



## KENRICK SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY COURSE SYLLABUS

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**OUR MISSION:** Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and to the glory of God the Father, we seek each seminarian's configuration to the Heart of Jesus Christ, High Priest and Shepherd, so that he can shepherd wholeheartedly with Christ's pastoral charity.

Note: The obvious change is highlighted on page 5. But the entire course was re-organized from last year to this year. It had been a textbook introduction with some primary source reading. It is now entirely a primary source introduction. The instructor now can handle all the contextualization – likely because of his experiences.

### HST 511: PATRISTIC CHURCH I

2 credits

Fall 2019

Room 105

Thurs 1:00–2:45

**Instructor:** Andrew Chronister, PhD

**Office:** Room #A28

**Phone:** 314.792.6141 (office) or 708.703.0362 (cell)

**E-mail:** AndrewChronister@kenrick.edu

**Office Hours:** You are welcome to drop in whenever I am in my office; alternatively, email me to set up an appointment.

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

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General survey of the history of the church in the Patristic period with special attention to the seminal contributions of the Fathers and a sense of the importance of Councils, the authentic Traditions of the Church, and the development of Doctrine in the history of the Church.

### TEXTBOOKS

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1. Saint Athanasius, *On the Incarnation* (Crestwood, NY: St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, 2011)
2. Melito of Sardis, *On Pascha*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (Crestwood, NY: St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, 2017)

### COURSE OBJECTIVES

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- A general knowledge of the history of the Church in the Patristic period (AD 100–800)
- Familiarity with the life and major works of the most important Patristic authors
- Facility in consulting and reading the works of the Church Fathers
- Appreciation for the importance of Tradition as a source of Divine Revelation, and of the place of the Fathers of the Church in transmitting that Tradition
- Understanding of the role of the early ecumenical Councils in defining and clarifying Catholic doctrine
- An ability to read the Scriptures in the spirit of the Fathers
- An appreciation of the place of the Fathers in the development of doctrine and the study of theology, as well as the essential connection between Patristic and Scholastic theology
- Growth in priestly holiness and pastoral charity through the teaching of the Church Fathers.

### COMPUTER POLICY

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Due to the potential for distraction for yourself and your classmates, I ask that you please refrain from bringing computers to class.

## ASSIGNMENTS

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### 1. Participation and Reading Guides (20%)

For each class, students are required to fill out a reading guide sheet, which the professor will distribute. The reading guide will have several questions based on the assigned reading for the day and is intended to help students begin to reflect on the key points of the text which will be discussed in class. These reading guides will be graded on a three point scale: Full Credit; Half Credit; No Credit. To receive full credit, students should answer each question thoughtfully, providing page references to the reading if appropriate. Students are allowed to skip one reading guide over the course of the semester. The reading guides should be turned in via email prior to the start of class.

### 2. Exams (35% each)

There will be two exams during the semester. One will be held the week of Oct 14; the other will be held the week of Dec 9. More details on format will be given as these approach.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

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### Primary sources:

*Patrologia Graeca/Patrologia Latina*, ed. J.P. Migne

- The most complete collection of the Fathers in the original languages

*Corpus Christianorum Series Latina/Graeca*

- The most recent source of critical editions of the Latin and Greek Fathers

*Corpus Scriptorum Ecclesiasticorum Latinorum*

- A long-standing and still continuing series of critical editions of the Latin Fathers

*Sources Chretiennes*

- An excellent source for critical editions of sources in the original languages, along with translations in French

*The Ante-Nicene Fathers; The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers*

- Published in the late 19th century, this series remains the most complete collection of Patristic works in English translation, at least for the ante-Nicene Fathers

*The Fathers of the Church* (Catholic University of America Press)

- Begun in the 1940s and still continuing, this series contains many important works in more contemporary English translations

*Ancient Christian Writers* (Paulist Press)

- English translations of numerous works

*The Works of Saint Augustine* (New City Press)

