

THEOLOGY

Thinking Theologically

All the degree programs offered by the Department of Theology, from undergraduate core classes to advanced Ph.D. seminars are designed to provide students with resources for the analysis of religion; for investigation of the sources, historical development and contemporary practices of particular religious traditions - principally the Roman Catholic tradition, although attention is given to other Christian traditions as well as Judaism, Islam and eastern religions; and for the critical appropriation of these traditions for one's personal faith and for sympathetic appreciation of the beliefs of others.

The best of contemporary Roman Catholic thought embraces dialogue and engagement with multiple religious traditions. And, so, the Theology Department at Loyola University Chicago welcomes dialogue with the diverse Christian and non-Christian traditions.

Theological thinking seeks not only an understanding of the nature of religion. It also seeks an understanding of the relationship of the Christian tradition to a contemporary world where social, political, and economic structures are often unjust; where secular faiths arise and challenge the self-evidentness of the Christian faith; and where scientific and technological advances pose new problems for human self-understanding.

Statement of Current Department Undergraduate Learning Goals

As teacher-scholars in the fields of Theology and Religious Studies within Loyola University Chicago's Department of Theology, we identify the following as fundamental learning goals for the undergraduate students whom we have the privilege to teach and learn. These goals express our hopes for, and our promise to, our students throughout their learning experience with us; while no single one of our courses likely achieves all of these goals (or even necessarily all of any one goal), we aim to provide a learning environment across the sum of our courses in which students may achieve all four.

- Expand awareness and critical openness to the complex interaction of religion and human experience, the diverse ways that this experience has been expressed by individuals and communities around the world, and the theological reflection on that experience in the Christian tradition.
- Deepen understanding and interpretation in the areas of religious studies and Christian theology using the fields' best methods and the best interdisciplinary resources within the university.
- Sharpen evaluative skills regarding the cognitive, ethical, and aesthetic impact of religions on human life and the natural world.
- Encourage action utilizing theological and religious studies backgrounds for the betterment of human society and the natural world.

Contact Us

Interested in one of these Majors or Minors? Contact Dr. Lauren O'Connell (loconnell1@luc.edu), the Theology Department's Undergraduate Program Director, or Randall Newman (rnewman2@luc.edu), Program Coordinator.

Undergraduate Programs

- Honors/Distinction in Theology (<https://catalog.luc.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/theology/honors-distinction-theology/>)
- Pastoral Leadership Minor (<https://catalog.luc.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/theology/pastoral-leadership-minor/>)
- Religious Studies (BA) (<https://catalog.luc.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/theology/religious-studies-ba/>)
- Religious Studies Minor (<https://catalog.luc.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/theology/religious-studies-minor/>)
- Theology (BA) (<https://catalog.luc.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/theology/theology-ba/>)
- Theology (BA/MA) (<https://catalog.luc.edu/undergraduate/accelerated-bachelors-masters-program/ba-ma-theology/>)
- Theology/International Affairs (BA/MA) (<https://catalog.luc.edu/undergraduate/accelerated-bachelors-masters-program/theology-international-affairs-bama/>)
- Theology Minor (<https://catalog.luc.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/theology/theology-minor/>)

Theology Department Policies

Double-Dipping Policy

- Students may not major and minor in the same discipline.
- Majors: Not less than 21 credit hours in the individual student's transcript must be unique to each major; that is, the courses in question are considered as actually fulfilling requirements of one major, not of more than one major
- Minors and interdisciplinary minors: not less than 8 credit hours in the individual student's transcript must be unique to each minor; that is, the courses in question are considered as actually fulfilling requirements of one minor, not of more than one minor or major.
- General exceptions to Rules 2 and 3 will be made if approved by the chairs/directors of the department(s)/program(s) housing each affected major and minor. A list of standing general exceptions will be maintained by the Dean's office.
- Individual student exceptions may be made in appropriate cases by department chairs and program directors.
- Departments and Programs may enforce stricter double-dipping policies than those stated above, which also should be provided to the Dean's Office.

Undergraduate Policies and Procedures

Please see Undergraduate Policies and Procedures (<https://catalog.luc.edu/academic-standards-regulations/undergraduate/>) for academic policies that supersede those of academic units within the University.

