisite(s): 1 Course from THEO 2000-2999
Attributes: Catholic Studies-Theology, Theology BA Requirement (A&S)

THEO 3335 - Christians In Middle East
Credit(s): 3 Credits
Building the knowledge gained in at least one prior theology course, this offering studies global Christianity with a focus on Christian churches in the Middle East. The course studies the intersection of theological, historical, ethnic, cultural, linguistic, and political factors that shape expressions of the Christian faith in Greece, Turkey, the Caucasus, Syria, Iraq, Iran, Lebanon, Israel/Palestine, Jordan, and Saudi-Arabian Peninsula to Egypt and Ethiopia. It also studies how middle-eastern Christian identities affect immigrant Christian communities in the diaspora in the West.
Attributes: Foreign Service Elective, International Studies, Middle East Studies, Theology BA Requirement (A&S)

THEO 3345 - The Life and Theology of Augustine of Hippo
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course examines the life and theology of St. Augustine of Hippo (354-430). We will focus on Augustine’s central writings, including Confessions, The Trinity and his writings on grace.
Prerequisite(s): (THEO 2000 or 1 Course from THEO 2001-2999)
Attributes: Catholic Studies-Theology, Medieval (Minor) - Theology, Theology BA Requirement (A&S)
THEO 3350 - Justice and Peace: The Legal Imagination in Christianity
Credit(s): 3 Credits
An exploration of Christianity's relationship to law in three primary ways. First, its theology of law in a New Testament era of grace upholding justice and mercy and directed toward peace or reconciliation. Second, its understanding and usage of legal norms and regulations in the church's administration, sacraments, and discipline of its members (canon law) as an earthly institution. Third, the impact of Christian canonistic jurisprudence on the western legal tradition. Special attention is given to legal norms concerning marriage, penance, and procedure (due process, rights of defendants). Analytical and writing skills developed; incorporates digital humanities component. Offered in spring. Prerequisite: THEO 1000.
Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000
Attributes: Law, Religion and Politics, Medieval (Major) - Theology, Medieval (Minor) - Theology, Theology BA Requirement (A&S)

THEO 3365 - Teachers in Early Christianity
Credit(s): 3 Credits
Examines selective writings and thought of theologians in the early centuries of Christianity. Attributes: Classical Humanities, Medieval (Major) - Theology, Medieval (Minor) - Theology, Theology BA Requirement (A&S)

THEO 3370 - Teachers in Medieval Christianity
Credit(s): 3 Credits
Overview of medieval theologians and spiritual writers with specific attention to the origin and development of the diverse schools of thought in the middle ages. Prerequisite(s): (THEO 2000 or 1 Course from THEO 2001-2999) Attributes: Catholic Studies-Theology, Italian Related Studies, Medieval (Major) - History, Theology BA Requirement (A&S)

THEO 3375 - Women in the Bible
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course looks at a series of important female figures from the scriptural roots of Christianity, especially the multiple Marys of the New Testament. We will read the primary canonical and apocryphal texts describing these women and examine their depiction in art, literature and music throughout history Cross-listed with WGST 3320. Prerequisite(s): (THEO 2000 or 1 Course from THEO 2001-2999) Attributes: Catholic Studies-Theology, Theology BA Requirement (A&S)

THEO 3410 - Christianity and Atheism: A History of Disbelief
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course investigates the crisis in traditional belief that accompanied Europe's transition to modernity. It examines various critiques from both the Enlightenment and post-Enlightenment Europe. It also looks at different Christian responses to these critiques. The course aims to deepen students understanding of Western society and its understanding religion. Prerequisite(s): (THEO 2000 or 1 Course from THEO 2001-2999) Attributes: Theology BA Requirement (A&S)

THEO 3415 - Christ and Color: Liberation Theology
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course analyzes and evaluates the theology of Gustavo Gutierrez. The goal is to gain an appreciation for the unique contributions of Liberation Theology to the historical development of Western theology through a directed reading of important primary texts in the areas of Christology, Soteriology, and Ecclesiology. Prerequisite(s): (THEO 2000 or 1 Course from THEO 2001-2999) Attributes: Catholic Studies-Theology, Foreign Service Elective, Theology BA Requirement (A&S), Urban Poverty - Immigration, Urban Poverty - Social Justice

