**DESCRIPTION**

An analysis of the fundamental categories of faith, revelation and tradition within the Eastern Christian context, as understood according to its distinctive theological methodology, as well as a survey of the living monuments and media of the Holy Spirit's life in the Church: Scripture, creeds, councils, liturgy, patrology, iconography, hagiography and the canonical tradition.

**PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MDIV</th>
<th>MTS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Knowledge of heritage</td>
<td>Attain a broad, general knowledge of Catholic tradition</td>
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<tr>
<td>Understanding of the contemporary cultural context</td>
<td>Think theologically</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capacity for ministerial and public leadership</td>
<td>Integrate knowledge and lived experience</td>
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<tr>
<td>Growth in spiritual depth and moral integrity</td>
<td>Prepare for the service of church and society</td>
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</table>

**COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

- To introduce the underlying modalities of faith and revelation especially in light of contemporary skepticism and hermeneutical concerns
- To become familiar with the characteristic methods of Orthodox theology (particularly apophaticism and antinomy)
- To expose the student to the Eastern Christian approach to the Bible; the status and meaning of the Niceno-Constantinopolitan Creed and other conciliar formulations; the idea of worship as theology enfleshed; the role and method of patristic interpretation; iconography and hagiography as *loci theologici*
- To consider how academic theology may be incorporated into pastoral practice
- To introduce the underlying modalities of faith and revelation especially in light of contemporary skepticism and hermeneutical concerns
- To become familiar with the characteristic methods of Orthodox theology (particularly apophaticism and antinomy)
- To expose the student to the Eastern Christian approach to the Bible; the status and meaning of the Niceno-Constantinopolitan Creed and other conciliar formulations; the idea of worship as theology enfleshed; the role and method of patristic interpretation; iconography and hagiography as *loci theologici*
- To analyze and critique the notion of "Tradition," by researching one of its classic expressions
<table>
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<tr>
<th>WORKLOAD</th>
<th>EVALUATION</th>
<th>REQUIRED TEXTS</th>
<th>RECOMMENDED TEXTS</th>
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</table>
| • Class Participation  
  Involvement in discussions; collaboration with peers  
• 3 Reflection Papers (500 words each; due at end of Sept, Oct & Nov)  
  Summary and personal consideration of assigned readings  
• Written Mid-Term Exam  
  Identification of terminology; short essay questions  
• **Written Description of Catechetical Unit** (1250-1500 words; due near the end of the semester)  
  Summary of popular presentation on one “source” of Eastern Christian Theology  
• **Oral Presentation of Catechetical Unit**  
  20-25 minutes  
• Oral Final Exam | • Class Participation  
  Involvement in discussions; collaboration with peers  
• 3 Reflection Papers (500 words each; due at end of Sept, Oct & Nov)  
  Summary and personal consideration of assigned readings  
• Written Mid-Term Exam  
  Identification of terminology; short essay questions  
• **Critical Analysis of Primary Source** (2500-3000 words; due near the end of the semester)  
  Researched description, analysis & evaluation of classic text or icon  
• **Oral Summary of Primary Source Research**  
  5-10 minutes  
• Oral Final Exam | • Peter Bouteneff, *Sweeter than Honey: Orthodox Thinking on Dogma and Truth*, Foundations Series, 3 (Crestwood, NY: St. Vladimir’s Seminary Press, 2006)  

| I = Introduction | S = Strengthening | A = Advanced | N/A = Does not apply to this course |