Theology (THEO)

THEO 100 Christian Theology (3 Credit Hours)

This course is an introduction to reflection on and analysis of the Christian theological tradition.

Knowledge Area: Foundational Theological Knowledge

Interdisciplinary Option: Catholic Studies, European Studies

Course equivalencies: ACTHE 101 / THEO 100

Outcomes:

Students will be able to demonstrate understanding of the tasks of Christian theology in its efforts to understand the human situation from the perspective of faith, various challenges to theology in the contemporary world, and will focus on one or more current theological issues

THEO 107 Introduction to Religious Studies (3 Credit Hours)

This course is an introduction to the contemporary field of religious studies, focusing on both the theoretical investigations of religious traditions, as well as on the study of selected religious texts and practices (such as creation stories, sacred biographies, sacred scriptures of a religious tradition(s) rituals, ritual taboos, religiously motivated behaviors.

Knowledge Area: Foundational Theological Knowledge

Interdisciplinary Option: Interreligious and Interfaith Studies

Course equivalencies: THEO170 / THEO270 / ACTHE 107

Outcomes:

Students will be able to analyze and interpret various ways in which religious traditions intersect with contemporary issues

THEO 114 Introduction to the Qur'an (3 Credit Hours)

This course provides an introduction to the central Islamic scripture, the Qur'an in terms of its main features and themes, and as a basis for the theological and ethical teachings of Islam, employing both classical interpretive traditions and contemporary academic approaches. Outcome: Students will be able to demonstrate and understanding of the nature of the main Islamic scripture, the Qur'an, and its influence on Muslim beliefs, ethical understandings, and social and religious practices.

Knowledge Area: Tier 2 Theological Knowledge

Interdisciplinary Option: African Studies and the African Diaspora, Black World Studies, Global Studies, Islamic World Studies

Course equivalencies: THEO114INTS114BWS114IWS114

THEO 167 Religions in China (3 Credit Hours)

This course is a survey of various religions in China that may include, not only Confucianism and Taoism, but also Buddhism, Christianity, Islam, Judaism, Zoroastrianism, Manicheism and popular or "folk" religion. The course will consider the function of these various religions in the development of Chinese society and their significance in Chinese civilization from ancient mythology to contemporary practices and developments."

Interdisciplinary Option: Asian Studies, Global Studies

Course equivalencies: X-THEO167/ASIA167/INTS167

Outcomes:

Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of the beliefs, practices, and institutions in varied contexts and historical periods in China, of various religions, both indigenous and "foreign

THEO 168 Sacred Texts of China (3 Credit Hours)

Through the study of primary sacred texts of China (in translation), this class will provide a basic understanding of Chinese thought and its historical development. Interconnections among the various periods and different schools of Chinese philosophy such as Confucianism, Taoism, Buddhism and Neo-Confucianism will be demonstrated and discussed from ancient through the medieval and modern periods.

Interdisciplinary Option: Asian Studies, Global Studies

Course equivalencies: X-THEO168/ASIA168/INTS168

Outcomes:

Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of the major Chinese sacred texts and teachings of various religious and philosophical traditions, and how they developed and interacted historically

THEO 169 Taoism (3 Credit Hours)

Students will study the history and main ideas and practices of Taoism, meet the sages who wrote the Taoist texts, be introduced to the various schools of Taoist philosophy, and get a feel for what it means to practice Taoism today. The course will illustrate how religious Taoism established a relationship with Confucian thought and practice as well as how at each stage of its historical development, Taoism exerted a profound influence on Chinese politics, economy, culture, art, natural sciences, and social life.

Knowledge Area: Tier 2 Theological Knowledge

Interdisciplinary Option: Asian Studies, Chinese Language & Culture, Global Studies

Course equivalencies: X-THEO169/ASIA169/INTS169

Outcomes:

Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of philosophical and religious Taoist beliefs, practices, and institutions in varied contexts and historical periods

THEO 185 Christian Ethics (3 Credit Hours)

Introduction to Christian Ethics is a core course that explores the major sources, methods, and insights of Christian social and theological ethics. Particular attention is given to Roman Catholic thought. The course will concentrate on the foundational sources in Christian ethics and examine the moral significance of major theological themes and affirmations.