THEO 3420 - Women and God: Feminist Theology
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course is designed to offer a broad understanding of the issues and implications of contemporary feminist thought relative to religious traditions, especially the Christian tradition. It will critique theology and anthropology as well as offer constructive visioning of the new ways of living in relationship. The course is oriented toward personal and social transformation. Attributes: Theology BA Requirement (A&S)

THEO 3425 - The Invisible Institution: African American Religion and the Rise of Black Theology
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course examines subversive-theological and liberative hermeneutical responses that emerge from the question of Black existence and identity in American life from clandestine theological claims of rebellious slaves to the rise of liberation movements in the American 60's, through more current events in Ferguson, Charleston, and Charlottesville. We will examine the ways in which identity, meaning, and agency have been theologically shaped in the tradition of Black Religion and Black theology, and how these claims borrow from or are compatible with classical Christian Theology, especially within the context of Ignation Spirituality. Cross-listed with AAM 3350. Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000 Attributes: Theology-Religious Traditions

THEO 3430 - Teachings in the Christian Tradition: God and Christ
Credit(s): 3 Credits
"Teachings in the Christian Tradition: God and Christ" is one course in a set of two course offerings on an introduction to Christian Theology. (Note: These two courses can be taken in any order.) The aim of the course is to introduce students to the major figures and topics in Christian theology. After a discussion of methods and sources, the course treats the doctrines of God, Trinity, Christ, Faith, and Salvation. (Offered in Fall) Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000 Attributes: Theology BA Requirement (A&S)

THEO 3435 - Teachings in the Christian Tradition: Church and World
Credit(s): 3 Credits
"Teachings in the Christian Tradition: Church and World" is one course in a set of two course offerings on an introduction to Christian Theology. (Note: These two courses can be taken in any order.) The aim of the course is to introduce students to the major figures and topics in Christian theology. After a discussion of methods and sources, the course explores five major doctrinal issues of Christian theology: Theological Anthropology (nature, sin, grace), Church, Sacraments, Christianity and World Religions, and Eschatology and Hope. (Offered in Spring) Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000 Attributes: Theology BA Requirement (A&S)

THEO 3510 - Faith and Politics
Credit(s): 3 Credits
The course is designed to help students sort through the complex relationship between faith and politics. It examines different approaches to bringing faith into the public sphere and treats controversial issues such as abortion, immigration, and gay marriage. Prerequisite(s): (THEO 2000 or 1 Course from THEO 2001-2999) Attributes: Catholic Studies-Theology, Law, Religion and Politics, Theology BA Requirement (A&S), Theology-Religious Ethics
THEO 3525 - Green Discipleship: Theology & Ecology
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course explores what the Christian theological tradition teaches about how humankind ought to be related with the rest of creation. Focus will be on, but not limited to, Christianity and on key theological themes and perspectives while also seeking to discern possible promising foundations for responding to ecological concerns.
Prerequisite(s): 1 Course from THEO 2000-2999
Attributes: Catholic Studies-Theology, International Studies, Theology BA Requirement (A&S), Theology-Religious Ethics

THEO 3535 - Liberation and Freedom: An Introduction to Black and Womanist Theologies
Credit(s): 3 Credits
Black and Womanist Theologies, in the North American context, are reflections on the relationship of God to Black people, and Black persons relationship to God, especially in the light of existential absurdity. This course examines theological responses to issues such as race, class, gender, and sexuality, within the North American context that present a theological challenge to the Image of God in Black persons. We will seek to locate the distinct theological character of Black and Womanist theologies through the lens of liberation. Offered in spring. Cross-listed with AAM 3350.
Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000
Attributes: Theology BA Requirement (A&S)

THEO 3535 - Sex, Gender and Christian Ethics
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course is designed to introduce students to contemporary Christian thinking on sex, gender, and sexuality. The goal is to present a wide range of positions within the Christian tradition, so that students can discuss and debate the available alternatives. Cross-listed with WGST 3630.
Prerequisite(s): (THEO 2000 or 1 Course from THEO 2001-2999)
Attributes: Catholic Studies-Theology, Theology BA Requirement (A&S), Theology-Religious Ethics

