

# THEOLOGY AND CHRISTIAN PHILOSOPHY

Seminary #302  
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## Faculty

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J. H. Denis Fortin  
Warren H. Johns  
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Written consent of the professor is required for registration in seminars. Seminars are not substitutes for core requirements.

## INTRODUCTION

**THST504** (3)  
*Introduction to Theology*  
An orientation to the theological task of the minister and the content of the Christian faith.

## SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

**THST517** (3-4)  
*Doctrine of Revelation and Inspiration*  
Propositional truth and I-Thou encounter—their implications for authority, theology, and Christian experience.

**THST604** (3-4)  
*Doctrine of God*  
A study of the nature and attributes of God and His relation to the world. Consideration of divine foreknowledge, predestination, and providence; the Trinity; God as person.

**THST605** (3-4)  
*Doctrine of Christ*  
The unique person of Christ: His pre-existence, virgin birth, and incarnation. The incarnate relation of His divinity and humanity. The meaning and implications of His death.

**THST606** (3-4)  
*Doctrine of the Holy Spirit*  
The person and work of the Holy Spirit in the plan of redemption and the divine economy.

**THST608** (3-4)  
*Doctrine of the Sabbath*  
Significance of the seventh-day rest in the Old Testament, in the teachings of Christ and the apostles, and in contemporary theology.

**THST609** (3-4)  
*Doctrine of Man*  
Origin of humanity, the fall, and sin—its nature and effect. The nature of man, the doctrine of immortality. Man and woman as the image of God.

**THST615** (3-4)  
*Doctrine of the Church*  
The nature, attributes, marks, and government of the Christian Church. Its relation to Christ, to the Scriptures, and to the Holy Spirit. The ordinances and the ministry.

**THST619** (3-4)  
*Principles and Methods of Theology*  
The nature, function, and practice of constructive theological activity. Doing theology: What? Why? How? For advanced students.

**THST620** (3-4)  
*Apocalyptic Interpretation*  
A systematic study of the progressive revelation of apocalyptic imagery in both the Old and New Testaments. Selected problems: numerology, Antichrist, judgment, cleansing of the sanctuary, prophetic outlines.

**THST636** (3-4)  
*Doctrine of Righteousness by Faith*  
Adventist approach to a Christ-centered interpretation of the way of salvation in the progressive revelation of the Old and New Testaments, focusing on the interrelationship of justification and sanctification.

**THST637** (3-4)  
*Biblical Eschatology*  
Adventist approach to a Christ-centered interpretation of the end-time prophecies regarding the judgment, the second coming of Christ, the kingdom of God, and the millennium in the Old and New Testaments on the basis of biblical principles of interpretation.

**THST638** (3-4)  
*Liberation Theology*  
A critical investigation of the origin, development, and teachings of Liberation Theology in its major expressions: Latin American, African, and/or Feminist. Attention may be given to a particular expression.

**THST645** (3-4)  
*Studies in Theological Issues*  
Study of issues such as Christology, anthropology, ecclesiology, contemporary theology, and Christian ethics. Repeatable.

**THST685** (3-4)  
*Seminar in Systematic Theology*  
Selected issues in systematic theology. Repeatable.

**THST704** (2)  
*Ecclesiology and the Practice of Ministry*  
Selected issues in ecclesiology related to the practice of ministry.

**THST705** (3-4)  
*Theology and Praxis in Mission and Ministry*  
Theological and theoretical undergirdings for practices in mission and ministry. Identical to MSSN705.

## (3-4) HISTORICAL THEOLOGY

**THST624** (3-4)  
*Protestant Theological Heritage*  
The most important positions of the great shapers of the Protestant tradition from the earliest times to the present.

**THST625** (3-4)  
*Early Christian Theology*  
Study of the doctrinal development of the Church from the close of the apostolic age to Augustine in such themes as heresy, ethics, salvation, authority, and ecclesiology.

**THST626** (3-4)  
*Modern Christian Theology*  
Study of the major doctrinal trends of the Church from Anselm to Wesley. Particular attention given to such themes as atonement, salvation, ecclesiology, and eschatology.

**THST627** (3-4)  
*Roman Catholic Life & Thought*  
An introduction to Roman Catholic theology. Attention given to major doctrinal formulations, dogmas, and practices from the patristic period to the present in dialogue with Scripture.

**THST628** (3-4)  
*Contemporary Theology*  
Study of major trends in 19<sup>th</sup>- and 20<sup>th</sup>-century theology, including liberalism and neo-orthodoxy, and such shapers of religious thought as Schleiermacher, Barth, and Bultmann viewed over the rise and development of Adventist theology.

**THST629** (3-4)  
*Interfaith Dialogue*  
Analytical and critical study of the development, structures, problems, and theological implications of ecumenical and post-denominational movements. Evaluation and response from a Seventh-day Adventist perspective.

**THST646** (3-4)  
*Studies in Historical Theology*  
Development of theological tradition, movement, doctrine, or theme throughout the history of Judeo-Christian thought. Repeatable.