Knowledge Area: Ethics

Outcomes:

Students will identify the major sources of Christian ethics (Scripture, Church tradition, philosophy, the social and human sciences, and human experience), and gain practice in identifying how different thinkers use, interpret, and prioritize these sources

THEO 186 Global Religious Ethics (3 Credit Hours)

Religious Ethics explores fundamental moral sources and methods in Christian ethics in dialogue with the ethical understandings of at least one other religious tradition, and with special attention to Roman Catholic thought. In doing so, it explores moral issues faced by individuals and communities from theological perspectives, particularly mindful of how the economic, political and cultural structures in a religiously plural world affect those issues.

Knowledge Area: Ethics

Interdisciplinary Option: Peace, Justice, and Conflict Studies

Outcomes:

In this course, students will explore and compare the ethical understandings of Christianity and at least one other religious tradition; With respect to each tradition, students will learn about the foundational sources, doctrines and questions that guide its ethical thinking

THEO 190 Loyola's Mission: Ignatian Traditions (3 Credit Hours)

The course introduces students to LUC's mission through theological reflection on the main themes of the Transformative Education mission-statement: spirituality and faith, interlinked human knowing, moral compass, civic and environmental responsibility.

Course equivalencies: THEO190 / THEO290

Outcomes:

Integration into the LUC community, ethos, and vision

THEO 192 Topics in Moral Problems (3 Credit Hours)

A critical examination of one or more areas of moral concern from the viewpoint of Christian ethics. May include: medical ethics, professional ethics, social justice issues, racism, environmental concerns, and war and peace studies.

Course equivalencies: THEO192 / THEO292

Outcomes:

Students will be able to demonstrate understanding of ethical comprehension, analysis, and decision-making within the context of select theological and religious traditions

THEO 203 Social Justice and Injustice (3 Credit Hours)

Pre-requisites: THEO 100, THEO 107, or equivalent; please check requirements for declared majors/minors for exceptions

The course introduces students to Catholic and Protestant approaches to social justice. Students will also study theories and analyses of social injustice. Students will study specific instances of social injustice (gender, race, and class). It will increase student awareness of diversity, in the United States and globally.

Knowledge Area: Tier 2 Theological Knowledge

Interdisciplinary Option: Bioethics, Peace, Justice, and Conflict Studies, Race and Ethnicity

Outcomes:

Summarize relevant social, economic, policy history/context that related to current sites of injustice related to racial-ethnic inequalities, economic inequality, immigration status, healthcare, and sex/gender inequality; Distinguish among distinct theories of justice in both theological and philosophical thought; Describe the moral challenges posed by injustice; Relate key ideas, traditions, & practices in Christian theological, philosophical, and other religious thought that may help individuals and societies move closer to approximating justice in society/world

THEO 204 Religious Ethics and the Ecological Crisis (3 Credit Hours)

Pre-requisites: THEO 100, THEO 107, or equivalent; please check requirements for declared majors/minors for exceptions

Advances in technology and industry confront us with unprecedented abilities for altering long standing climate patterns. These capacities challenge many traditional religious and ethical assumptions about humanity and our relationship to the nonhuman world. We will examine the resources that religious traditions of the world offer for promoting ecological responsibility.

Knowledge Area: Tier 2 Theological Knowledge

Interdisciplinary Option: Bioethics, Catholic Studies, Peace, Justice, and Conflict Studies

Outcomes:

students will be able to: *Summarize relevant history related to scientific, policy & political data and decisions *Describe central scientific and ethical challenges posed by the climate crisis *Relate key ideas, traditions, & practices in Christian theological, philosophical, and other religious thought that may help address this crisis

THEO 231 Hebrew Bible/Old Testament (3 Credit Hours)

Pre-requisites: THEO 100, THEO 107, or equivalent; please check requirements for declared majors/minors for exceptions

This course provides an introduction to the Old Testament / Tanakh (Hebrew Scriptures).

