TH 613 – Christology
Richard Lints
Spring Term 2008 – Mondays (9:15-12:15 pm)

I. Course Description
This course is designed to examine the person and work of Jesus Christ from a biblical/theological perspective. In this context Jesus will be viewed against the background of the Old Testament, the presentation of his person and his work in the New Testament and the soteriological implications for us today. The fundamental focus shall be on Jesus' redemptive historical role as the mediator of the New Covenant. The course will also draw attention to current controversies regarding the nature of the incarnation, the nature of salvation, justification, atonement and the resurrection.

II. Course Requirements
1. Required Reading All 7 books and/or articles listed below under “Required Reading” are to be completed prior to the end of the semester.

2. Book reviews on 5 of the 7 required books/articles on the day they are to be discussed. (See reading report dates) The reviews are to be 1-2 pages and are to outline the central contribution of the book or article. There are a total of 5 book reviews due.

3. A presentation in-class on one of the assigned topics (see outline below). The core of the presentation should consist in outlining the central contribution of the figure(s) for the history of Christological reflection. The presentations shall last 5-10 minutes per student and each student shall be liable to answer questions from the class relevant to his or her topic. A written outline shall accompany the presentation.

4. A final paper (10 to 15 pages in length) related to a central topic in the class. This should include research in the secondary literature on the topic and/or figure. The paper is due on the last day written work can be turned in (Dec 16).

5. Extra Credit: One point up to a total of 4 points may be gained by turning in an extra book review (one page) on any of the texts listed below in the “Extra Credit” section. Each book is to be read in their entirety.

III. Required Reading:

2. **One of Two** – Both are in Edward Hardy (ed.) - The Christology of the Later Fathers (W/JK, 1995)
   a. Athanasius – “On the Incarnation of the Word” (55-110)
   b. Gregory of Nazianzus – “Theological Orations” (128-214)
   Gregory of Nyssa – “An Answer to Ablabius” (256-267)

Read over the following documents at the end of the Hardy volume
Summary of the Tome of Constantinople
The Tome of Leo
The Chalcedonian Decree

3. **One of Two**
   a. Anselm - Cur Deus Homo (Why God Became Man) You can purchase this in the GCTS Bookcentre, or access it online at: http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/basis/anselm-curdeus.html

4. Council of Trent, Canons on Justification (in “Documents” section of class notes on CAMS) and Lutheran/Roman Catholic Declaration on Justification (in “Documents” section of class notes on CAMS)

5. Oliver Crisp, Divinity and Humanity (Cambridge Univ Press, 2007)

   Chapters Required: 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 11

   Chapters Required: Intro, 1, 2, 4, 8

### IV. Extra Credit:
One point up to a total of 4 points may be gained by turning in an extra book review (one page) on any of the following texts, to be read in their entirety.

- Bauckham, Richard, Jesus and The Eyewitnesses: The Gospels as Eyewitness Testimony (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans 2006)
- Boersma, Hans, Violence, Hospitality, and The Cross:
Reappropriating The Atonement Tradition. (Baker Academic, 2004.)
Horton, Michael S, Lord and Servant: A Covenant Christology (WJK, 2005)
Horton, Michael S., Covenant and Salvation: Union with Christ (WJK, 2007)
Kang, Paul Chulhong, Justification: The Imputation of Christ’s Righteousness from Reformation Theology to the American Great Awakening and the Korean Revivals (New York: Peter Lang, 2006)
Kim, Seyoon, Paul and the New Perspective: Second Thoughts on the Origin of Paul's Gospel (Eerdmans, 2001)

V. Evaluation - The final paper shall constitute the 80% of the final grade. Book reviews shall each count for 2 points if turned in on time and one point if turned in late. Class presentation shall count as 6 points. Required Reading, if completed, shall count as 4 points. Extra Credit can earn up to 4 points.

VI. WARNING ON PLAGIARISM
Helpful guidelines on plagiarism can be found on the Indiana University website listed below. This document has the official recognition of the Gordon-Conwell faculty and provides very helpful tools to guide you as you prepare your papers/exams. In order to save paper, we’ve provided you with the website address: http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/wts/plagiarism.html. Please consider this carefully.
VII. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS
To protect the professor’s intellectual property rights with regard to classroom content, students are asked to refrain from audio and video recording of classes, as well as audio, video, and written publication (including internet posting and broadcasting) or live transmission of classroom proceedings.

VII. INTERNET USAGE
Students are asked to refrain from accessing the internet at any point during class sessions, unless otherwise instructed by the professor. “Surfing the web,” checking email, and other internet-based activities are distracting to other students and to the professor, and prevent the student from fully participating in the class session.

COURSE OUTLINE  Fall Term 2008
TH 613 - Christology

Week One – Intro  (Sept 8)
   Theological Method
   Christology and Creation

Week Two - Christology and the Old Testament (Sept 15)
   Christology in the OT
   From Abraham to Moses to David
   The Word and Work of Redemption

Week Three - Christology in the NT – Gospel Accounts (Sept 22)
   The “Story” of Jesus – The Humanity of Jesus
   The Passion Narratives – Death and Resurrection

Week Three - Christology in the New Testament – Epistles (Sept 29)
   Interpreting the Work of Christ in Romans and Hebrews
   Justification and Atonement

Part II – Historical Development & Contemporary Challenges

Week Five – Soteriology and Incarnation  (Oct 6)
   Deification and Union with Christ in early Orthodoxy
   Athanasius – On the Incarnation of the Word
   Radical Orthodoxy and Ontology
Week Six – Incarnation and The Two Natures Formula (Oct 20)
The Patristic Context: From Nicea to Chalcedon
Cappodocians: Nyssa and Nazianzen
Contemporary Denials of Incarnation

Week Seven – The Atonement (Oct 27)
Anselm and Feudal Metaphors
Penal Substitutionary Theories
Christus Victor Theories
Contemporary Non-Violent Theories

Week Eight – Justification (Nov. 3)
Luther, Calvin and Trent on Justification
Recent Ecumenical Declarations on Justification
New Perspectives on Justification

Week Nine – The Jesus of History (Nov 17)
Strauss, Rischl and Harnack – The First Quest
The Jesus Seminar – The New Quest
Wright, Witherington, Blomberg and the Third Quest

Week Ten – Concluding Comments (Nov 24)

Reading Report Due Dates:
1. Longman - Immanuel in Our Place (Sept 15)
2. Hardy - The Christology of the Later Fathers
   Either:
   Athanasius (Oct 6)
   Nyssa/Nanzius (Oct 20)
3. Crisp, Divinity and Humanity (Oct 20)
4. Either:
   Anselm - Cur Deus Homo (Oct 27)
   John Calvin: Acts of the Council of Trent (Nov 3)
5. Both:
   Council of Trent, Canons on Justification (Nov 3)
   Lutheran/Roman Catholic Declaration on Justification (Nov 3)
6. McCormack, Justification in Perspective (Nov 3)
7. Stewart, The Resurrection of Jesus (Nov 17)
Student Presentations Schedule:
1. Athanasius and Union with Christ (Oct 6) - ONLY IF NEEDED
2. Anselm and Controversies on the Atonement (Oct 27)
3. Reformation Debates on Justification and the New Perspective (Nov 3)
3. The Jesus Seminar and the Historicity of Jesus (Nov 17)