

*The John Leland Center for Theological Studies, Main Campus
Columbia Baptist Church, 103 W Columbia St., Falls Church, VA 22046*

Introduction to Theological Studies

TP 2101

Time: Fall 2009, Mondays 6:15PM-7:50PM

Credit: 2 credit hours

Instructor: John Lee, PhD; johnlee.johnleland@gmail.com

Prerequisites:

This course has *no* prerequisites. *Introduction to Theological Studies* should be the first course for all incoming students.

A Description and the Goal of the Course:

This course attempts to introduce academic study of theology in a “digestible” and preliminary form. It offers one an opportunity to get used to theological discourse and subject matter. Students are not yet expected to know how to solve theological problems. Rather, they are expected to know what the problems are. The course consists of three parts: historical overview, methodological/introductory issues, and systematic topics. The goal of *Introduction to Theological Studies* is to build a common basis for further studies for students from very different educational and ecclesiastical backgrounds.

Required Texts:

González, J. L. *Church History: An Essential Guide*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1996.
ISBN 0-687-01611-8

Grenz, Stanley J. *Theology for the Community of God*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2000.
ISBN 0-8028-4755-2

O’Collins, G. and Farruiga, E. G. *A Concise Dictionary of Theology*. New York:
Paulist, 2000. ISBN 0-8091-3929-4

Ward, K. *Christianity: A Short Introduction*. Oxford: Oneworld, 2000.
ISBN 1851682295

Course Requirements:

- Close reading of the assigned texts.
- Two short reflection papers.
- Two exams (midterm and final).