Knowledge Area: Tier 2 Theological Knowledge

Interdisciplinary Option: Islamic World Studies

Outcomes:

Students will be able to demonstrate understanding of central texts, beliefs, ethical understanding, and practices of Judaism and Christianity

THEO 232 New Testament (3 Credit Hours)

Pre-requisites: THEO 100 or equivalent; please check requirements for declared majors/minors for exceptions

This course is an introduction to the historical and theological reading of the various documents of early Christianity known as the New Testament.

Knowledge Area: Tier 2 Theological Knowledge

Interdisciplinary Option: Catholic Studies

Course equivalencies: X-THEO112/CATH112

Outcomes:

Students will be able to demonstrate understanding of the literary genres found in the New Testament and explain why the recognition of genre is essential to the interpretation of the New Testament, as well as the importance of how the New Testament documents have reached their present state

THEO 265 Sacraments and the Christian Imagination (3 Credit Hours)

Pre-requisites: THEO 100 or equivalent; please check requirements for declared majors/minors for exceptions

This course studies the realities of Christian faith life as expressed and celebrated in the concrete rituals of the Christian communities.

Knowledge Area: Tier 2 Theological Knowledge

Interdisciplinary Option: Catholic Studies

Course equivalencies: X-THEO265/CATH106

Outcomes:

Students will be able to demonstrate how a sacramental system of aesthetics is often embedded in cultural artifacts such as poetry, music, painting, literature, and film, and recognize and interpret the impact of history and cultures on the development of Christian doctrine and practices

THEO 266 Church & Global Cultures (3 Credit Hours)

Pre-requisites: THEO 100, THEO 107, or equivalent; please check requirements for declared majors/minors for exceptions

This course provides an introduction to ways in which the Christian churches, and primarily the Roman Catholic Church, understand and enact their identity in relation to the secular world of culture, economics, and politics, both nationally and globally.

Knowledge Area: Tier 2 Theological Knowledge

Interdisciplinary Option: Catholic Studies, Italian Studies

Course equivalencies: X-THEO105/CATH105

Outcomes:

Students will be able to analyze and interpret contrasting Christian understandings of the notion of original sin, and demonstrate knowledge, with attention to historical development, of the central texts, beliefs, ethical understandings, and practices of at least one religious tradition

THEO 267 Jesus Christ (3 Credit Hours)

Pre-requisites: THEO 100 or equivalent; please check requirements for declared majors/minors for exceptions

This course examines the life of Jesus Christ, utilizing the Gospels, the writings of Paul and other biblical authors, the early ecumenical councils, and the history of church doctrine, including contemporary scholarship.

Knowledge Area: Tier 2 Theological Knowledge

Interdisciplinary Option: Catholic Studies

Course equivalencies: THEO104/CATH104

Outcomes:

This course examines the life of Jesus Christ, utilizing the Gospels, the writings of Paul and other biblical authors, the early ecumenical councils, and the history of church doctrine, including contemporary scholarship

THEO 272 Judaism (3 Credit Hours)

Pre-requisites: THEO 100, THEO 107, or equivalent; please check requirements for declared majors/minors for exceptions

This course provides an introduction to Judaism.

Knowledge Area: Tier 2 Theological Knowledge

Interdisciplinary Option: Global Studies, Islamic World Studies

Course equivalencies: THEO172/THEO272/INTS172

Outcomes:

Students will be able to name and discuss some of the most important Jewish scriptures, articulate the general outline of the historical evolution of Judaism, and define and discuss key concepts, terms, values, and religious practices foundational to Judaism

THEO 276 Black World Religion (3 Credit Hours)

Pre-requisites: THEO 100, THEO 107, or equivalent; please check requirements for declared majors/minors for exceptions

This course explores the revelatory manner in which the divine comes to unique presence and expression among African peoples throughout human history. It will examine the religious experiences and traditions of: Africa's ancient Nile valley civilizations, long recognized as cradling the world's spiritual and philosophical wisdom and as influencing the formative development of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.

