

Charles University, Protestant Theological Faculty

Courses in English and German in the academic year 2021/2022

(last updated 11. October)

The winter semester 2021/2022

Courses intended for all students

Czech Language Course - RET9530

Intensive course before the beginning of the semester, 4 credits, Teacher: Mgr. Aleš Hoznauer

Czech for Foreign Students - Beginners - RET9534

2 hours/week, 4 credits, Teacher: Mgr. Aleš Hoznauer

Information about the nature and characteristics of the language, pronunciation, spelling. Comparison with English (language the course is taught in). The aim is to cover the material in the first 7-8 lessons of the textbook *New Czech Step by Step* (greetings, numbers, months, colours, time..... basic grammar) in written and spoken form.

Repetitorium Bohemica I. - RET9537

2 hours/week, 1 credit, Teacher: Mgr. Aleš Hoznauer

Practical exercises, reading texts

Courses recommended for students of Theology

Liturgical Theology - RET6060

2 hours/week, 6 credits, Teacher: Associate Professor Tabita Landová, Ph.D.

The first consultation about the shape of the course etc. takes place in the room "H", 7th October at 15.10.

The link for the on-line lessons is: <https://cesnet.zoom.us/j/5895376189?pwd=ZlFoN25ZTEJGdjdjT05KMGC2UDROUT09>

The theological consideration on liturgy is something we are still pretty much lacking in the current Protestant liturgics, whether in German speaking countries or in Czech lands. Protestant liturgics has been primarily focused on formal aspects of liturgy (Gestaltungsfragen), whereas theology of the worship remained to be on the periphery of inquiry. However, in recent years we are becoming to be more and more attentive to the North-American liturgical theology as an important source of inspiration. The course will provide the opportunity to get acquainted with the liturgical theology of Gordon Lathrop, Professor Emeritus of Liturgy at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia.

We will critically read and discuss his most famous book "Holy Things: a Liturgical Theology" (1993) and other sources.

Course requirements: regular attendance, active participation on discussions, two presentations of a passage from the book "Holy Things", short essay on an assigned topic.

Seminar on Theological Ethics - RET5053

2 hours/week, 6 credits, Teacher: Associate Professor Jindřich Halama, Dr.

The course will focus on theological reflections of human life and its moral problems from birth to death in the light of new achievements in biology and biomedicine.

(Matters like assisted reproduction, prenatal diagnostics, genetic manipulation, transplantation, dying and euthanasia will be included.)

Theological Ethics 1 - RETA5031

2 hours/week, 2 credits, Teachers: Associate Professor Jindřich Halama, Dr., Mgr. Jan Zámečník, Ph.D.

The general introduction into ethics provides the students with basic knowledge in ethics, its method and subject. It gives a survey of the historical development of moral thought and information on the basic categories in ethics, significant tendencies and schools of moral thought.

The contents of the course:

I: what is ethics; tapes and fields of moral reflection; basic ethical categories; types of descriptive ethics.

II: main types of normative ethics (metaphysical ethics, contractualist ethics; English ethics in the 18th century; Kant and neokantians; empiricism in ethics – utilitarianism; German idealism in the 19th century; the ethics of the will; religion based ethics; ethics of responsibility; ethics of social communications and discourse ethics.

The aim is to give the students basic orientation in the history and development of moral thought that would help them to gain orientation in moral philosophy and theological ethics.

The Experience of God- RET4042A (Introduction to the Study of Protestant Theology - RETA4001)

2 hours/week, 3 credits, Teacher: Professor Ivana Noble, Ph.D.

The Biblical and Patristic sources on Christology are read slightly differently in each generation and in each culture, and yet the vital themes return to be interpreted. The course sets out to investigate who Jesus Christ is for 21st century Christians. After an introductory lecture on the shifts of religiosity in contemporary Europe, the seminar will explore a variety of current voices responding to the question, who is Christ. Students will read and interpret theological texts, listen to music, and engage with fine art.

Introduction to the New Testament Studies - RETA2001

2 hours/week, 5 credits, Teacher: Associate Professor Jiří Mrázek, Th.D., Mgr. Jan Roskovec, Ph.D.

The course has the form of lectures over two semesters in the first year of study. It introduces the students into critical study of the New Testament, providing them with basic information about the structure, content and literary characteristics of the particular writings. Simultaneous individual reading of the respective writings is expected, acquired findings are discussed. The course is an initial prerequisite for further courses in New Testament studies. It is aimed at acquiring a working knowledge of the New Testament writings, basic orientation in its texts, their types, literary forms and contents.

