

UNDERGRADUATE COURSE DESCRIPTION

Term: **Fall 2010**
Instructor: Danielle Nussberger, Ph.D.
Course #: THEO 1001
Section: 129
Course Title: **Introduction to Theology**

Description:

Everyday we interpret our surroundings and make choices about our identities and our actions in relationship to other individuals according to a personal and communal understanding of the meaning and value of human life. Every field of study that you will engage in at Marquette University will involve some manner of interpretation, a means by which human being and action is comprehended and determined. In the field of Christian theology, the meaning of human life is contemplated on the basis of humanity's relationship to its source and Creator, the Triune God. Our task will be to examine the rich intellectual tradition of Christianity through a sampling of its texts, beginning with writings from the Hebrew and Christian scriptures and continuing onward through Christianity's development all the way to the modern period. In order to understand the Christian tradition's worldview concerning the meaning of human life and its relationship to God, we will be continually asking two questions of every text that we examine: 1) How is God represented in this text?, and 2) What does this text have to say about the meaning of being human? We will be involved in a double act of interpretation as we: 1) interpret these influential Christian texts in light of the historical conditions out of which they arose, and 2) interpret our world and ourselves in light of the theological value of these texts.