- A series devoted to producing new English translations of all the works of St. Augustine (most of his works have been completed)

### Secondary literature:

Angelo Di Berardino, ed., *Encyclopedia of Ancient Christianity*, 3 vols. (Downers Grove, Ill.: IVP Academic, 2014)

- An updated and expanded version of earlier editions of this encyclopedia (e.g., Angelo Di Berardino, ed., *Encyclopedia of the Early Church*, trans. Adrian Walford [New York: Oxford University Press, 1992]). The best place to turn for recent bibliographies on patristic topics

Everett Ferguson, ed., *Encyclopedia of Early Christianity*, 2nd ed. (New York: Routledge, 1999)

- Another good place when researching a topic/figure in early Christianity

Johannes Quasten, *Patrology*, 4 vols. (Notre Dame, IN: Christian Classics Inc., 1986–88)

- Classic, but dated, patrology

Angelo Di Berardino, *Patrology: The Eastern Fathers from Chalcedon to John of Damascus* (Cambridge: James Clarke & Co., 2006)

- Intended as the fifth and final volume of Quasten's Patrology

John A. McGuckin, *The Westminster Handbook to Patristic Theology* (Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2004).

Susan Ashbrook Harvey and David G. Hunter, eds., *The Oxford Handbook of Early Christian Studies* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2008)

- Offers essays on a variety of topics relevant to the study of early Christianity

Allan Fitzgerald, *Augustine through the Ages: An Encyclopedia* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Eerdmans, 1999)

- Best English-language encyclopedia on Augustine

Harmless's *Bibliographies for Theology*: <http://moses.creighton.edu/JRS/toc/bibliographies.html>

- An excellent resource from Fr. Bill Harmless, SJ, who continuously updated this site until his death in 2014

Robert Louis Wilken, *The First Thousand Years: A Global History of Christianity* (New Haven, Conn.: Yale University Press, 2013)

- A solid introduction to early Christianity, with emphasis on topics and geographic areas not typically covered in survey histories

## GRADE SCALE

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- A** Work of highest quality achievement combined with a display of special aptitudes and interests. 4.00 quality points (93%-100%)
- A-** Superior work indicating high level of achievement. 3.67 quality points (90%-92%)
- B+** Above average performance. 3.33 quality points (87-89%)
- B** Average performance at the graduate level. 3.00 quality points (83%-86%)
- B-** Below average performance at the graduate level. 2.67 quality points (80%-82%)
- C+** Acceptable but somewhat below average. 2.33 quality points (77%-79%)
- C** Minimum passing grade; work of marginal acceptability. 2.00 quality points (73%-76%)
- C-** Any grade below a "C" is considered a Failing Grade. This is a permanent grade and, in the case of a required course, only by a repetition of the course in which the failure was reported can compensate for it. Elective courses in which a failure was received may be compensated for by substitutions of other elective courses. 1.67 quality points (70%-72%)
- D+** 1.33 quality points (67%-69%)
- D** 1.00 quality points (63%-66%)
- D-** 0.67 quality points (60%-62%)
- F** 0.00 quality points (<60%)
- I** Incomplete work. This temporary notation indicates that the work for a course has not been completed by the end of the semester. A delay in completing the work for a course is granted only with explicit approval of the professor. A detailed plan of action must be submitted within 10 days of the end of the semester to remove the "I" and the work should be completed within 6 weeks of the end of the semester; otherwise the course grade automatically becomes an "F". Any further extension must be made by petitioning the Academic Dean.
- P** Pass. Certain subjects are on a "Pass/Fail" basis only: Supervised Ministry programs and some Liturgical Formation Practica. Neither "P" nor "F" affects the grade point average.
- WP** Withdrawal while passing.
- WF** Withdrawal while failing.

## STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

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Any student with a certified disability (physical, learning, or otherwise) may contact the Academic Dean to request accommodations. The request should include certification of the disability. The Academic

Dean will consult with the student, the Vocation Director, the faculty, and a relevant specialist (e.g. physician, psychologist, learning disability specialist) to fashion a reasonable plan of accommodation. A student who is not satisfied with the plan of action has the right of appeal to the Rector.

## INTELLECTUAL INTEGRITY

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The students of Kenrick School of Theology are to maintain at all times an intellectual integrity. Such integrity entails both a commitment to the truth and a refusal to be false or misleading, even when this course of action may involve inconvenience or embarrassment. Plagiarism, defined as the use of another's words or ideas without acknowledgment, is a failure in both of these dimensions. Plagiarism may involve the word-for-word use of another's phrases, sentences, paragraphs, or longer passages, always without acknowledgment; it may involve the construction of a mosaic or tissue of such passages; it may involve a paraphrase or summary of such passages; it may involve failure to identify use of another author's exact words by quotation marks or block quotes. When students make use of ideas or writings that are not their own, they are expected to acknowledge the source from which they are borrowing, either through an acknowledgment in the text or through the use of a footnote.

Plagiarism is a *serious* failure of integrity, and the faculty and administration of Kenrick view it with grave prejudice. Penalties for plagiarism include a failure in the course, a case review by the Academic Dean and the Dean of Seminarians, and possible suspension from the seminary program.

## COURSE SCHEDULE

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<p><b>Thursday, Aug 29</b> <b>Introductions</b></p> <p><b>Reading Due:</b> None</p>
<p><b>Thursday, Sept 5</b> <b>Formation of the Canon and the <i>Apocrypha</i></b></p> <p><b>Reading Due:</b> <i>Letter of Barnabas</i></p>
<p><b>Thursday, Sept 12</b> <b>Church Organization and Life</b></p> <p><b>Reading Due:</b> St. Ignatius of Antioch, <i>Letters</i></p>
<p><b>Thursday, Sept 19</b> <b>Persecution, Martyrdom, and its Consequences</b></p> <p><b>Reading Due:</b> <i>The Passion of Perpetua and Felicity</i></p>
<p><b>Thursday, Sept 26</b> <b>Cyprian and the Papacy</b></p> <p><b>Reading Due:</b> St. Cyprian of Carthage, <i>On the Unity of the Catholic Church</i></p>
<p><b>Thursday, Oct 3</b> <b>Early Heresies and their Opponents I</b></p> <p><b>Reading Due:</b> <i>Hypostasis of the Archons</i> and <i>Second Treatise of the Great Seth</i></p>
<p><b>Thursday, Oct 10</b> <b>Early Heresies and their Opponents II</b></p> <p><b>Reading Due:</b> St. Irenaeus, <i>Against Heresies</i></p>

**Thursday, Oct 17**

**The Archaeology of Early Christianity**

**Reading Due:** None (Study for your midterm exam!)

**Thursday, Oct 24**

**Origen and the Origenist Controversies**

**Reading Due:** Origen, *Homily 1 on Leviticus*

**Thursday, Oct 31**

**Constantine and Nicaea I**

**Reading Due:** St. Athanasius, *On the Incarnation*

**Thursday, Nov 7**

**The Aftermath of Nicaea I**

**Reading Due:** Continue St. Athanasius, *On the Incarnation*

**Thursday, Nov 14**

**Constantinople I**

**Reading Due:** St. Gregory of Nazianzus, *Third Theological Oration*

**Thursday, Nov 21**

**Asceticism**

**Reading Due:** St. Athanasius, *The Life of Antony*; St. Jerome, *Letter 22 (to Eustochium)*

**Thursday, Nov 28**

*No Class*

*(Thanksgiving)*

**Thursday, Dec 5**

**The Pelagian Controversy**

**Reading Due:** St. Augustine, *On the Grace of Christ and Original Sin*

**Thursday, Dec 12**

**Patristic Exegesis**

**Reading Due:** Melito of Sardis, *On Pascha*