PHIL 5309:
The Life and Works of Thomas Aquinas

T-Th 2:10- 3:30pm

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This course will study the life of Thomas Aquinas, the historical, intellectual and institutional context of his writings and the impact of his thought during his lifetime and in the period between his death and canonization. Students will become familiar with the major instruments for studying the work of Aquinas, e.g., biographical and historical materials, critical editions of Aquinas and his sources, the Index Thomisticus, and bibliographies, e.g., Thomistica, journals, etc.


Requirements: 1) 5pp. papers to be delivered in class (must be turned in at the class period preceding the delivery date, with copies to everyone); 2) 1-2pp. response papers to each of the in-class papers (due the date of delivery); 3) 15- 20 pp. paper

25 August—Introduction The Itinerarium (map) of the life of Thomas Aquinas

27 August - The Itinerarium II

01 September- The Fontes (Sources) for the life of Thomas Aquinas

03 September--The Early Years (Torrell, I)

08 September- The Church in the 13th Century

10 September- The Order of Preachers

15 September- Dominican Education (Torrell, II)

17 September- The Rise of the Universities (Torrell, III)

22 September - The First Paris Regency (1256-1259): University Teaching: Biblical exegesis (Torrell, IV 54-59)
24 September- University Teaching: Disputation (Torrell, IV 59- 69)
29 September- The Mendicant Orders and the Universities (Torrell, V)
01 October- The Summa Contra Gentiles (Torrell, VI)
06 October- Orvieto (1261- 1265): Commentary on Job (Torrell, VII)
08 October- No Class
12-13 October Mid-Semester Break
15 October- Orvieto (1261- 1265): The Office of Corpus Christi
20 October- Rome (1265- 68): The Summa Theologiae (Torrell, VIII)
22 October No Class
27 October Rome (1265- 68): Summa, etc. (Torrell, IX, 160- 171)
29 October- The Transmission of Aristotelian and Islamic Texts (Torrell, IX, 171- 78)
03 November- The Second Paris Regency (1268- 1272): Averroism (Torrell, X)
05 November- The Second Paris Regency (1268- 1272): Disputed Questions (Torrell, XI)
10 November- The Second Paris Regency (1268- 1272): The Commentaries on Aristotle (Torrell, XII)
12 November- Naples (1272-3): Torrell, XIII
17 November- The Death of Thomas Aquinas (Torrell, XIV)
19 November- The Condemnations of 1277 (Torrell, XV, 296- 303)
24- 29 November-Thanksgiving
01 December- Correctoria (Torrell, XV, 303- 316)
03 December- Canonization (Torrell, XVI)