Course Description:
This course is a study of the nature of theological discourse, its historical framework, and how to do theology in the world today. The course is a survey introduction to the basic doctrines of revelation, God, creation, humanity, sin, Christ, and canon of Scripture.

Required Course Textbooks:

Learning Outcomes:
By the end of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Identify and articulate the basic classical elements for theological discourse
2. Identify and articulate the basic theological methods used in the history of theology
3. Identify and articulate the basic theological content of the doctrines of revelation, God, creation, humanity, sin, and Christ
4. Compare and contrast different theological methods, traditions, and working assumptions within the Christian faith
5. Identify and articulate the basic development and significance of the canon of Scripture within the Christian faith

Course Requirements:
1. Class Attendance/ Participation—Students are required to attend and participate meaningfully in all class sessions for the entire meeting times. An absence will affect a student’s final grade. The instructor will monitor the in-class participation of each student based on the assigned readings and assignments. Constructive participation is part of the student’s final grade. Each student is expected to come prepared to each class with the assignments.

2. Assigned Readings and Daily Reading Reports—Students must read the material on a daily basis and complete a Daily Reading Report to share in class and utilize in preparation for a final examination at the end of the course. Readings will include select Reading Handouts to complement the assigned textbooks.
--DAILY READING REPORT: This is a one-page (typed, double-spaced, 1” margins, cover page, 11 cpi/calibri) report that summarizes the reading with the following questions to answer--

1- WHAT WAS THE MOST CRUCIAL POINT, IDEA OR QUESTION THAT MOST CAUGHT YOUR ATTENTION FROM THE ASSIGNED READING AND WHY SO? EXPLAIN CLEARLY.
2- WHAT OUSTANDING THING DID YOU LEARN ABOUT DOING THEOLOGY AND THINKING THEOLOGICALLY? BE CLEAR, CONCISE, AND PRECISE. EXPLAIN YOUR ANSWER.
3- WHAT WAS ONE ITEM THAT WAS MOST CHALLENGING TO YOU AND WHY? EXPLAIN CLEARLY.

3. Daily Journal Entry—Each student must write a daily journal entry based on the previous class session that includes the assigned reading or any other assignment. This journal attempts to connect the course material to one’s own personal and professional life as a theological thinker and as a Christian minister (Priesthood of All Believers)

--REQUIRED FORMAT: (2-pages, typed, double-spaced, 1” margins, cover page, 11 cpi/calibri)

A) WHAT THEOLOGICAL QUESTION, ISSUE OR PROBLEM MOST CAUGHT MY ATTENTION TODAY?
B) WHAT MAKES IT A THEOLOGICAL MATTER AND HOW DOES IT RELATE TO MY PERSONAL LIFE, MINISTRY OR THE WORLD?
C) WHY IS THIS MATTER IMPORTANT FOR MY OWN SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT OR CALLING?

4. Daily Quiz: A daily quiz will be given at the beginning of each class based on the assigned reading. The quiz is objective and short.

5. A Final Examination will be administered at the end of the course. It will be a summary of the assigned readings, the class discussions, lectures, and other written course assignments.

Course Grading:

The student’s grade will be determined as follows:

--Participation/Attendance 10%
--Daily Quizzes 10%
--Reading Reports 20%
--Journal Entries 20%
--Final Exam 40%

Grade Achievement Quality Points
A 100-96 Work of exceptional quality 4.00
A- 95-93 3.70
B+ 92-90 3.30
B 89-86 Work of commendable quality 3.00
B- 85-83 2.70
C+ 82-80 2.30
C 79-76 Work of acceptable but minimal quality 2.00
Grading Rubric:

After all the requirements of the course have been completed, the instructor will use the following rubric for the assignment of grades, based on the overall performance of the class. The grades assigned will represent the instructor’s interpretation of the following standard:

A = **Outstanding** mastery of the subject: excellence is evident in preparation for and attendance in class sessions; **unusual ability** to retain, analyze and synthesize the material; with a positive attitude making productive contributions to the learning community in the classroom.

B = **Good** mastery of the subject: sincere effort in preparation for and attendance in class sessions; ability to master the essential aspects of the material; with a **mostly consistent** attitude in making contributions to the learning community in the classroom.

C = **Basic** mastery of the subject: **inconsistent** effort in preparation for and attendance in class sessions; engagement with the material but difficulty in grasping some of its aspects; with occasional contributions to the learning community in the classroom.

D = **Inadequate** mastery of the subject.

F = ** Failure**: course must be repeated.

**Warning on Plagiarism:** Helpful guidelines on plagiarism can be found on the Indiana University website http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/plagarism.html. This document has the official recognition of the Gordon-Conwell faculty and provides very helpful tools to guide you as you prepare for your assignments. If a student is caught plagiarizing, the student will receive the consequences of this act according to the process established by the seminary.

**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**.