Instructor: James O. Duke and Francisco Lozada, Jr.

Prerequisites: Masters students: One course in biblical, historical, or theological studies [waiver by permission of instructor]. For doctoral students, none.

Description: This seminar surveys major figures, movements, and issues that shaped the history of theological hermeneutics from the patristic era to the last century. Brief introduction to current options is included, as is some opportunity for further study of one of those options (as negotiated between student and instructor). Focus is on conceptions and methods of biblical interpretation formative of “modern,” critical scholarship—philosophical, historical-critical, social scientific, et al.

Class Procedure: Seminar class discussion of weekly readings, with some lecture

Requirements:

Once class is underway, brief weekly (2-3 pp.) protocol papers on the assigned readings, noting key concerns of the author as well as questions for discussion

Regular attendance and constructive participation in class

For MTS and MDiv students: A final take-home examination (15-18 pages) or research paper on a topic chosen in consultation with the instructor (15 pages).

For ThM and doctoral students: One take-home exam question (8-10 pages) and research paper (15-20 pages) on a topic chosen in consultation with the instructor. Papers of Ph.D. students should include the use of some resource(s) written in the student’s primary modern foreign language (normally, German, French, or Spanish)

Required texts:


Additional readings will be provided by the instructors.

Grading Procedures: Protocols and class participation (40%); Final exam or research paper (60%)