Interdisciplinary Option: African Studies and the African Diaspora, Black World Studies, Interreligious and Interfaith Studies, African Studies and the African Diaspora, Black World Studies, Interreligious and Interfaith Studies

Course equivalencies: THEO176 / THEO276/BWS288

Outcomes:

Students will demonstrate their knowledge of African peoples' religious experiences within their various historical and cultural contexts

THEO 278 Religion & Gender (3 Credit Hours)

Pre-requisites: THEO 100, THEO 107, or equivalent; please check requirements for declared majors/minors for exceptions

This course will study the role of women in at least one (if not more) of the major world religious traditions.

Knowledge Area: Tier 2 Theological Knowledge

Interdisciplinary Option: Women & Gender Studies

Course equivalencies: THEO178/THEO278/WSGS278

Outcomes:

Students will be able to demonstrate understanding of the influence of religion on gender roles, and how women in the contemporary world are reinterpreting their religious traditions

THEO 279 Roman Catholicism (3 Credit Hours)

Pre-requisites: THEO 100 or equivalent; please check requirements for declared majors/minors for exceptions

This course provides an introduction to Roman Catholicism.

Knowledge Area: Tier 2 Theological Knowledge

Interdisciplinary Option: Catholic Studies, Italian Studies

Course equivalencies: THEO179/THEO279/CATH179

Outcomes:

Students will be able to demonstrate understanding of the most important Roman Catholic beliefs, the historical evolution of Roman Catholicism, the key Roman Catholic concepts, terms, values, and religious practices, and the main lines of current Roman Catholic identity in today's world

THEO 280 Religion & Interdisciplinary Studies (3 Credit Hours)

Course topics will rotate to incorporate the study of religion in a variety of other disciplines. Focus will be on the influence or application of religious teachings and traditions in the fields of healthcare, politics, education, etc.

Knowledge Area: Tier 2 Theological Knowledge

Course equivalencies: THEO180 / THEO280

Outcomes:

Describe the ethical implications of the religious beliefs and traditions of at least one religion for the primary field of study

THEO 281 Christianity Through Time (3 Credit Hours)

Pre-requisites: THEO 100, THEO 107, or equivalent; please check requirements for declared majors/minors for exceptions

The course is a survey course in the history of Christian thought. Not a course in Church history, this is a course whose primary goal is to investigate the major interactions between Christian thought and practice and the cultures that it has been a part of in its two thousand year history.

Knowledge Area: Tier 2 Theological Knowledge

Interdisciplinary Option: Catholic Studies, German Studies, Medieval Studies

Course equivalencies: THEO181/ THEO281/CATH181

Outcomes:

Students will learn to analyze and interpret religious texts, beliefs and practices using standard scholarly methods and tools

THEO 282 Hinduism (3 Credit Hours)

Pre-requisites: THEO 100, THEO 107, or equivalent; please check requirements for declared majors/minors for exceptions

This course provides an introduction to Hinduism.

Knowledge Area: Tier 2 Theological Knowledge

Interdisciplinary Option: Asian Studies, Global Studies

Course equivalencies: THEO196/ASIA196/INTS294

Outcomes:

Students will be able to demonstrate understanding of the most important Hindu scriptures, the general outline of the historical evolution of Hinduism, the key Hindu concepts, terms, values, and religious practices, and the basic narratives and imagery of Hinduism

THEO 293 Christian Marriage (3 Credit Hours)

Pre-requisites: THEO 100, THEO 107, or equivalent; please check requirements for declared majors/minors for exceptions

This course examines the Christian understanding of marriage.

Knowledge Area: Tier 2 Theological Knowledge

Interdisciplinary Option: Catholic Studies

Course equivalencies: THEO193/THEO293/CATH193

Outcomes:

Students will be able to demonstrate understanding of historical & ethical principles used to evaluate particular issues relevant to the understanding of the Christian tradition of marriage

THEO 295 Islam (3 Credit Hours)

Pre-requisites: THEO 100, THEO 107, or equivalent; please check requirements for declared majors/minors for exceptions

This course will provide an introduction to Islam.

