

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

Introduction to Theological Studies

TP 2101

Time: Fall 2011, 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 invites students on a journey of “faith seeking understanding.” We will examine the basic concepts, content, history, and methodology that constitute Christian theology. Christian theology is an ongoing reflection and articulation of what it means to follow Christ in today’s world. As such, we will also examine (given our postmodern, pluralist context) key theological themes and convictions that seem particularly relevant. 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 Text:

Plantinga, Richard, Thomas Thompson, and Matthew Lundberg. *An Introduction to Christian Theology*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2010.
ISBN 0521690374

Recommended Texts:

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

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
- Weekly written response based on reading
- One Paper
- A Midterm and Final Exam