

**Patricia Walter, OP**  
**Spring 2010**

**W 6:30-9:00**  
**3 credits**

**Description:** This course is an introduction to the discipline of systematic theology, through an examination of fundamental issues such as faith, revelation, scripture, tradition, doctrine and dogma, doctrinal hermeneutics, and theological method. The course also introduces students to selected classical, modern, and contemporary theologians and the different methodologies that they use. The course aims to create a foundation for further course work in systematic theology, and to assist the student in developing a basic theoretical framework essential for investigating theological issues critically to formulate appropriate pastoral responses.

**Learning Outcomes:** Students will:

1. Demonstrate a working understanding of “theology”
2. Understand the foundational elements of theology, specifically, religious experience, faith, revelation, tradition, scripture, symbol, dogma and doctrine, magisterium, and theological method.
3. Recognize differences in the approach, presuppositions and implications of a selection of theological methods.
4. To engage in theological reflection that critically appropriates the tradition and that serves sound pastoral practice

**Procedures:** The methods to be used include lectures, class discussion, small group work, presentations, and a final paper.

**Evaluation:** Evaluation will be based on the following elements: class participation, midterm, presentation and the final paper.

**Required Texts:** TBD