THEO 3540 - Incarceration and Incarnation: Prisons and Christian Ethics
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course examines incarceration in the U.S. in light of the incarnation, theological anthropology, and Christian ethics. One aim will be to understand various themes related to incarceration: the school to prison pipeline, race, legislation, policing, prisons and labor, justice, punishment, and reintegration. Another aim will be to consider how belief in an incarnate God, who died a criminal death, shapes Christian views of and response to incarceration in the U.S. today. We will draw on those who have written theology behind bars (Thoreau, Bonhoeffer, M.L.K., Jr., etc.). Local concerns will be our focus throughout.
Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000
Attributes: Law, Religion and Politics, Theology BA Requirement (A&S)

THEO 3560 - A Post Human Future? The Ethics of Technology
Credit(s): 3 Credits
Technological advances are surely changing the way we understand human nature. This course will provide the forum for asking if this is a change for the better. Course goals include identifying and understanding key issues in the development and use of technology.
Prerequisite(s): (THEO 2000 or 1 Course from THEO 2001-2999)
Attributes: Catholic Studies-Theology, Theology BA Requirement (A&S), Theology-Religious Ethics

THEO 3710 - Arts of Hinduism and Buddhism
Credit(s): 3 Credits
Study of the art and architecture of the Hindu and Buddhist traditions, beginning in India and tracing the “footsteps of the Buddha” through Central Asia into East Asia (China, Korea, and Japan), and across mainland and insular Southeast Asia. Focus on learning to “read” non-textual sources and understand religious “enculturation”.
Attributes: Catholic Studies-Theology, Foreign Service Elective, Theology BA Requirement (A&S), Theology-Religious Traditions

THEO 3720 - Intuition, Spontaneity, and Flow: Daoism in Comparative Context
Credit(s): 3 Credits
In this introductory course we will examine themes commonly perceived as central to Daoism, including spontaneity and play, transcendence from mundane life, oneness with Nature, and feminine qualities of nurturing and compassion. We will examine how these themes appear in a number of Daoist texts and practices.
Prerequisite(s): (THEO 2000 or 1 Course from THEO 2001-2999)
Attributes: International Studies, Theology BA Requirement (A&S), Theology-Religious Traditions

THEO 3730 - Jewish Life: Bible to Middle Ages
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course studies peoplehood during the Biblical period, the response to the rise of Christianity, the destruction of the Second Temple and the use of Rabbinic law and lore. Also included are an understanding of the holiday cycle, the life-cycle, and synagogue worship.
Prerequisite(s): (THEO 2000 or 1 Course from THEO 2001-2999)
Attributes: Classical Humanities, International Studies, Middle East Studies, Service Learning, Theology BA Requirement (A&S), Theology-Religious Traditions

THEO 3735 - Jewish Life: Middle Ages to Modern Times
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course surveys the Golden Age of Spain, Jewish Mysticism, the Enlightenment, philosophers from Maimonides to Martin Buber, 19th-century Nationalism, Zionism, the Holocaust and the rise of Modern Israel. Students will examine how these phenomena influenced modern Judaism, including Torah, God, Israel and ritual observance.
Prerequisite(s): (THEO 2000 or 1 Course from THEO 2001-2999)
Attributes: Theology BA Requirement (A&S)