The course is arranged according to the basic divisions of the New Testament canon: synoptic gospels, Johannine writings, Pauline epistles, catholic epistles, the Apocalypse of John.

Examination is two stage: a written test at the end of each semester and oral examination at the end of the academic year, being a part of a comprehensive board examination together with Introductions to the Old Testament Studies and to the Study of Theology.

New Testament Seminar - RET2021A

2 hours/week, 6 credits, Teacher: Mgr. Jan Roskovec, Ph.D.

In an interactive, seminar mode, the course will examine the miracle texts of the Fourth Gospel. It will become apparent that the specific johannine mode of handling and presenting the tradition about Jesus had also formed the stories of Jesus' deeds and had made them part of the particular johannine testimony about the presence of God's logos in the very mundane conditions of human existence.

Introduction to Philosophy – RETA7001

2 hours/week, 3 credits, Teachers: Mgr. Jan Kranát, Ph.D., Mgr. et Mgr. Olga Navrátilová, Ph.D.

During the first semester, the aim of the lecture is to introduce the students to some of the fundamental philosophical texts (the parables from Plato's Republic, Plato's Seventh Letter, Aristotle's Metaphysics A, Descartes's Meditations on First Philosophy, Kant's Prolegomena to Any Future Metaphysics). During the second semester, the lecture proceeds with the systematic questions. It poses the question about the possibility of cognition. The exposition of the problems of gnoseology uncovers also the metaphysical context, which is laid open recently especially by the philosophical hermeneutics.

Introduction to the Old Testament Studies – RETA 1001

2 hours/week, 5 credits, Teachers: prof. Martin Prudký, Dr., Mgr. Jan Rückl, Ph.D., Associate Professor Petr Sláma, Ph.D.

A two-semester series of lectures aimed at providing (a) a factual knowledge of the biblical texts (the Old Testament including the deuterocanonical books), (b) a basic knowledge of the Bible, its forms and constituent parts (the books and groups of books), and their literary and factual characteristics, and (c) an understanding of the basic issues relating to biblical studies, especially how Scripture has been read, used, and interpreted in the Christian tradition.

The aim is for students to acquire a basic knowledge of the biblical material, an orientation in the biblical texts, their kinds and nature, and knowledge of the Bible and the methodological approaches to studying it. The course is arranged so as to roughly follow the order of the books in the Hebrew Bible (the Palestine Canon). In the winter semester the course covers a general introduction and the books of the Pentateuch (Torah), and in the summer semester the Former and Latter Prophets, the Writings (Ketuvim), the deuterocanonical books, and the most important pseudepigrapha.

The lectures assume ongoing preparation and independent work from students, especially reading the biblical texts (translated into the vernacular) and studying recommended literature.

Students have to pass a separate test at the end of each semester.

The final examination is part of the comprehensive examination before a commission at the end of the first year, which also covers the courses Introduction to New Testament Studies and Introduction to the Study of Theology.

International Seminar on Jerusalem in Archaeology and in the Old Testament - RET1073

2 hours/week, 6 credits, Teachers: Associate Professor Filip Čapek, Ph.D., prof. ThDr. Martin Prudký, Associate Professor Petr Sláma, Ph.D.

International Seminar on Jerusalem in Archaeology and in the Old Testament takes part in the winter term 2021-2022 and is organized by five subject: TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY, CHARLES UNIVERSITY, UNIVERSITY OF HEIDELBERG, UNIVERSITY OF TÜBINGEN and UNIVERSITY OF ZURICH.

It starts on 14th October and runs for 12 weeks and is a combination of frontal parallel meetings of respective university and ZOOM meeting of teachers and students together. In the ON-LINE meetings the main subjects will be presented in a form of 45 minutes lecture of one of the teachers (and also invited lecturers), and few minutes response of each of them and the students (up to 90 minutes every time). In the frontal meeting discussions with the students on the same subjects will take part and papers will be read and discussed.

Time of the seminar: weekly at 17-19 (18-20 in Israel time) starts on 14th of October and ends accordingly to terms of respective university. In Prague, the last day is the 13th January 2022.

Introduction to Missiology – RET6057

2 hours/week, 6 credits, Teacher: Associate Professor Timothy Noble, Ph.D.

