1. Course Description

1.1 Catalog Description: This course offers a systematic study of the person and mission of Jesus Christ as found in Scripture and Tradition. The course will provide an examination of the development of Christology and Soteriology with special emphasis on the authoritative teaching of the Church. The course also develops theological reflection on the role of Mary as the Virgin Mother of the Savior.  Prerequisite: Revelation and Faith

1.2 Course Objectives: Students will (1) become familiar with the method of biblical Christology; (2) gain an historical perspective on the formation and development of Patristic Christology and Soteriology; (3) consider formulations of Medieval Christology as well as expressions of the Protestant Reformation (3) be introduced to the best available systematic understanding of the mystery of Christ – (Sin as a threefold alienation, the mystery of the Incarnation, the humanity of the Son, Redemption as assumption of humankind into Trinitarian communion, the universal significance of Christ in the context of other religions); (4) be well equipped to declare and elucidate the mystery of Christ in preaching and catechesis; (5) understand the role of Mary as the woman in the plan of salvation.

2. Topical Outline:

2.1 Christology of the New Testament

2.2 Historical Christology

2.3 Systematic Christology

2.4 The Redemption – A Mystery of God’s Love

2.4.1 Mary as the Virgin Mother of the Savior – Her Role in the Plan of Salvation

3. Required Reading Textbooks (*) and Selected Bibliography:


4. **Format of presentation:** This course will be a mixture of lecture, class discussion, and small group work.

5. **Required Workload:**
   5.1 Students are expected to complete all the assigned reading and answer the study questions.
   5.2 There will be a **Midterm** and a **Final exam (outside class time).**
   5.3 A final synthesis project, due by midnight **October 12, 2015.**

Suppose you were invited to give an hour presentation to an RCIA group or parish adult education group summarizing in your own words the relevance of this course in Christology entitled: “**Why God Became Man – The Significance of the Incarnation.**” What important points would you explore? Prepare an outline for your presentation. Attach a brief explanation for each point in your outline. Compose five questions you think the group might ask of you, and tell me, clearly and succinctly, how you would answer them. Please submit the whole assignment as a single file.

6. **Grading:** Two exams –Midterm & Final, 30% each; Final project 30%; Attendance, quizzes and participation, 10%.

7. **Academic Standards**
   7.1 **Academic Honesty:** All the work you do in this course is expected to be your own. Absolutely no cheating or plagiarism (using someone else’s words or ideas without proper attribution) will be tolerated. Any cases of cheating or plagiarism will be handled according to university policy and reported to the University’s Academic Misconduct Committee. They will also be reported to appropriate ecclesiastical authorities where applicable.

   As stated in the Norms of Conduct for the University of St. Thomas, academic misconduct includes: (a) cheating (using unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise), plagiarism, falsification of records, unauthorized possession of examinations, intimidation, and any and all other actions that improperly affect the evaluation of a student’s academic performance or achievement; (b) assisting others in any such act; (c) attempting to engage in such acts.
Plagiarism is using the work of another person and claiming it as your own. The most common types of plagiarism include:

- Using a paper or portion of a paper prepared by someone else;
- Quoting someone else’s language or words without proper quotation or citation;

and

- Paraphrasing someone else’s ideas, framework, or insights without giving credit to the original author in a citation.

Students are very strongly urged to consult the following websites for additional information on plagiarism and how to avoid it:

http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/research/r_plagiar.html
http://www.bc.edu/schools/cas/polisci/integrity/quiz/

Academic misconduct in any form is unacceptable and suspected violations will be pursued aggressively.

7.2 Attendance Policy: Students are expected to attend every meeting. Any absences without substantive reason (in the judgment of the instructor) will adversely affect your final grade. Regardless of the reasons for absence, students are responsible for the whole content of the course.

8. Office Hours: Email is the preferred way of reaching the instructor. You may also phone my office during regular business hours. If you would like to have a conversation outside of business hours, please email to arrange an appointment. My email address and phone number are given at the top of the syllabus.

9. Submission of Work

9.1 Work should be submitted electronically in an email attachment as a Microsoft Word or Rich Text file, to andersjb@stthom.edu

9.2 Format: Please identify each and every assignment you send with this label: “CU2209B,2015.Lastname,firstinitial.Assignmentname.”