THEO 3750 - Creativity and Constraint: The Legal Imagination in Judaism
Credit(s): 3 Credits
Professional lawyers and jurists today often conceive of the law as an instrument of social policy. In Judaism, however, this view of law amounts to looking through the wrong end of a telescope. More than a tool for achieving practical goals, law is the very bedrock of Jewish self and society. Law, a direct link to God, is also a unique vessel for creativity across millennia of Jewish history. Our course trains students in key methods for analyzing this bond between law and Jewish life.
Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000
Attributes: Law, Religion and Politics, Theology BA Requirement (A&S), Theology-Religious Traditions
THEO 3755 - Advanced Studies in Islam: Religion, Culture, and Society
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course is designed to offer a broad understanding of the synchronic and diachronic relations that can be established among Islamic religion, culture, and society. Additionally, it examines two of today's most debated topics as regards the intertwining of Islam and modernity, namely: the dynamics of gender and the question of political violence.
Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000; (THEO 2000 or 1 Course from THEO 2001-2999)
Attributes: Theology BA Requirement (A&S)
THEO 3850 - Theology and the Visual Arts
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course explores biblical themes, images, metaphors, specifically in their relation first to film, and then general arts (pictorial) and popular culture. It seeks to engage students in finding where, how, and when these different strands intersect. It provides the appropriate tools so that students can delve in a meaningful and constructive dialogue with both contemporary culture and the Christian heritage as played out in public society.
Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000; (THEO 2000 or 1 Course from THEO 2001-2999)
 Attributes: Theology BA Requirement (A&S)
THEO 3900 - Seeking God: A History
Credit(s): 3 Credits
Studies in the major spiritual trends and key figures within the Catholic, Eastern, Orthodox, and Protestant traditions.
Prerequisite(s): (THEO 2000 or 1 Course from THEO 2001-2999)
Attributes: Service Learning, Theology BA Requirement (A&S)
THEO 3905 - Marriage & Christian Vocation
Credit(s): 3 Credits
A study of contemporary Christian theology and ethical reflections on marriage, covering sexual, gender, parenthood, divorce and family issues.
Prerequisite(s): (THEO 2000 or 1 Course from THEO 2001-2999)
Attributes: Catholic Studies-Theology, Theology BA Requirement (A&S)
THEO 3910 - Internship
Credit(s): 1-6 Credits (Repeatable for credit)
THEO 3930 - Special Topics
Credit(s): 2 or 3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)
Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000
Attributes: Theology BA Requirement (A&S)
THEO 3980 - Independent Study
Credit(s): 1-3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)
Prerequisite(s): (THEO 2000 or 1 Course from THEO 2001-2999)
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Theology.
Attributes: Theology BA Requirement (A&S)
THEO 4210 - How to Interpret Scripture: Methods and Perspectives
Credit(s): 3 Credits
An examination and survey of biblical hermeneutics, including Old and New Testaments, rabbinic Judaism, the early church, and the history of hermeneutical theory up to the present time.
Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000; 1 Course from THEO 2000-2999; 1 Course from THEO 3000-3999
Attributes: Theology-Sacred Texts
THEO 4290 - Seminar in New Testament
Credit(s): 3 Credits
The Seminar in New Testament offers in-depth exploration of a selected New Testament topic. The course will examine an important theme, body of literature, or method related to New Testament research, with the goal of enhancing student capacities for research and for oral and written expression.
Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000; 1 Course from THEO 2000-2999; 1 Course from THEO 3000-3999
Attributes: Theology New Testament, Theology-Sacred Texts
THEO 4490 - Seminar in Constructive Theology
Credit(s): 3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)
General number for new courses in faith and reason.
Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000; 1 Course from THEO 2000-2999; 1 Course from THEO 3000-3999
THEO 4510 - War and Peace in the Christian Tradition
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course examines Christian perspectives, from the early church to the present, on the ethics of war and peace. It explores developments in church teachings about pacifism and nonviolence, just war, crusades, total war, outlawing of war, the responsibility to protect vulnerable populations, and responding to the threat of terrorism.
Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000; 1 Course from THEO 2000-2999; 1 Course from THEO 3000-3999
Attributes: Catholic Studies-Theology, Foreign Service Elective, Theology-Religious Ethics
THEO 4525 - Freedom of Conscience
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course will explore conscience in theology, psychology, law, and science and examine formation of conscience, freedom of conscience, following one's conscience, and conscientious objection. Course goals include learning the history of conscience and developing the ability to articulate and integrate varying conceptions of conscience.
Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000; 1 Course from THEO 2000-2999; 1 Course from THEO 3000-3999
Attributes: Theology-Religious Ethics
THEO 4710 - Islam and the Christian Theologian: Comparing Theological Themes
Credit(s): 3 Credits
Comparative study of historical, creedal, institutional, and ethical/spiritual dimensions in Islamic and Christian theological traditions. Assists students to integrate their study of religion/theology with the broader network of the humanities, while providing a framework within which to become familiar with parallel theological themes in the varied religious traditions of Islam.
Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000; 1 Course from THEO 2000-2999; 1 Course from THEO 3000-3999
Attributes: International Studies, Middle East Studies, Theology-Religious Traditions
THEO 4790 - Seminar in World Religions
Credit(s): 3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)
This course offers a detailed introduction to and exploration of a particular world religion.
Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000; 1 Course from THEO 2000-2999; 1 Course from THEO 3000-3999
Attributes: Theology-Religious Traditions
THEO 4810 - Latin American Politics, Theology, & Culture
Credit(s): 3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)
This course is designed to deepen students' understanding of the connection between faith and justice. The summer is an intensive immersion experience during which students live with families, get involved in community praxis sites, and visit churches, theologians, and other groups working for social change in Latin America. In the fall semester students will undertake in-depth spiritual and theological reflection of their experiences abroad grounded in a liberation methodology in which students are both student and teacher. These sessions are designed to help students process the immersion experience in Latin America through deep personal reflection and spiritual searching.
Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000; 1 Course from THEO 2000-2999; 1 Course from THEO 3000-3999
Attributes: Foreign Service Elective, Philosophy & Letters, Theology-Religious Ethics, Urban Poverty - Immigration

