

I. Instructor: Dr. Hahn; Egan 255; Office Hrs: T 1:30-2:15; 3:30-4:30; Ph: 284-5321; shahn@franciscan.edu

II. Course Objective: This course introduces students to the nature and sources of Catholic theology by taking an integrative approach to Fundamental Theology, Biblical Theology and Dogmatic Theology. **First**, we treat *Fundamental Theology* in terms of a synthesis of *Reason and Faith* in the light of Christ, with reference to the *preambula fidei* (natural theology, law and religion), and the rational grounds of faith (motives of credibility) in divine revelation. Theology is the *science* of faith (Anselm: *fides quaerens intellectum*), whose proper object is the living Word of God, present and active in salvation history, made known in Scripture & Tradition, and entrusted to the Magisterium (*fides depositum*), which the Holy Spirit enables to guard, interpret and transmit (infallibly & efficaciously) especially in the ministry of word & sacrament. As “Queen of the sciences” (*regina scientiarum*), theology is based on a faithful and critical contemplation of the divinely revealed mysteries in an ecclesial context of hearing (*auditus fidei*) and reasoning (*intellectus fidei*). **Second**, we treat *Biblical Theology* in terms of a synthesis of the *Old and New Covenants* in Christ, with reference to the inspired canonical record of the divine economy (*oikonomia*) in salvation history. The integral meaning of Scripture is drawn from the theological exegesis of the literary sense and historical truth of the inspired authors, who narrate “realities and events” (creation, exodus, kingdom) that signify divine mysteries (*sensus spiritualis* CCC 117), which calls for the application of theological criteria (CCC 112-114) to discern God’s fatherly pedagogy (CCC 122) in terms of economy, typology and mystagogy (CCC 128-130, 236, 1075). We see how the Old Testament is ordered to – and fulfilled by – Christ in the New. Or as J. Ratzinger observed: “Theology is a spiritual science... and the normative theologians are the authors of Holy Scripture” (*Principles of Catholic Theology*, p. 321). **Third**, we treat *Dogmatic Theology* in terms of a synthesis of *Nature and Grace* in Christ, with reference to the doctrinal development (from *oikonomia* to *theologia*) in the patristic period (Irenaeus, Athanasius, Augustine), as well as the Christological heresies and Trinitarian controversies addressed by the first seven Ecumenical Councils). In the final part, we briefly treat St. Thomas on soteriology (grace, salvation), and Magisterial responses to post-reformation developments, from Trent to Vatican II and the present – with special reference to Ecclesiology.

III. Course Texts (Bible RSVCE; *Dei Verbum*; CCC; other handouts: scotthahn.com/theologicalfoundations)
H. Denzinger (ed.), *Enchiridion Symbolorum: The Sources of Catholic Dogma* (Herder, 1955; Loreto 2002)
Pope John Paul II, *Fides et Ratio: On the Relationship Between Faith & Reason* (Boston, Pauline Media, 1998)
Joseph Ratzinger (Benedict XVI), *The Nature and Mission of Theology* (San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 1995)
S. Hahn, *Reasons to Believe: How to Understand, Explain and Defend the Catholic Faith* (Doubleday, 2007)
_____, *First Comes Love: Finding Your Family in the Church and the Trinity* (New York: Doubleday, 2004)
Paul O’Callaghan, *God Ahead of Us: The Story of Divine Grace* (Minneapolis: Fortress, 2014)
Joseph P. Wawrykow, *The Westminster Handbook to Thomas Aquinas* (Westminster John Knox, 2005)
T. Marshall, *Thomas Aquinas in 50 Pages: A Quick Layman’s Guide to Thomism* (St Thomas Institute, 2013)
(available online: <http://taylormarshall.com/2013/05/free-book-is-ready-thomas-aquinas-in-50.html>)

IV. Course Requirements (more than 2 unexcused absences and late work penalized, 5 points per day)
Reading Assignments: to be done on-time; reading log due last class of each month (simply list *titles & totals*)
Research Paper: “Kingdom, Church and Salvation” (*status questionis*, theologian, thesis): 15 pp; due 4/23 (50%)
Final Exam: Take-home, closed-book, single spaced, 6 pp max, given 4/23, due 4/30, 6 pm, via email (50%)
Extra Credit Reading: approved titles (see below); due by last class; 3 steps: underline leading ideas; summarize main pts in side margin, comments & questions on page bottom (see M. Adler, *How to Read a Book*)

V. Recommended Titles

Reginald Garrigou-Lagrange, OP, *Our Savior and His Love for Us* (Herder 1951; TAN reprint 1998)
Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger, *Pilgrim Fellowship of Faith: The Church as Communion* (Ignatius, 2005)
Christoph Schonborn, *God Sent His Son: A Contemporary Christology* (San Francisco, Ignatius Press, 2010)
T. Weinandy & D. Keating (eds.), *Aquinas on Doctrine: A Critical Introduction* (London: T & T Clark, 2004)
Joseph Clifford Fenton: *We Stand With Christ: An Essay in Catholic Apologetics* (Milwaukee: Bruce, 1942)
(NB - reprint forthcoming: *Defending Your Catholic Faith: An Essay in Apologetics & Fundamental Theology* [2015])