This is how my Final Project should appear:

9.3 Use this label format in three places:
   a. In the topic of the email;
   b. As the name of the file
   c. In the header on page one (1) of the paper, placed in the top left hand corner.

9.4 Rationale for the format: This format will organize each student’s work under his/her own name in my files, and facilitate my retrieval of each document without having to re-label it.

10. Office Hours: I am available to meet with students during the week. Times can be readily arranged by mutual agreement. Email is the preferred way of reaching the instructor. You may also phone my office during regular business hours. If you would like to have a conversation outside of business hours, please email to arrange an appointment. My email address and phone number are given at the top of the syllabus.

11. Calendar of Classes and Required Readings: Please note that the four parts of the course have been divided into week sections with readings assigned and recommended for each part.
Part 1: Christology of the New Testament
Weeks 1, 2 & 3: Saturday – August 22, 2015

1/1. Introduction
   a. Christ, the Object of Christology
   b. Historical Study of Jesus of Nazareth
   c. Jesus of History and the Christ of Faith
   d. “Ascending” and “Descending” Christology
   e. Christology and Jesuology
   f. The Church, the Home of Faith in Jesus
   g. The Christological Faith of the Early Councils
   h. Christology and the Mystery of God

1/2. The Christology of the New Testament – Method of Biblical Christology

1/3. The Death and Resurrection of Jesus

1/4. The Beginning of the Gospel

1/5. Jesus and the Kingdom

1/6. The Kingdom and the Death of Jesus

1/7. The Understanding of the Mystery of Christ in the Apostolic Church

Required Readings:


Weinandy, Thomas G. Jesus the Christ. (henceforth Weinandy), pages 15-47.

Recommended Reading:

Part 2: Historical Christology
Weeks 4: Saturday – September 12, 2015
Midterm Exam – Outside Class – Brief Answer Questions

2/1. Historical Christology – Patristic Christology
2/2. The Soteriology of the Fathers
2/3. The Christology of the Fathers
2/4. Medieval Christology
2/5. Christology of the Reformation
Required Readings:
Kereszty, pages 197-296.

Ocariz, pages 90-136

Weinandy, pages 49-82.

Recommended Reading:

Part 3: Systematic Christology
Weeks 5 & 6: Saturday – September 19, 2015

3/1. Systematic Christology
3/2. The Unity of the Mystery of Christ
3/3. Sin as Threefold Alienation
3/4. The Mystery of the Incarnation
3/5. The Unicity of Christ’s Person
3/6. Union and Distinction of Jesus’ Humanity and Divinity
3/7. The Ontological Unity of Christ’s Person – Being
3/8. The Psychological Unity of Christ’s Person – Christ’s I
3/9. Christ, Mediator between God and Men
3/10. Christ, King and Shepherd
3/11. Christ, Prophet and Teacher
3/12. Jesus Christ, Priest of the New Covenant
3/13. Jesus Christ’s Holiness

Required Readings:
Kereszty, pages 339-410.

Ocariz, pages 90-197.


Part 4: Redemption – Mystery of God’s Love
Part 4.1: Mary as the Virgin Mother of the Savior – Her Role in the Plan of Salvation
Weeks 7 & 8: Saturday – October 3, 2015
Final Exam – Outside of Class – Brief Answer Questions

4/1. The Redemption – the Assumption of Humankind into Trinitarian Communion
4/2. The Salvific Meaning of Christ’s Passion and Death
4/3. The Death and Burial of Our Lord
4/4. Christ’s Exaltation
4/5. The Redemption as Liberation
4/6. Satisfaction, Merit and Efficient Causality of Christ in the Work of Redemption
4/7. The Redemption – Mystery of God’s Love and Suffering
4/8. The Universality of the Redemption
4/9. The Universal Significance of Christ in the Context of Other Religions
4/10. Christ and Possible Other Universes and Extraterrestrial Intelligent Beings
4/11. Mary as the Virgin Mother of the Savior – Her Role as the Woman in the Plan of Our Salvation

Required Readings:
Kereszty, pages 411-465.

Ocariz, pages 198-306.

Weinandy, pages 103-136

Recommended Reading:


Kereszty, Appendix: Relationship between Anthropology and Christology, pages 466-496.