THEO 4910 - Theology Internship
Credit(s): 1-6 Credits
Students put into practice the skills they learn in the theology program while also serving needy populations in the St. Louis area and Midwestern region. Students work with the department’s Director for Undergraduate Studies on the academic component of their internship, culminating in a major project.
Prerequisite(s): THEO 3000

THEO 4930 - Special Topics
Credit(s): 3Credits (Repeatable for credit)
A special topics course in Theological Studies.
Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000; 1 Course from THEO 2000-2999

THEO 4960 - Capstone Seminar I
Credit(s): 3 Credits
The purpose of this course is to provide undergraduate majors with the resources and skills necessary to engage in rigorous theological reflection, research, and writing in preparation for participation in the Senior Seminar THEO 4965.
Prerequisite(s): THEO 1000; 1 Course from THEO 2000-2999; (THEO 3430 or THEO 3435)
Restrictions:
Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Theological Studies.

THEO 4980 - Independent Study
Credit(s): 1-3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)
THEO 4998 - Advanced Independent Study
Credit(s): 3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)
THEO 5000 - Introduction to the Old Testament
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This graduate-level course introduces students to the literature, history, interpretation, and major theological themes of the Hebrew Bible. Offered in fall.
THEO 5100 - Introduction to the New Testament
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This graduate-level course introduces students to the literature, history, interpretation, and major theological themes of the New Testament. Offered in spring.
THEO 5200 - Intro to Historical Method
Credit(s): 3 Credits
Principles of historical criticism, methods in research and writing. Church historiography, and theological issues of faith and history. Offered every Fall semester.

THEO 5210 - Survey of Early Christian History
Credit(s): 3 Credits
A broad study of the figures, movements and theological themes in the development of early Christianity from the close of the New Testament to Gregory the Great. Offered annually.

THEO 5220 - Survey of Medieval Christian History
Credit(s): 3 Credits
A broad study of the figures, movements and theological themes in the historical period from late antiquity up to the 15th century. Offered annually.

THEO 5270 - Christian Tradition I
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course is designed to introduce beginning graduate students to the major figures, theological themes and texts from the first post-biblical generation of Christian thinkers to the Protestant Reformation, c. 100-1500. Offered in fall.
Attributes: Medieval (Major) - History

THEO 5280 - Christian Tradition II
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course offers a broad survey of figures, movements and theological themes in the development of global Christianity from the Renaissance and Reformation to the present. Students will examine the development of major Christian Traditions (Catholic, Protestant, Orthodox) through close study of primary texts and secondary materials. Readings will address themes distinct to the Modern era of Christianity: missionary expansion; church/state relations; questions of slavery, racism, and human trafficking; the changing role of women in the church; the theological foundations of Christian social thought; the rise of secularism and scientific rationalism; and the relationship of Christianity to other religions. Offered in spring.

