I. Course Description

The Master of Theology Research Seminar is designed to instruct students in the area of research skills applying to the area of Christian Thought that includes such disciplines as church history, the history of doctrine, systematic and philosophical theology and missions. The course will consist of lectures, reading, writing, discussion and projects that will equip students for scholarly research and writing. CH/TH 901 is for Th.M. students only.

II. Course Relation to the Curriculum

The Master of Theology Research Seminar is required for the Master of Theology degree. The course serves as the foundational introductory course for all Master of Theology students.

III. Course Objective

As a result of this course students should: (1) Have working knowledge of databases and bibliographies in the area of Church History and Theology, (2) Have a developing sense of the most appropriate method for research in one’s chosen field. (3) Have completed a few short writing assignments designed to stimulate and hone the student’s writing ability.

IV. Course Readings
Required reading:


Recommended:


The Paul Page – [www.thepaulpage.com](http://www.thepaulpage.com)

V. Course Requirements and Grading

1. **Attend** lectures.
2. **Read** required texts.
3. **Complete** the research exercises assigned in class. These exercises will include an ATLA search, and other assigned library exercises.
4. **Submit** three response papers (Bayer, Iwand, Wright). The response papers will be at least 4 but no more than 5 pages in length (double-spaced, 12 point Times or New Times Roman; no separate page for title or bibliography). These response papers will be discussed in class.
5. Grading standards as outlined in the catalogue obtain. The percentages are as follows, 15% library exercises, 5% class participation, and 80% response papers.
## VI. Course Outline (Subject to Change)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 13</td>
<td>Introduction to the Course and to the Th.M. program and its paperwork. Gathercole, “What Did Paul Really Mean?”</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>Day of Prayer (no class)</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>Making a Claim and Supporting it. Reasons, Evidence, and Warrants</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>Jim Darlack, research librarian presents databases and tips for effective research using the GCTS library</td>
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<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Making a Claim and supporting it. Reasons, Evidence and Warrants part 2. <strong>ATLA Search for a research paper Due</strong></td>
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| 6 | Source Citation and Style *Turabian* 133-408  
*Argumentation Assignment Due* |
| | **Reading Week Oct 10-14** |
| 18 | Various Approaches to the question of Justification. |
| 20 | N. T. Wright on Justification part one  
*Response Paper One* (Wright) |
| 25 | N. T. Wright on Justification part two |
| 27 | John Piper and *The Future of Justification* |
| 1 | *Perspectives Old and New on Paul* A presentation of Stephen Westerholm’s view on the topic. |
| 3 | Husbands and Trier on Justification |

**Reading Week Nov 7-11**
15 Hans Iwand on the Righteousness of Faith
Response Paper Two (Iwand)

17 Iwand part two

22 Iwand part three

24 Thanksgiving break

29 Oswald Bayer on Justification and Sanctification
Response Paper Three

Dec 1 Bayer part two

6 Bayer part three

8 Class Presentations

13 Class Presentations

15 Class Presentations