
ESSAY

Grace or Patristic Theology

The essay should be an in-depth study of an important theme in the theology of grace or patristic theology, focusing on a single author. The essay should treat one of the topics in the list below and present the author's treatment of the topic. *The list is an example but is not exhaustive. If another author/topic is preferred, it should be approved by the professor.* It should (1) situate the issue within the tradition, giving a summary of how the issue had been treated by previous writers, (2) give a clear account of the author's treatment of the issue, (3) evaluate the usefulness of the treatment for future theology and/or today's issues. The essay should primarily focus on the primary texts (i.e., the theologian's own work). It should also utilize at least two secondary sources that analyze and present the theologian's thought (other than encyclopedia articles, which may also be used). The length for the essay is set by the Dean of Studies. Due November 20.

PATRISTIC THEOLOGY

Justin Martyr on the value of philosophy

Text: Justin Martyr, *First and Second Apology*

Hilary of Poitiers on the Trinity

Text: *On the Trinity*

Basil of Caesarea on the Holy Spirit

Text: *On the Holy Spirit*

Gregory of Nyssa on the spiritual life

Text: *Life of Moses*

Isaac of Nineveh on becoming holy

Text: *On the Ascetical Life*

John Cassian on the monastic life

Text: *Conferences*

John Climacus on becoming holy

Text: *Ladder of Divine Perfection*

John of Damascus on images

Text: *Three Treatises on the Divine Images*

Gregory of Nazianzus on the Trinity

Text: *Theological Orations*

Maximus the Confessor on the Liturgy

Text: *Mystagogy*

Ambrose on the Sacraments

Text: *On the Sacraments*

Ambrose on the moral life

Text: *On Virgins*

John Chrysostom on marriage

Text: *On Marriage and Family Life*

Cyril of Jerusalem on the sacraments

Text: *Lectures on the Christian Sacraments*

Cyril of Alexandria on the person of Jesus

Text: *On the Unity of Christ*

GRACE

Bonaventure on grace

Suggested texts: *Soul's Journey into God, The Tree of Life*

Gregory Palamas on grace

Suggested text: *Triads*

Catherine of Siena on grace

Suggested text: *The Dialogue*

Martin Luther on Free Will

Text: *On the Bondage of the Will*

John Calvin on grace

Text: *Institutes of the Christian Religion*

John Wesley on grace

Suggested text: *Plain Account of Christian Perfection*

Henri DeLubac on grace

Text: *On the Mystery of the Supernatural*

Reginald Garrigou-LaGrange on grace

Suggested text: *Grace*

Matthias Scheeben on grace

Text: *Nature and Grace*

Reinhold Niebuhr on grace

Text: *The Nature and Destiny of Man*

Karl Rahner on grace

Text: *Foundations of the Christian Faith*, and essays in *Theological Investigations*

Hans Urs von Balthasar on grace

Text: *Theodrama*, vol. 2

Vladimir Lossky on grace

Texts: *The Mystical Theology of the Eastern Church* and *Orthodox Theology*

Jürgen Moltmann on grace

Text: *Theology of Hope*