

7th' Semester

THEO.440

Christian Ethics

Ioannis Mpekos

In the context of this course, the unifying character of Christian Ethics is highlighted, which brings together disciplines of Theology and summarises Orthodox theology in practice. Ethics is associated with the cultivation of life in Christ and is critically evaluated in juxtaposition with perceptions that dominate our culture, as well as with modern disciplines such as Politics, Economics and Ecology.

THEO.432

Sociology of Religion

George Kounnoushis

The relations between religion and society are examined and an introduction to the sociological approach to the religious phenomenon is made. The social origins of the religious phenomenon are highlighted, and the social characteristics of the religious social space are explored, as well as the relationship between sociology and religion.

THEO.430

Teaching Religious Education / School Experience

Prot. Kyprianos Kountouris

With THEO.334 as a prerequisite, students study modern theories of cognitive development and develop skills that will enable them to teach the Religious Studies course in Secondary Education in a pedagogically sound way. Students are also trained in the pedagogical use of Information and Communication Technologies.

THEO.421

Old Testament Hermeneutics II

Athanasios Paparnakis

With THEO.221 as a prerequisite, students analyse selected passages and books of the Old Testament using modern interpretative methods, drawing upon the contribution of the Church Fathers. In addition to the biblical approach to the texts, an attempt is made to demonstrate, compare, and relate the Old Testament literature to its extra-biblical works, in order to convey the inspiration, authority, and perennial value of the Old Testament in the life of the Church.

THEO.453

Institutions, Principles and Applications of the Pastoral Ministry of the Church

Archim. Gregorios Ioannides

The great importance and necessity of the pastoral work of the Church is examined. The theological presuppositions of pastoral care in the modern world, the qualifications of the pastor and the particularities of the pastorate are studied. The students participate in the pastoral and parochial work of the Church: catechesis to children, adolescents and young people, pastoral ministry of the family, addressing social problems.

THEO.404

Life, writings and theology of Saint Neophytos the Recluse

Chrysovalantis Kyriacou

The personality of Saint Neophytos the Recluse, the role he played in Cyprus in the 12th century, as well as his spiritual influence in Cyprus and abroad are approached. The students examine the various conflicting theories on the personality of Saint Neophytos and respond with scientific arguments to the modern contradictory views on the saint.

THEO.481

Christian Culture Issues – Cyprus

Prot. Kyprianos Kountouris

The course helps students to deepen their understanding of the historical, religious, and social origins of Christian Civilisation. This is achieved through exposure to the arts and the Christian cultural heritage in general. Its great importance, value and place in world culture is identified. Pilgrimage and religious tourism, from antiquity to the present day, and the dynamics of museum education are demonstrated, together with its many perspectives.

THEO.411

Psychology Topics

Maria Petridou

The students are introduced to the main topics of the science of Psychology and their practical applications, which they will be able to use in the field of Theology. They are also invited to take a critical approach to the subjective aspects of psychology.

8th Semester

THEO.429

History of Religions

Metropolitan of Constantia Vasilios

The course studies the history and teaching of the religions of Europe, the Near East and Asia, as well as the inter-religious dialogue as it occurred in the past and as it is today. Emphasis is placed on the unifying character of Christian Ethics and the responsibility of faithful Christians in the course of humanity.

THEO.425

New Testament Hermeneutics II

Constantinos Nikolakopoulos

As a continuation of the course THEO.325, students take an interpretive approach to representative letters of Apostle Paul, with the contribution of patristic hermeneutics and modern interpretative methods. The students will discern their timeless theological ideas and become able to evaluate the significance, theological value and place of Paul's letters in the New Testament and in the life of the Church.

THEO.408

Patristic Texts Hermeneutics

Archim. Nikolaos Ioannides

With THEO.208 as a prerequisite, an introduction to Patristic hermeneutics (general principles, presuppositions, and methods of interpretation) is offered. The Fathers are presented as interpreters of the Bible and the theological tradition of the Church (e.g. Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council, Cappadocian Fathers, Gregory Palamas as interpreters). There is also an interpretation and theological analysis of selected patristic texts (Cappadocian Fathers, John Chrysostom, John Damascene, etc.).

THEO.471

Byzantine Art

Andreas Foulis

This course focuses on how Byzantine Art evolved, from the restoration of icons to the fall of the Byzantine Empire, with emphasis on the contribution of Byzantium to the development of ecclesiastical art, both in Christianised countries and those of similar denomination, as well as in Armenia and the West. The role of religious movements in the development of liturgical art is explained, as well as the artistic interaction between the Orthodox and Roman Catholic Churches, particularly in the East. Students will become familiar with art/history terminology and will be taken to guided tours and visits to relevant cultural monuments in Cyprus.

THEO.407

Missions of the Church in the Modern World

Prot. Kyprianos Kountouris

The importance of -and need for- the Orthodox theological discourse and experience of the Church in the modern world is examined. The theological aspect of the Church's mission in the 21st century is studied, focusing on the interactions with the major existential and social issues that concern modern individuals.

THEO.488

Saint Nicholas Kavassilas: His Era, Personality and Writing

Christina Hadjiafxenti

The course aims at helping students enhance their knowledge of the rich theology of the late Byzantine period through the study of the life and the great theological writings of Saint Nicholas Kavassilas. At the same time, students become familiar with the historical and social context and problems of the time, as well as with other spiritual and religious figures of the late Byzantine period.

THEO.455

Topics of Bioethics

Ioannis Mpekos

As a prerequisite to THEO.440, students are informed on the need for Orthodox bioethics in matters of human existence (e.g. cloning, euthanasia). A distinction is made between Orthodox bioethics and other schools of bioethics, as well as the concepts and meanings that theological discourse employs, while the different origins of the bioethics that prevail in our time are identified.

THEO.410

Developmental Psychology

Spyros Tantaros

Students are introduced to the principles that govern human development, focusing on cognitive, emotional, social, and physical development at each of the major stages of life. Students are encouraged to use their knowledge to understand the age-related issues of students and parishioners, improve communication with them, and identify potential problematic behaviours and attitudes.

THEO.400 A & B

Graduate Thesis I & II

Moderator. Arch. Gregorios Ioannides

The students acquire the necessary tools (knowledge and skills) that will allow them to organise and prepare a Thesis on a topic related to their interests and the content of the Programme.