

## ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

### **HIS 642/THE 639 Sp. St.: Roman Catholicism & Eastern Orthodoxy**

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Spring 2002

#### COURSE DESCRIPTION

An examination of the history, theology, spirituality, and organization of the Roman Catholic Church and the Eastern Orthodox Churches. The relationships of these branches of Christianity with each other and with evangelicalism and Pentecostalism will also be examined.

#### COURSE OBJECTIVES

At the end of the course, each student should be able:

1. To discuss the historical and theological developments of the Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox Churches.
2. To discuss the theological significance of the First and Second Vatican Councils with special emphasis on the latter.
3. To analyze the impact of recent movements within Catholicism and Orthodoxy for their contemporary influence on modern Christianity.
4. To discuss Catholic, Orthodox, evangelical, and Pentecostal relationships, particularly as they relation to common witness and missions.

#### TEXTBOOKS

- Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 2d ed. Huntington, IN: Our Sunday Visitor, 2000.
- Clendenin, Daniel B. *Eastern Orthodox Christianity: A Western Perspective*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1994.
- Clendenin, Daniel B., ed. *Eastern Orthodox Theology: A Contemporary Reader*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1994.
- Flannery, Austin, ed. *Vatican Council II: Vol. 1: The Conciliar and Post Conciliar Documents*. Northport, NY: Costello Publishing Co., 1996.
- McGonigle, Thomas D., and James F. Quigley. *A History of the Christian Tradition: From the Reformation to the Present*. Mahwah, NJ: Paulist Press, 1996.

#### RECOMMENDED:

- Colson, Charles, and Richard John Neuhaus. *Evangelicals & Catholics Together: Toward a Common Mission*. Dallas: Word Publishing, 1995.
- Fournier, Keith A. *Evangelical Catholics*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1990.

Geisler, Normal L., and Ralph E. MacKenzie. *Roman Catholics and Evangelicals: Agreements and Differences*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1995.  
 Martin, Ralph, and Peter Williamson, eds. *John Paul II and the New Evangelization*. San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 1995.  
 Ware, Kallistos. *The Orthodox Way*. Crestwood, NY: St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, 1986.

### COURSE OUTLINE

(Reading schedule will be announced by the instructor.)

1. Introduction to the course
  - A. Latin and Greek Christian traditions compared
  - B. Historical framework & church councils
  - C. Legacy of "canonical territories"
2. Orthodox history
  - A. "Uniate" churches and tensions
  - B. Orthodox theology
  - C. Orthodox spirituality
3. Roman Catholic history
  - A. Roman Catholic theology
  - B. Catholic spirituality
  - C. Vatican Council II
4. Charismatic renewal movements
5. Current relationships between Catholic, Orthodox, evangelicals, and Pentecostals in missions

### METHODOLOGY

Reading and discussion, lecture, guest speakers, films

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Consistent attendance (more than three absences will result in a reduction of the final grade)
2. Successful completion of all assigned readings
3. Active participation in classroom discussions
3. Successful completion of a final comprehensive essay examination
4. Preparation of a fifteen-page research paper, exclusive of endnotes and bibliography

**DUE: March 15, 2002**

### GRADING

Classroom participation and reading evaluation	40%
Final comprehensive examination	20%
Research paper	40%

## CAUTIONS

1. Late work will be penalized.
2. A grade of Incomplete will be given only in the event of extreme circumstances.

## SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY OF REFERENCE WORKS

Atiya, Aziz S., ed. *The Coptic Encyclopedia*. New York: Macmillan Publishing Co., 1991. The major reference work on Coptic (Egyptian) Christianity, an Oriental Orthodox (Non-Chalcedonian) sector of the Christian faith. Helpful insights into this branch of Christianity whose followers may be found in Europe and elsewhere.

McBrien, Richard P., ed. *HarperCollins Encyclopedia of Catholicism*. San Francisco: HarperSanFrancisco, 1995. An excellent one-volume reference work that provides a wealth of information on the many aspects of Roman Catholicism.

*New Catholic Encyclopedia*. New York: McGraw-Hill Book Co., 1967. The most exhaustive reference work available on Roman Catholicism. Though dated, it remains an invaluable resource.

Prokurat, Michael, et al. *Historical Dictionary of the Orthodox Church*. Lanham, MD: Scarecrow Press, 1996. An important resource for the many aspects of Eastern Orthodox theology, spirituality, and practices.

Roberson, Ronald. *The Eastern Christian Churches: A Brief Survey*, 6<sup>th</sup> ed. Rome: Edizioni Orientalia Christiana, 1999. Information on the Church of the East, the many branches of the Oriental Orthodox Churches, the Eastern Orthodox Church, and the Catholic Eastern ("Uniate") Churches. Sorts out the many church groups in Europe, the CIS, and Middle East.

**NOTE:** More extensive resources may be found in the bibliographies of the textbooks by Clendenin and McGonigle, and the recommended book by Ware. The Roman Catholic, Eastern Orthodox, and Oriental Orthodox Churches have web sites from which you can download historical information, news articles, pronouncements, etc.

For an analysis of the charismatic dimension in the spirituality of the Eastern Orthodox and Oriental Orthodox traditions, see Stanley M. Burgess, *The Holy Spirit: Eastern Catholic Traditions* (Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 1989). For the theological and spiritual implications of the Pentecostal and charismatic movements, see Peter Hocken, *The Glory and the Shame: Reflections on the 20<sup>th</sup> Century outpouring of the Holy Spirit* (Guildford, Surrey, UK: Eagle, 1994). For current information on charismatic renewal movements in the Protestant, Roman Catholic, Eastern Orthodox, and Oriental Orthodox churches worldwide, see Stanley M. Burgess, ed. *New International Dictionary of Pentecostal and Charismatic Movements*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 2002.

For information on the Catholic/Pentecostal dialogue, see Veli-Matti Kärkkäinen, *Ad ultimum terrae: Evangelization, Proselytism and Common Witness in the Roman Catholic Pentecostal Dialogue (1990-1991)* (New York: Peter Lang, 1999). For Catholic missiology, see Karl Müller, *Mission Theology: An Introduction* (Sankt Augustin, Germany: Steyler Verlag, 1987); for Orthodox missiology, see Ioan Sauca, ed., *Orthodoxy and Cultures* (Geneva: World Council of Churches, 1996); James J. Stamoolis, *Eastern Orthodox Mission Theology Today* (Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1986).

#### SPECIFIC DATA

Prepared by Gary B. McGee, December 19, 2002.