Saint Paul School of Theology

**Course of Study 122**

**122 Theological Heritage I: Introduction**

**Summer 2022**

Instructor: Dr. Lucas Endicott

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**Course Description**

This course introduces the student to theological reflection in the Wesleyan tradition. Basic terms, tasks, and methods of Christian theology will be introduced. Representative classical themes will be defined and illustrated. The course provides a foundation for further historical and theological study.

**Course Objectives**

Students will be able to:

1. Examine their understanding of faith, sin, salvation, grace, and the place of doctrine in the life of the Church.

2. Use and understand classical theological terms and themes.

3. Critically consider the sources of theological reflection, including scripture, tradition, experience and reason.

4. Reflect theologically as a resource for pastoral ministry.

COS 122 - Booklist

**Required Texts – for assignments**

* Campbell, Ted A. *Methodist Doctrine: The Essentials*. Abingdon Press, 2011. ISBN-13 ‏ : ‎ 978-1426727016
* González, Justo L., and Zaida Maldonado Perez. *Introduction to Christian Theology*. Abingdon Press, 2011. ISBN-13 ‏ : ‎ 978-0687095735

**Recommended - for Further Reading**

* Chilcote, Paul Wesley. *Recapturing the Wesleys’ Vision: An Introduction to the Faith of John and Charles Wesley.* IVP Academic, 2004. ISBN-13 ‏ : ‎ 978-0830827435
* Jones, Beth Felker. *Practicing Christian Doctrine: An Introduction to Thinking and Living Theologically.* Baker Academic, 2014. ISBN-13 ‏ : ‎ 978-0801049330
* Quash, Ben, and Michael Ward. *Heresies and How to Avoid Them: Why It matters What Christians Believe*. Baker Academic; Reprint edition (April 5, 2012), ISBN-13 ‏ : ‎ 978-0801047497

**Supplemental Texts You May Use in This Course**

* *The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church*. United Methodist Publishing House, 2016. Available in an online PDF: <https://www.ctcumc.org/files/fileshare/2016-book-of-discipline.pdf>
* *United Methodist Hymnal*

**Three Assignments**

**Assignment 1**

This assignment is designed in two parts. You may use either or both of the course texts in your response.

1) In the first part of your paper (6 pages), pick and explain two doctrines of the church. You might want to consider how has the church historically taught/thought of these things, what challenges swirl around it, perhaps what are some contemporary issues regarding it:

 -Creation

 -The Trinity

 -Sin

 -Redemption

 -Church

 -New Creation

2) In the final part of the paper (4 pages), focus on Jesus. What elements/tensions developed the Church’s Christology? How were these tensions resolved? What heresies floated around questions about the nature of Jesus? What creeds do we turn to to declare the mystery of faith?

**Due date: Tuesday, July 26, 2022**

**Assignment 2**

COS 122 is designed to provide an introduction to Christian theology over the long history of the Church. As Gonzalez and Perez note, “theology always builds on the shoulders of those who have gone before” (p. 8). As you have made these introductions, what things have you been encouraged to consider again (or perhaps for the first time)? How does the material we covered challenge you? Where does it call you forward to examine more?

In this assignment bring yourself to the material.

**5 Pages**

**Due date: Tuesday, July 26, 2022**

**Assignment 3**

Create aministry tool(Sermon, Bible study, Community Organizing plan, Immersion Experience) using information we covered in the class.

**5 Pages**

**Due date: Tuesday, August 9, 2022**

**Moodle Forums**

**7/6-7/15**

**Final Grade**

**Attendance (zoom, class day) 10%**

**Forums 10%**

**Assignment 1 40%**

**Assignment 2 20%**

**Assignment 3 20%**

Two special notes:

1. Late papers receive a grade no higher than C (unless by special accommodation) and may receive no credit.
2. Missing one class session or 20% of a class work results in no credit for the course. [See the COS policy below]

**CLASS STRUCTURE**

**ZOOM ORIENTATION—Meet from 6-8 pm CST, Tuesday, June 28th** for an introduction

to the class. Attendance is required for all students

**ONLINE FORUMS – July 6-July 15, 2022**

FORUMS - 2 forums per week (a total of 4 forums)

❖ Online Engagement weeks of July 12-July 23

In these two weeks I will post 2 forums per week. Each of the 2 forums will invite reflection on course material for the week

❖ Students engage these forums by making initial posts (250 – 300) in response to the forum topics. You may wish to reference course texts, narrated PowerPoints, videos, or other material.

 ❖Students will then respond to initial posts by two other students in each of the two forums each week (50 – 100 words)

❖ Initial forum posts by students must be done by Wednesday by 11:59 pm of each week to allow students to write at least two responses to their classmates by Friday 11:59 pm.

❖ Forum postings on time will count and be graded as class participation and attendance.

**ONLINE CLASS MEETING—Tuesday, July 19th, 2022 from 8-12, 1-5 pm CST**

Classes will be held via Zoom for 10 hours (combination of orientation and class day) to meet GBHEM policies and educational best practices.

You will receive a zoom invite. A computer or tablet with a camera are preferred – and please plan to have your camera on during class to facilitate discussion.

**Course Policies**

In this course, we have multiple accountabilities. First, we are accountable to the Triune God and the Christian life and work to which we are called. Second, we are accountable to the Church and to the believers who make up the COS community. Third, we (instructor and students) are accountable to the Course of Study Policies and Guidelines, which help us to be faithful to our calls, the Church, and each other. I refer you to the COS policies but will highlight a few important expectations in this course.

*Class Attendance*

“A student is expected to attend every class session. Unexcused absences may be cause for loss of credit or dismissal from the school. A student missing twenty percent (20%) or more of the class room work shall not receive credit for those classes. Online work shall be included in the attendance policy.” [COS Policies and Guidelines, page 5]

*Academic Integrity Statement/Plagiarism*

All students are expected to document the sources they use in their written work properly. All words from the source should be quoted and cited even if only one unique word, a phrase, or model and typology headings. The use of a concept, idea, or fact must also be given recognition.

Any violation of COS’s policy on may result in a zero for the assignment, course, and disciplinary action against the student may be taken, including, but not limited to, dismissal.

Note from the instructor: To avoid plagiarism, which is taking someone else’s ideas or words/phrases/sentences and representing them as your own. In this course, **be sure** to use quotation marks to indicate when you’re quoting an author. Use footnotes to cite the places where anyone can find the quoted material or ideas. I recommend using Kate L. Turabian’s *A Manual for Writers.* See the folder posted in Moodle to learn the style expected. A quick reference guide is found at:

[*https://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/turabian/turabian-notes-and-bibliography-citation-quick-guide.html*](https://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/turabian/turabian-notes-and-bibliography-citation-quick-guide.html)

See/contact the instructor whenever you need writing support or advice.

*Sexual Harassment and Racial Harassment*

Note from the instructor: The two policies are too lengthy to quote here, but I refer you to the texts in the COS Policies and Guidelines, pages 19-23. Needless to say, the expected practice in our classroom will be to encourage, respect, and support each other in our work. The classroom is not a competitive or contentious place, but a collaborative and mutually responsible setting.

*Learning Accommodation*

As part of its commitment to equal opportunity, the Seminary is committed to providing qualified individuals with disabilities with reasonable accommodation. Students seeking accommodation should contact Margaretta Narcisse, the Associate Dean of Student Affairs at margaretta.narcisse@spst.edu.

This office maintains the forms necessary for medical documentation of disabilities required before any accommodation can be considered. Following receipt of medical documentation from the student, the Associate Dean of Student Affairs will determine reasonable accommodations for specified needs, including identifying persons to whom this information will be released.