

Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary

Syllabus

I. Course Identification

CH 5039 Post-Reformation Lutheranism Summer Quarter Online, 2 credits

II. Course Description

This course traces Post-Reformation Lutheranism from Luther's death to the advent of Pietism at the beginning of the 18th century.

III. Course Objectives

The student is to:

1. Understand and appreciate the transformational nature of Luther and the Reformation.
2. Understand and appreciate the various challenges and threats faced by the evangelical Lutheran church in the decades following the death of Luther, in particular the Counter-Reformation, intra-Lutheran disputes, Calvinistic infiltrations, and the Thirty Years' War.
3. Demonstrate an acquaintance with the development of Lutheran theology by key Lutheran theologians in the universities during the 16th and 17th centuries.
4. Observe the reactions and responses of the evangelical Lutheran church to the various challenges and threats faced in the 16th and 17th centuries.
5. Observe the richness and maturation of Lutheranism as evidenced in theology, worship, hymnody and devotional life.
6. Recognize the practical and pastoral nature of Lutheran orthodoxy as it is evident in the devotional literature, sermons, and hymnody of the 17th century.
7. Gain practical pastoral insight in how to evangelically deal with false doctrine and physical hardships faced by a congregation, synod and community.
8. Demonstrate a growing ability to apply the theology of Lutheran orthodoxy to himself and his ministry.

IV. Classroom Procedure and Instructional Method

Video lectures incorporating PowerPoint and a Word document outline will be prepared for viewing. Student reaction and questions to the information presented will be solicited via *Seminary Online*.

Primary source readings will be assigned and discussed in online forums. There will also be an online activity evaluating and reacting to hymns of 17th century Lutheranism.

Each student will a report on a Lutheran theologian/pastor/hymn writer. More details will be given at the beginning of the course.

Each student will write a one-page review of two journal articles/essays (single space, 1" margins). The reviews should include identifying the author's thesis/purpose, summary of the author's argument, and a brief evaluation of the author's conclusion.

V. Textbook and Course Materials

Course materials are located on *Seminary Online*. The only required book is *Lives and Writings of the Great Lutheran Fathers* edited by Timothy Schmeling. *The Theology of Post-Reformation Lutheranism, Volume 1* by Robert Preus is highly recommended. Various journal articles/essays are also posted on *Seminary Online*.

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