Knowledge Area: Tier 2 Theological Knowledge

Interdisciplinary Option: Arabic Language and Culture, Asian Studies, Global Studies, Islamic World Studies, Arabic Language and Culture, Asian Studies, Global Studies, Islamic World Studies

Course equivalencies: THEO195/ASIA195/INTS295/IWS195

Outcomes:

Students will be able to demonstrate understanding of the most important Muslim scriptures, the general outline of the historical evolution of Islam, the key Islamic concepts, terms, values, and religious practices, and the diversity within Islam

THEO 297 Buddhism (3 Credit Hours)

Pre-requisites: THEO 100, THEO 107, or equivalent; please check requirements for declared majors/minors for exceptions

This course provides an introduction to Buddhism.

Knowledge Area: Tier 2 Theological Knowledge

Interdisciplinary Option: Asian Studies, Global Studies, Japanese Language and Culture

Course equivalencies: THEO197/ASIA197/INTS297

Outcomes:

Students will be able to demonstrate understanding of the most important Buddhist scriptures, the general outline of the historical evolution of Buddhism, including its different major branches, and the key Buddhist concepts, terms, values, and religious practices

THEO 299 Religions of Asia (3 Credit Hours)

Pre-requisites: THEO 100, THEO 107, or equivalent; please check requirements for declared majors/minors for exceptions

An introductory survey of selected teachings, institutions, and practices of the great religious traditions of South Asia and East Asia placed in historical context.

Interdisciplinary Option: Asian Studies, Global Studies

This course satisfies the Engaged Learning requirement.

Course equivalencies: X-THEO199/ASIA199/INTS199

Outcomes:

Students will be able to demonstrate understanding of the central texts, beliefs, ethical understandings, and practices of at least three Asian religions

THEO 302 Wisdom Literature and Psalms (3 Credit Hours)

Pre-requisites: THEO 111

A study of the wisdom literature of the Old Testament, attention to the nature of the wisdom tradition in Israel; study of the Psalms as the prayer of Israel.

Outcomes:

Students will be able to demonstrate understanding of central texts, beliefs, ethical understanding, and practices of Judaism and Christianity

THEO 303 Pentateuch (3 Credit Hours)

Pre-requisites: THEO 111

The literary structure of the first five books of the Bible.

Outcomes:

Students will be able to demonstrate understanding of central texts, beliefs, ethical understanding, and practices of Judaism and Christianity

THEO 304 Israel Conquest to Exile (3 Credit Hours)

Pre-requisites: THEO 111

A study of the so-called historical books of the Bible (Joshua, Judges, Samuel, Kings) with attention to the history of Israel from conquest to exile.

Outcomes:

Students will be able to demonstrate understanding of central texts, beliefs, ethical understanding, and practices of Judaism and Christianity

THEO 308 Biblical Hebrew I (3 Credit Hours)

The sound, forms and grammar of biblical language. Selected readings from the Old Testament.

Course equivalencies: X-THEO308/CLST101

Outcomes:

Students will demonstrate an understanding of Biblical Hebrew

THEO 309 Biblical Hebrew II (3 Credit Hours)

Pre-requisites: THEO 308

Further study of biblical language. Selected readings from the Old Testament.

Course equivalencies: X-THEO309/CLST102

Outcomes:

Students will demonstrate an understanding of Biblical Hebrew

THEO 311 The Meaning of Jesus Christ (3 Credit Hours)

Pre-requisites: THEO 104

Interpretations of the person and work of Jesus.

Interdisciplinary Option: Catholic Studies

Outcomes:

Students will be able to demonstrate understanding of the nature of Jesus Christ as both human and divine, what this might mean, how this formulation was derived, and the varieties of understanding of Christ within the Scriptures, the church, and modern scholarship

THEO 313 Gospels of Matthew, Mark & Luke (3 Credit Hours)

Pre-requisites: THEO 112

An analysis of the development of the synoptic tradition (the gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke).

Interdisciplinary Option: Catholic Studies

Outcomes:

Students will be able to demonstrate understanding of the various literary elements found in these particular gospels

THEO 317 Christian Thought: Ancient-Medieval (3 Credit Hours)

The development of various Christian doctrines in light of their historical milieu during the first fourteen centuries of Christian thought.

Interdisciplinary Option: Catholic Studies, European Studies, Medieval Studies

Course equivalencies: X-THEO317/CATH317/MSTU360

Outcomes:

Students will be able to assess how various configurations of theological perspectives can both expand and foreshorten the way human thinking has gone on

THEO 318 Christian Thought: Reformation to Modern (3 Credit Hours)

The development of various Christian doctrines in light of their historical milieu during the last six centuries of Christian thought.

