

S-116 Systematics II

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis
(Monday & Thursday 2:35-4:00)

Dr. Joel D. Biermann

Course information

Catalog Course Description

A study of the person and work of Christ, salvation by grace, and the ministry of the means of grace in relation to justification through faith and conversion.

Course goals

Through readings of primary and secondary sources and class discussions, this course will seek to—nourish in the students:

- Willingness to speak faithfully as servants of the Word;
- Appreciation of theology as an essential church practice;
- Confidence in the Word of God;
- Faith in God, Christ, and the Spirit.
- a love for the study of theology and its practical relevance for ministry and life.

develop in the students the ability to:

- understand and recognize heretical expressions of Christological doctrines.
- Articulate a biblical account of soteriology as the saving work of God.
- Describe and understand a biblical account of election and preservation of the saints.
- Discriminate, construct, and measure the formulation of theological responses to issues relating to “atonement theories”.
- Participate in the rhetoric of theological dialogue.
- Recognize and characterize theologically issues and situations in the world.

develop in the students their knowledge and understanding of:

- Who Jesus Christ is and why he matters through examination of the biblical witness
- The orthodox expressions of the doctrines of Christology.
- The nature and uses of doctrine in the life of the church.

Course procedure

The ordinary procedure will be for students to read the material assigned for each class period, attend the scheduled lecture, and participate in class discussion.

Course outline and schedule

November 28

Introduction
Stein, 17-60

December 1

Stein, 63-111, 141-155, 177-183

December 5

Maier, In *the Fullness of Time*, xvii-xviii, 97-207 (Introduction & Part II)

December 8

Bauckham, 1-31

December 12

Bauckham, 32-59

December 15

Pieper, 55-85, 280-296, 301-347

Paper #1 Due

January 5

Pieper, 372-394

Sasse, 55-70

Sayers, "Creed or Chaos" 34-52

January 9

Chemnitz, 29-41, 67-72, 105-110, 143-148, 157-179, 215-231, 241-246

January 12

Chemnitz, 287-312, 403-465

January 16

Examination #1

January 19

Pieper, 3-52

McClendon, 197-237

January 23

No Class

January 26

Rupp, 101-144, 194-208, 223-246, 258-263, 319-334

January 30

Pieper, 503-522

Luther's Works, vol. 26, 87-92, 115-134, 167-172, 223-236

February 2

Joint Document on the Doctrine of Justification (1999)

Braaten, 81-102

February 6

Pieper, 397-452

Paper #2 Due

February 9

Pieper, 452-470, 498-503

Pieper III, 89-100

February 13

Pieper III, 3-52

February 16

Examination #2

Course books

Bauckham, Richard. *Jesus and the God of Israel: God Crucified and Other Studies on the New Testament's Christology of Divine Identity*. Grand Rapids Eerdmans, 2008.

Braaten, Carl. *Justification: The Article by Which the Church Stands or Falls*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press,

1990. (191 pp.)

Chemnitz, Martin. *The Two Natures in Christ*. Translated by J.A.O. Preus. St. Louis: CPH, 1971.

Joint Document on the Doctrine of Justification, 1999.

Luther, Martin. *Luther's Works*. Edited by Jaroslav Pelikan and Helmut T. Lehmann. American Edition, vol 26. St. Louis and Philadelphia: Concordia Publishing House and Fortress Press, 1958-1986.

McClendon, James Wm. *Systematic Theology: Doctrine Volume II*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1994.

Maier, Paul. *In the Fullness of Time*. Grand Rapids, Kregel, 1997. 978-0825433290

Pieper, Francis. *Christian Dogmatics Volume II & III*. St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1950.

Rupp, E. Gordon, ed. *Luther and Erasmus: Free Will and Salvation*. Westminster Press, 1969.

Sasse, Hermann. *We Confess Jesus Christ*. Translated by Norman Nagel. We Confess Series, vol I. St. Louis: CPH, 1984.

Sayers, Dorothy. *The Whimsical Christian*. Collier Books, 1987.

Stein, Robert H. *Jesus the Messiah: A Survey of the Life of Christ*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1996.