## **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

The Church's understanding of the deposit of faith, entrusted to her by Jesus, has grown and developed over time. This course will examine the major figures and methods used throughout the centuries to develop Christian theology. It will trace the earliest beginnings of Christian thought following the apostles, the great age of the Fathers of the Church, the rise of scholasticism, and the challenges to theology in the modern period.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

A handout with excerpts from primary sources will be provided each week on the course page. The student is expected to read these texts carefully before each class.

## **REQUIRED READING:**

✓ Excerpts from primary sources will be provided each week.

## **COURSE SCHEDULE:**

Lesson	Date	Topic
0	July 21	Course Orientation
1	July 28	The Development of Doctrine
2	Aug. 4	Key Witnesses: The Apostolic Fathers
3	Aug. 11	Forming in Faith: The Catechumenate
4	Aug. 18	Christological Controversies and Ecumenical Councils
5	Aug. 25	Eastern Church Fathers
6	Sept. 1	Western Church Fathers
7	Sept. 8	Culmination of the Fathers: Augustine and Damascene

Lesson	Date	Topic
8	Sept. 15	Monastic Schools and St. Bernard
9	Sept. 22	Scholasticism: Anselm and Abelard
N/A	Sept. 29	NO CLASS
10	Oct. 6	High Point of Christendom: Aquinas and Bonaventure
11	Oct. 13	Decline: Nominalism and Voluntarism
12	Oct. 20	Crisis: The Reformation
13	Oct. 27	Renewal in the Church: The Counter-Reformation
N/A	Nov. 3	NO CLASS
14	Nov. 10	Articulating Holiness: Mysticism and Popular Piety
15	Nov. 17	Early Modern Period: Newman, Scheeben, Tübingen
N/A	Nov. 24	NO CLASS
16	Dec. 1	The Twentieth Century: Modernism, Neo-Thomism, Ressourcement
17	Dec. 8	Current Trends: Ratzinger and the New Evangelization