

*The John Leland Center for Theological Studies, Main Campus  
405 N. Washington St., Suite 200  
Falls Church, VA 22046*

## **Introduction to Theological Studies**

TP 2101A

**Time:** Fall 2010, 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 will also be exposed to the interface between spirituality and theology: that is, the *spirituality* of a person *shapes* the theology that’s produced. Historical contexts, methodological issues, and central theological topics will be examined as well. 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:**

Bernard, Jack. *How to Become a Saint: A Beginner’s Guide*. Grand Rapids: BrazosPress, 2007. ISBN 1587431998

McIntosh, Mark A. *Divine Teaching: An Introduction to Christian Theology*. Malden: Blackwell, 2008. ISBN 1405102713

### **Recommended Texts:**

Ford, David F. *Theology: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford: Oxford UP, 1999. ISBN 0192853848

Franke, John R. *The Character of Theology: A Postconservative Evangelical Approach*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2005. ISBN 0801026415

Lints, Richard. *The Fabric of Theology: A Prolegomenon to Evangelical Theology*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1993. ISBN 0802806740

### **Course Requirements:**

- Close reading of the assigned texts
- Four short reflection papers
- Group presentation
- Final Exam