Interdisciplinary Option: Catholic Studies, European Studies

Course equivalencies: X-THEO318/CATH318

Outcomes:

Students will be able to assess how various configurations of theological perspectives can both expand and foreshorten the way human thinking has gone on

THEO 330 Liberation Theology (3 Credit Hours)

An introduction to the contemporary theologies of liberation emerging in Latin American, African, and Asian Christian.

Interdisciplinary Option: Catholic Studies, Global Studies, Latin American Studies

Course equivalencies: X-THEO/INTS/LASP330/PAX332

Outcomes:

Students will be able to demonstrate understanding of ethical comprehension, analysis, and decision-making within the context of select theological and religious traditions

THEO 331 Theology of Secularization (3 Credit Hours)

An exploration of the history of secularization and the context it establishes for American Christianity. Focus on practical issues of Christian living.

Outcomes:

Students will be able to analyze and interpret various ways in which religious traditions intersect with contemporary issues

THEO 340 Foundations of Christian Morality (3 Credit Hours)

A survey of theological and philosophical issues which shape the articulation of specific moral principles.

Outcomes:

Students will be able to demonstrate understanding of ethical comprehension, analysis, and decision-making within the context of select theological and religious traditions

THEO 342 Perspectives on Life and Death (3 Credit Hours)

Examination of the exploration of our perception of the life range for possible reevaluation and rearticulation, in view of modern scientific developments.

Interdisciplinary Option: Bioethics

Course equivalencies: X-THEO342/BIET342

Outcomes:

Students will be able to demonstrate understanding of ethical comprehension, analysis, and decision-making within the context of select theological and religious traditions

THEO 343 Contemporary Christian Sexuality (3 Credit Hours)

Examination of inter-religious perspectives in contemporary sexual ethics.

Interdisciplinary Option: Bioethics

Course equivalencies: X-THEO343/BIET343

Outcomes:

Students will be able to demonstrate understanding of ethical comprehension, analysis, and decision-making within the context of select theological and religious traditions

THEO 344 Theology and Ecology (3 Credit Hours)

Examination of the ecological, ethical and theological analyses of humanity's relationship to the natural world.

Interdisciplinary Option: Bioethics

Course equivalencies: X-THEO344/ESP 344/BIET344

Outcomes:

Students will be able to demonstrate understanding of ethical comprehension, analysis, and decision-making within the context of select theological and religious traditions

THEO 348 Supervised Ministry (3 Credit Hours)

Placement in a ministerial position, on-site supervision, and biweekly individual or group meetings with the course director is required. This course satisfies the Engaged Learning requirement.

Outcomes:

Students will be able to demonstrate how a sacramental system of aesthetics is often embedded in cultural artifacts

THEO 349 Theological Topics for the Bioethics Capstone (3 Credit Hours)

Pre-requisites: Two Science courses and two Ethics courses

The interdisciplinary team-taught Bioethics capstone course examines a topic in bioethics from both scientific and ethical points of view. Topics may include bio-technologies, concepts of race and gender, the environment, reproduction, and others. This course number provides an elective for Theology students when the Bioethics capstone's topic is theological.

Interdisciplinary Option: Bioethics

Outcomes:

Students will understand the connection between ethical and scientific issues with regard to the special topic in theology

THEO 350 Topics in Islam (3 Credit Hours)

A deeper and more focused study of significant aspects of the religion of Islam.

Interdisciplinary Option: Asian Studies, Global Studies, Islamic World Studies

Course equivalencies: XTHEO350INTS387ASIA350IWS350

Outcomes:

Students will be able to demonstrate understanding of Islam

THEO 352 Topics in Buddhism (3 Credit Hours)

A deeper and more focused study of significant aspects of Buddhism.

Interdisciplinary Option: Asian Studies, Global Studies, Japanese Language and Culture

Course equivalencies: X-THEO352/INTS352/ASIA352

Outcomes:

Students will be able to demonstrate understanding of Buddhism

THEO 353 Religious Traditions (3 Credit Hours)

This course investigates the historical, social, ritual and reflective positions of one or more religious traditions. It likewise develops the student's abilities to use contemporary methods of historical, theological, and social scientific analysis of religious traditions.