THEO 5390 - Special Topic: Historical Theo
Credit(s): 3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)
Attributes: Middle East Studies

THEO 5400 - Resources and Methods in Theology
Credit(s): 3 Credits
Methods and presuppositions in doing theology; emphasis on exploring transcendence in human experience, grace, revelation, faith. Offered occasionally.

THEO 5420 - God
Credit(s): 3 Credits

THEO 5440 - Christology
Credit(s): 3 Credits
Meaning of Jesus Christ in the Bible, in Christian tradition, and contemporary theology. Offered occasionally.

THEO 5450 - Theology of the Human Person
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course explores the meaning of being human from a theological perspective. It examines themes of en nature and grace, sin, free will, human knowledge.

THEO 5500 - Sacraments
Credit(s): 3 Credits
Sacraments in Christian history and theology in general. Offered occasionally.
THEO 5620 - Forming of Christian Conscience
Credit(s): 3 Credits
Sin and guilt as both problem and mystery in relation to Christian conscience, freedom, virtue, sanctity, and sanity. Offered occasionally.

THEO 5650 - Bioethics
Credit(s): 3 Credits
The basic theological stances and conflicts related to the fields of medicine and the new biology; specific areas and problems analyzed, e.g., abortion, euthanasia, genetic engineering, etc. Offered occasionally.

THEO 5660 - Death, Suffering, & Afterlife
Credit(s): 3 Credits
Judeo-Christian response to the mystery of suffering, the meaning of death, healing as a religious experience. Reference to the bible, contemporary Christian theology, history, and social studies. Offered occasionally.

THEO 5680 - History of Moral Theology
Credit(s): 3 Credits
A survey of sources, methodologies, and issues in Roman Catholic moral theology from the apostolic church to the present day. Offered occasionally.

THEO 5700 - Theo Method: Spirituality
Credit(s): 3 Credits

THEO 5710 - Seminar in World Religions
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course offers an in-depth study of four classics of early Chinese thought: The Analects, the Mengzi, the Zhuangzi, and the Xunzi. The course assumes familiarity with the primary texts, and we will engage in philosophical, comparative, and to some extent, historical studies. We will ask questions about the authenticity of the texts, place the works within their intellectual historical context, and examine philosophical questions regarding human nature, ethics, politics, ritual, and metaphysics. The course is responsive to student interests and the syllabus will be adapted accordingly through the semester.

THEO 5790 - Special Topics: Spirituality
Credit(s): 3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)
Offered occasionally.

THEO 5810 - Ignatian Spirituality & Pedagogy
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course examines the educational enterprise developed out of the religious experience of Ignatius Loyola (founder of the Society of Jesus), focusing on the enterprise's spiritual dimension, and considering the practical issues arising from the education of the first Jesuits as it relates to today's secondary education and beyond. Offered every spring.

THEO 5910 - Internship in Religious Education
Credit(s): 3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)
The basic strategies for developing and maintaining religious education programs in Catholic school and parish settings will be explored through a combination of: (1) Work with a director of Religious Education (DRE) or coordinator of religious Education (CRE); (2) Group discussion with a Master religious educator focusing on readings from professionals in the field.

THEO 5911 - Internship Preparation
Credit(s): 0 Credits
This course provides necessary tools and guidance for graduate students on the Religious Education concentration who will be participating in a cooperative internship the following semester by directing students as they complete archdiocesan requirements for access to schools or parishes. (Offered every Spring)

THEO 5920 - Essay Guidance
Credit(s): 0-6 Credits

THEO 5930 - Special Topics
Credit(s): 3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)

THEO 5960 - Project Guidance
Credit(s): 1-3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)

THEO 5970 - Research Topics
Credit(s): 1-3 Credits

THEO 5980 - Graduate Reading Course
Credit(s): 1-3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)

THEO 5990 - Thesis Research
Credit(s): 0-6 Credits (Repeatable for credit)

THEO 6000 - Theories and Methods
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course offers graduate students an introduction to major theoretical and methodological approaches to the study of religion and theology. Students will engage with key thinkers from Kant to Foucault to Barth and others in order to understand the development of the allied fields of religious studies and theology and their own place in this intellectual history. Designed to foster a scholarly self-consciousness and encourage students' investment in the most pressing debates and conversations in the field, this course aims to shape students as critical rhetors prepared to do advanced research that is at once sophisticated and significant. Offered in spring.

