NORTH PARK THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

HSTY 5136 THEOLOGY OF THE REFORMERS

January Intensive 2012

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The primary purpose of this intensive seminar is to enable the student to read broadly and deeply in the work of selected sixteenth-century reformers, discuss key issues, and have opportunity to research in detail some aspect of personal interest. While the initial sessions are structured around background, contextual issues and biographical aspects of the major reformers, the course focuses primarily on comparing and contrasting the major theological themes of the Reformation.

The requirements of the course are the completion of all assigned reading, active participation in discussions, and the completion of a research paper, the ideas for which will be presented to the group on the last day of class. The paper is to be 15-20 pages (typed, double-spaced), fully documented in primary and secondary sources. It will be due Friday, February 24th.

No bibliographies will supplied by the instructor. Bibliographic tools for the Reformation proliferate, especially in the numerous published studies of all areas of the period. Of particular value is the bibliographic essay in Lewis Spitz's The Protestant Reformation 1517-1559. Also helpful are Steven Ozment, ed., Reformation Europe: A Guide to Research (St. Louis: Center for Reformation Research, 1982), and Roland Bainton and Eric W. Gritsch, eds., Bibliography of the Continental Reformation: Materials Available in English (Hamden, Conn.: Archon Books, 1972). There are any number of websites that provide bibliographies on general or specific Reformation issues.

The required texts are available at the NP bookstore or online:

Alister E. McGrath, Reformation Thought, 3rd ed. (1999)
Timothy F. Lull, ed., Martin Luther's Basic Theological Writings (1989)
J. T. McNeill, ed. Calvin's Institutes of the Christian Religion, 2 vols. (1960)
G. H. Williams and A. M. Mergal, eds., Spiritual and Anabaptist Writers (1957)

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

January 9: INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

MARTIN LUTHER AND LUTHERAN REFORM
Assigned reading: McGrath, 1-38; 86-91; 93-94
Lull, 1-68; 267-313; 585-629

January 10: ULRICH ZWINGLI AND THE ANABAPTISTS
Assigned reading: McGrath, 39-85, 91-93
Williams & Mergal, 19-70

JOHN CALVIN AND THE ENGLISH REFORMERS
Assigned reading: McGrath, 94-100; 235-260
McNeill, xxix-lxxi

January 11: FAITH AND ELECTION
Assigned reading: McGrath, 101-144
Lull, 155-234
Institutes, I (1-2); II (1-5); III (1-3, 11, 21-25)
Williams & Mergal, 86-135

SCRIPTURE
Assigned reading: McGrath, 145-168
Lull, 69-148
Institutes, I (6-10); II (10-11)

January 12: SACRAMENTS
Assigned reading: McGrath, 169-196
Lull, 235-266, 314-404
Institutes, IV (14-17, 19)
Williams & Mergal, 71-85, 161-203

CHURCH

Assigned reading: McGrath, 197-218
Lull, 405-575
Institutes, IV (1-3, 8-9, 12)
Williams & Mergal, 145-160, 226-284

January 13: POLITICAL, SOCIAL, AND ETHICAL

Assigned reading: McGrath, 219-234; 261-278
Lull, 655-755
Institutes, I (16); II (7); IV (20)
Williams & Mergal, 136-144

PRESENTATION OF RESEARCH TOPICS AND WRAPUP