**THST684** (3-4)  
*Seminar in Historical Theology*  
Study of selected issues in historical theology. Repeatable.

**THST809** (4)  
*The Theology of Ellen G. White*  
Analytical study of major theological themes in the writings of E. G. White and their influence on Adventist theology. Repeatable.

**THST830** (4)  
*Methods in Historical Theology*  
An orientation of a theological tradition, movement, doctrine, or theme throughout the history of Judeo-Christian thought. Repeatable.

**THST964** (4)  
*Seminar in Historical Theology*  
Study of selected doctrinal and historical issues and systems.

## PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS

- THST657** (2-4)  
*Directed Studies in Science and Religion*  
The investigation by field and laboratory study of scientific evidences that relate to the theological issues. Attention given to the topics of creation-evolution, catastrophe-uniformity, and time. Admission by written permission of instructor.
- THST658** (3-4)  
*Professional Ethics*  
An inquiry into the field of professional relations, dilemmas, and decision making within the context of Christian ethics. Emphasis on the identity, activity, and influence (witness) of a Christian professional, primarily in the caring professions. Identical to CHMN658.
- THST667** (3-4)  
*Postmodernism and the Church*  
A critical study of the nature and ideological origins of the postmodern mind as it relates to both the theology and the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.
- THST670** (3-4)  
*Principles of Christian Ethics*  
Study of the process of ethical decision making illustrated in the application of biblical principles to contemporary personal and social issues of special significance for Seventh-day Adventists.
- THST674** (3-4)  
*Christian Personal Ethics*  
An application of Christian norms to evaluating various ethical systems, making personal decisions, and solving moral dilemmas.
- THST675** (3-4)  
*Christian Social Ethics*  
An exploration of selected issues currently confronting the church, such as ethnic relations, the role of women, nationalism and liberation theology, poverty and hunger, and relations with civil governments.
- THST676** (3-4)  
*History of Philosophy*  
An overview of classical, medieval, modern, and contemporary philosophy: an introduction to key figures such as Plato, Aristotle, Augustine, Thomas Aquinas, Descartes, Hume, and Kant; and a survey of recent developments such as process, existentialist, and analytical philosophy.
- THST678** (3-4)  
*Science and Religion*  
The relation of scientific information and theory to Christian doctrines; theories of origin, geologic time, uniformity, and organic evolution as developed in the fields of historical geology and biology.
- THST679** (3-4)  
*Theological Ethics*  
Discussion and application of biblical teachings and normative models to decision making and standards of Christian behavior in the context of praxis of ministry. THST670 strongly recommended (expected for MDiv Students) prior to this course.
- THST814** (4)  
*Philosophy and Theology*  
The interrelation between philosophical and theological thought-forms considered in the light of the biblical perspective.
- THST935** (4)  
*Seminar in Philosophical Theology*
- THST966** (4)  
*Seminar in Ethics*  
Selected issues in ethics from a Christian perspective. Repeatable.
- INDIVIDUAL STUDIES**
- THST690** (1-4)  
*Independent Study*  
Restricted to advanced students. Selected problems in the field of theology. See general guidelines under Academic Information.
- THST890** (1-8)  
*Directed Reading in Systematic Theology*
- THST895** (1-8)  
*Directed Reading in Historical Theology*
- WORLD MISSION**
- Seminary #110  
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- Faculty**  
Jon L. Dybdahl, *Chair*  
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Bruce C. Moyer  
Russell L. Staples  
Nancy J. Vyhmeister  
Werner K. Vyhmeister
- MSSN560** (3-4)  
*Mission to the World*  
A broad introduction to Christian world missions. Includes aspects of mission history, the theological foundations of mission, intercultural perspectives of mission service, and contemporary theoretical thought about missions. Required of all MDiv students.
- MSSN584** (3-6)  
*Preparation for Mission Service*  
A general orientation for missionary candidates that aims to (1) create an awareness of the actual missionary situation today; (2) prepare mission appointees to meet this situation; and (3) shape attitudes that are indispensable to a fruitful mission service.
- MSSN585** (3-4)  
*Cross-Cultural Communication*  
A study of the impact of culture on communication and the ways cultures influence values and perceptions. Attention given to developing sensitivity when communicating with people of other cultures. Identical to CHMN585.
- MSSN606** (2-4)  
*Church Growth in World Mission*  
Study of the principles of church growth in the practice of mission, including biblical foundations and current contributions from the social sciences.
- MSSN610** (3-4)  
*Theology of Mission*  
The biblical foundation of mission—its essence, goals, motives, and the role of the church in mission.
- MSSN612** (3-4)  
*Urban Mission*  
Explores the nature of cities, noting their history, development, and relationship to the mission of God and the church. Students are exposed to various ministries dealing with the hungry, homeless, battered, addicted, and the alienated. Identical to CHMN612.
- MSSN615** (3-4)  
*Anthropology for Mission and Ministry*  
The fundamentals of culture, social structure, group organization, and social change studied as a basis for intercultural understanding and communication. Attention given to issues which constitute challenges and opportunities to cross-cultural workers.