COURSE AIM:

We will survey some of the major themes and events of the more than thousand year period of Medieval Theology. Of necessity we will have to be very selective. In the lectures an attempt will be made to give a general survey of the theological development of this period with special reference to various questions that are still of great importance to the life and thought of church and culture. The required readings focus detailed attention on themes or theologians of major importance to the understanding of the development of Christian doctrine.

REQUIREMENTS:

1) Attend lectures (which will include student presentation of material and class discussion).

2) Do the required reading.

3) Write a term paper (approximately 10 pages).

4) Oral exam

5) A final exam.

REQUIRED READINGS:

Aquinas, Thomas. *Salvation: Book Four* (Summa Contra Gentiles #4)

Lombard, Peter. *The Sentences* (Book 1: The Mystery of the Trinity)

Read either:

a) Anselm, *Cur Deus Homo*

or

b) Anselm, *Proslogion*
T658 MEDIEVAL THEOLOGY
POSSIBLE TOPICS FOR YOUR TERM PAPER

The debate on universals from the time of Boethius to the Nominalists.

Modern Protestant interpretations of Thomas Aquinas: negative and positive
(e.g. Francis Schaeffer vs. Arvin Vos, etc.) E. L. Mascall, N. Geisler

T. F. Torrance’s interpretation of Saint Anselm on truth
(e.g. cf. Anselm De Veritate, Opera Omnia, Vol I, pp. 173-199; and TFT “The Ethical Implications of
Anselm’s De Veritate” (Theologische Zeitschrift, Vol 24, 1968, pp. 309-319) and TFT “The Place of Word
and Truth in Theological Inquiry According to St. Anselm” (in Studia Mediaevalia et Mariologicaa, rome,

The Catholic Thomist interpretation of Anselm’s Ontological Proof as compared to Karl Barth’s interpretation
(e.g. see Karl Barth, Anselm: Fides Quaerens Intellectum, etc.)

(For those who can read French): The Epistemology of John Major (see instructor for bibliography)

The relationship of Trinity and Personality in Richard of St. Victor (a knowledge of Latin or French would be
helpful -- see instructor for further information)

The views of Scotus Eriugena on the relationship between God and nature

Thomas Aquinas on Justification

William of Ockham on the relationship between faith and reason

The doctrine of God in the theology of Peter Lombard

Bishop Bradwardine (of Canterbury) or Predestination

The hermeneutical principles of speculative mysticism in Hugh and Richard of St. Victor

Robert Grosseteste on Light

John Philoponos and the physics of light (e.g. TFT Christian Theology and Scientific Culture, pp. 88, 89, etc.)

The Terminist Logic of William Ockham

Soteriology of the Brethren of the Common Life

Alexander of Hales on the Treasury of Merits and Impersonal Grace

Duns Scotus on the Existence of God

Nominalism (see e.g. Heiko Obermann, Harvest of Late Medieval Theology)

Thomas Aquinas on the Trinity