THEO 356 Topics in Judaism (3 Credit Hours)

A deeper and more focused study of significant aspects of Judaism.

Outcomes:

Students will be able to demonstrate understanding of Judaism

THEO 365 Women, Gender and Embodiment in Islam (3 Credit Hours)

This course will consider gender both as articulated in normative Islamic religious and legal systems and as embodied during various historical periods in a range of Muslim societies. Students will read a number of the most important academic studies in this field and consider anthropological and cultural materials including films and short stories that disclose Muslim practices and concepts of maleness, femaleness, and gender relations.

Interdisciplinary Option: Arabic Language and Culture, Asian Studies, Global Studies, Islamic World Studies, Women & Gender Studies

Course equivalencies: THEO/ASIA/INTS/WSGS/IWS365

THEO 366 Contemporary Islamic Thought and Movements (3 Credit Hours)

This course will consider contemporary Islamic thought and movements world-wide. After a brief introduction to Islam and the historical development of the tradition up to the present, students will learn about a range of contemporary Muslim intellectual and activist movements and thinkers through the study of original writings and secondary analysis. Some major figures to be considered include: Syed Maududi, Sayyid Qutb, Fazlur Rahman, and other Muslim intellectuals representing movements such as Jama'at-i Islami, the Muslim Brotherhood, and Islamic liberalism. We will focus on the 20th century up to the most current trends. Some of the theological and social issues that will be discussed are gender, the ideal political order, Islamic law and its role in society, and pluralism.

Interdisciplinary Option: Asian Studies, Global Studies, Islamic World Studies

Course equivalencies: X-THEO/ASIA/IWS366/INTS366A

THEO 373 Theology Capstone (3 Credit Hours)

Students enrolling in this course must have junior status and be Theology majors. This 3 credit capstone course gives students an opportunity to integrate various aspects of their theological education, drawing upon the major sources of Christian and Catholic tradition, including Scripture, History, Systematic Theology, and Ethics.

Outcomes:

Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the varied sources within Christian theological traditions and how to make reasoned theological arguments

THEO 376 Language and Faith (3 Credit Hours)

A cultural approach to the study of religious faith through the framework of language.

THEO 378 Theology and Culture (3 Credit Hours)

This course can count as an elective for the major or minor. The course will be divided into three parts: (1) an exploration of the interaction between theological reflection & culture; (2) a look at some theological texts that compare Christian and non-Christian practices and practices in the U.S. where different cultural understandings interact; (3) a study of postmodernism.

Outcomes:

A deep level of understanding and of critical thinking with respect to the subject matter of the course

THEO 382 Readings-Liturgy (3 Credit Hours)

Examination of the readings, prayers, songs, rites of contemporary liturgies. Comparison of these materials with those of traditional liturgies and evaluation of the underlying principles.

Outcomes:

Students will be able to demonstrate how a sacramental system of aesthetics is often embedded in cultural artifacts

THEO 383 Theology Arts & Literature (1-3 Credit Hours)

Study of theological and religious symbols and themes in modern literature and/or in the arts.

Interdisciplinary Option: Catholic Studies

Course equivalencies: X-THEO383/ENGL383/CATH383

Outcomes:

The student who successfully completes this course will be able to demonstrate knowledge about religion and its intersections with selected contemporary ethical, social, political, economic, or cultural issues

THEO 392 Readings in Theology (3 Credit Hours)

A reading course with variable content in the area of theology. Open to major and non-majors with permission of instructor.

THEO 393 Seminar (3 Credit Hours)

An undergraduate seminar course for majors and minors in the Theology department; variable content, addressing topical issues that are not covered by the regular offerings at the 300 level.

Outcomes:

Students will gain an in-depth understanding of a selected topic

THEO 395 Theology Tutorial (3 Credit Hours)

Tutorials for seniors on selected topics in biblical, systematic, historical or moral theology.

Outcomes:

Students will gain an in-depth understanding of a selected topic