

**CODE:** THO 6382

**TITLE:** Foundational Texts in Eastern Christian Theology

**CREDITS:** 3 cr.

**SESSION:** Fall 2011

**PROFESSOR:** Andriy Chirovsky

<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	A study of prominent texts in the doctrinal literature of the Eastern Churches throughout the ages, including selected writings of Irenaeus of Lyons, Origen, Athanasius, Basil, Gregory of Nazianzus, Ps.-Dionysius, Maximus, John Damascene, Photius, Gregory Palamas, Peter Mohyla, John Zizioulas.										
<b>OBJECTIVES</b>	An appreciation of the antinomic and apophatic tradition of theologizing in the Eastern Churches. Identification of classic authors and texts and examination of dominant themes at some depth. Exposure of students to various types of texts: orations, treatises, centuries, sermons, etc., and various contexts: exposition, controversy, catechesis, etc. Application of insights gleaned to a preachable and teachable, balanced theology for the contemporary Christian.										
<b>WORKLOAD</b>	Weekly class presentations and in-depth group discussions regarding the readings. These crucially important presentations and discussions will focus on situating the selected classic texts within the wider Tradition. One student will present each text. All others will engage in a discussion focusing on questions internal to the text, and those that connect to contemporary concerns. Weekly postings to class website, research paper (12-15 typed pages) or other negotiated project. Oral Exam										
<b>EVALUATION</b>	<table><tr><td>Class presentations</td><td>15%</td></tr><tr><td>Group Discussions</td><td>15%</td></tr><tr><td>Postings to Website regarding the readings</td><td>20%</td></tr><tr><td>Research Paper</td><td>30%</td></tr><tr><td>Oral Exam</td><td>20%</td></tr></table>	Class presentations	15%	Group Discussions	15%	Postings to Website regarding the readings	20%	Research Paper	30%	Oral Exam	20%
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<b>REQUIRED TEXTS</b>	A list of online texts will be presented at the start of the course of the following works and some others:										
<b>RECOMMENDED TEXTS</b>	Irenaeus, <i>Proof of the Apostolic Preaching</i> . Athanasius, <i>On the Incarnation</i> . Origen, <i>First Principles</i> . Basil, <i>Hexaemeron</i> . Gregory Naz. <i>Theological Orations</i> . Pseudo-Dionysius, <i>Mystical Theology</i> . Maximus the Confessor, <i>Two Centuries on Theology</i> . John Damascene, <i>Exact Exposition of the Orthodox Faith</i> . Photius, <i>Mystagogy of the Holy Spirit</i> . Gregory Palamas, <i>Triads</i> . Peter Mohyla, <i>Orthodox Confession of the Faith</i> . John Zizioulas, <i>Being as Communion</i> .										