This course offers an introduction to the study of mission for students at Bachelor's and Master's levels. It is divided into six major areas, which present an overview of the discipline. The course begins by stating that missiology is the study of mission. As this requires some kind of understanding of what mission is, the first area to be investigated is the scope and meaning of mission. Authors addressed in this section include David Bosch, Steven Bevans, and others. Attention is also given to the five marks of mission as developed by the Anglican Communion. By the end of this section of the course, students will be aware of the complexity of defining (and thus limiting) mission, whilst also seeing that some kind of definition is both necessary and possible if the topic is to be studied. Students are examined normally by means of an essay.

Theological Interpretations of Culture – RL0332

2 hours/week, 6 credits, Teacher: Associate Professor Timothy Noble, Ph.D.

This course will look at portrayals of church ministers (priests, pastors) in film. It will run fortnightly to allow viewing of a whole film and discussion. Films used will include *Of Gods and Men*, *Romero*, *Priest*, *The Apostle*, *Mission*, *Silence*. Given these films, questions will arise about the nature of religion and violence, and about the role of leadership in churches.

Religious Studies Seminar 1 – RETA8011

2 hours/week, 5 credits, Teacher: Mgr. Pavol Bargár, Th.D.

In this seminar the students will learn basic interpretive skills, focusing on one selected religious studies text (such as M. Eliade, *Sacred and Profane*, R. Otto, *The Idea of the Holy* etc.) which they will read, interpret and comment on together in seminar discussions, employing relevant secondary literature and other tools and resources of religious studies.

New Testament Greek - Basic Course - RETA9200

4 hours/week, 8 credits, Teachers: Mgr. Lucie Kopecká

This course and its follow-up subjects focus on the study of Greek common language (koine), the language of the New Testament. The teaching includes grammatical explications of a part of the morphology and syntax of common Greek and their practicing on adequately difficult training sentences, selected mainly from the text of the New Testament. After completing the course, the student is able to read and write Greek text, analyze and translate simple Greek sentences, some types of compound and complex sentences and shorter texts and can work properly with dictionaries.

Church History (English) - RET3031A

2 hours/week, 4 credits, Teacher: Dr. Peter Cornelis Adrianus Morée

This course takes the students step by step through the main events and developments of the period between 1350 and 1620, also known as the Bohemian Reformation. It explains how its main personality, Jan Hus, became the leading figure and what were the consequences of his condemnation and violent death in 1415. Also the relation of the Bohemian Reformation and the Lutheran Reformation will be examined. For every class a source text will be provided to discuss certain aspects of a particular period or development.

The Pottery of Ancient Israel - RETDA1034

Moodle, 2 credits, Teacher: Mgr. David Rafael Moulis, Ph.D.

The course is based on the typology of the ancient Israel potter and the process of its production. The focus is on pottery from the Neolithic to the Iron Age II period. All papers, book chapters and tasks are only in English.

Introduction to Dogmatics - RETA4041

2 hours/week, 2 credits, Teachers: Mgr. Petr Gallus, Ph.D., Mgr. Odřej Kolář, Th.D.

The lecture introduces into the terrain of Systematic Theology based on the utterances of the Creed. For the beginners, it brings a first contact and explanation of basic fields, problems, terms, authors and concepts in Systematic Theology and offers to enter into the critical systematic way of thinking and to confront one's own thinking with the plurality of theological conceptions within the frame of today's society, science and culture. Students learn to differentiate and analyze different levels of problems, they get acquainted with appropriate terms and their meanings and realize the interconnection of theological statements from different fields of the discipline. For the advanced students, the lecture with its structure and interactivity offers an appropriate recapitulation of knowledges required for the exam. Credits will be appointed based on regular active participation, evtl. based on some additional work (introduction, presentation, paper on a particular topic).

Courses recommended for students of Social Work

Social Work in Practice II - RPZ21A

Practice placement, ca. 150 hours placement, 9 credits, Supervisor: PhDr. Hana Janečková, Ph.D.

A supervised practice placement (or placements) in a social work setting with some academic output also required. The placement is chosen individually in consultation with the supervisor, taking into account the interests of the student. The number of placements open to students who do not speak Czech is limited, so students interested in this course should write well in advance to the Office for International Relations outlining their motivation and interests and giving several alternative client groups they are interested in working with. This course is only open to exchange students enrolled at the Protestant Theological Faculty.