THEO 6010 - Methods in Historical Theology
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course provides a broad introduction to major theological themes and figures in Christianity in the modern period, c.1500 to the present. Offered occasionally.

THEO 6020 - Christianity in Antiquity Survey
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course focuses on the history and primary theological sources pertaining to Christianity from its origins through the rise of Islam. Special attention is given to foundational Christian theologians and major historical developments in the early church, as well as to research methods and the appropriate use of scholarly tools necessary for advanced research in this field.

THEO 6030 - Survey of Medieval Christianity
Credit(s): 3 Credits
A broad study of the figures, movements and theological themes in the historical period from late antiquity up to the 15th century. Offered every spring.

THEO 6040 - Christian Theology Introduction
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course provides a broad introduction to major theological themes and figures in Christianity in the modern period, c.1500 to the present. Offered in fall.
THEO 6110 - Christianity in Antiquity Seminar  
Credit(s): 3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)  
The content of this course varies according to the interests of the instructor and those of the students. In all cases, however, the course will treat a subject of relevance to the advanced study of Christianity from its origins through the rise of Islam. Offered fall and spring.

THEO 6120 - Medieval Seminar  
Credit(s): 3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)  
In-depth study of particular authors, schools or texts in the Medieval religious world in connection with the ongoing research of the instructors. Offered every semester.

THEO 6140 - Christian Theology Seminar  
Credit(s): 3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)  
The content of this course varies according to the interests of the instructor and those of the students. In all cases, however, the course will treat a subject of relevance to the advanced study of Christian theology in the modern period, c.1500 to the present. Offered fall and spring.

THEO 6210 - Dissertation Prospectus  
Credit(s): 3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)  
All PhD students must register for Dissertation Prospectus after having taken their comprehensive exams and prior to registration for THEO-6990, dissertation research.

THEO 6300 - Late Ancient Syriac: Theological Texts  
Credit(s): 3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)  
This course focuses on the reading and critical analysis of late ancient Syriac texts (c. 300-700 CE) in their original language with a view to preparing students for doctoral-level research. The chosen texts will include mostly Christian theological literature and will expose students to a variety of Syriac authors, genres and styles. Prerequisite: Students are expected to have acquired introductory skills in ancient Syriac prior to enrollment in this course. Students demonstrate the acquisition of introductory skills upon admission to the doctoral program or by having successfully completed an introductory course in ancient Syriac after admission.

THEO 6310 - Late Ancient Greek: Theological Texts  
Credit(s): 3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)  
This course focuses on the reading and critical analysis of late ancient Greek texts in their original language with a view to preparing students for doctoral-level research. The texts that are examined are designed to expose students to a variety of authors, genres and styles of Greek used by early Christian writers. Prerequisite: Students are expected to have acquired introductory skills in ancient Greek prior to enrollment in this course. Students demonstrate the acquisition of introductory skills upon admission to the doctoral program or by having successfully completed GK 2010 or the equivalent.

THEO 6320 - Late Ancient Latin: Theological Texts  
Credit(s): 3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)  
This course focuses on the reading and critical analysis of late ancient Latin theological texts from the time of Tertullian through Gregory the Great (d. 604). The course emphasizes primarily Christian theological literature and provides a review of Latin grammar and exposure to a variety of ecclesial authors and genres. The course aims to prepare students to use Latin texts in doctoral-level research in the discipline of theology. Students are expected to have acquired introductory skills in ancient Latin prior to enrollment in this course. Prerequisites: Students demonstrate the acquisition of introductory skills upon admission to the doctoral program or by having successfully completed LATN 2010 or the equivalent.