Instructor: James O. Duke

Prerequisites: None

Description: An overview and selected engagement with themes, issues, movements, and key individuals shaping the story of Christian theological reflection. Key topics include “theological prolegomena” [the tasks, sources, and methodology of theology], as well as the doctrines of God, revelation, creation, and providence. Attention will be given to the bumpy course of doctrinal development and to several prominent theological proposals in recent times. In keeping with a model of theology as on-going dialogue about matters of faith and faithfulness, students will engage in critical-constructive reflection formative of their own theological positions.

Class Procedure: Primarily lecture with some class discussion

Requirements: All requirements are necessary for course credit.

Regular attendance, preparation, and constructive participation in class (10% of grade)
A beginning diagnostic theological exercise and inventory (pass/fail)
2 theological position papers; the first 8 pages, the second, 15 pages (10 & 20% of grade)
Take-Home Midterm Examination (25% of grade)
Take Home Final Comprehensive Examination (25% of grade)

Required readings:


One current theology book, chosen in consultation with the instructor, illustrative of theology’s diversity in light of global, ethnic/racial, and gender perspectives. (Other primary and secondary readings may be provided by the instructor as required readings.)