

## GRADUATE COURSE DESCRIPTION

Term: **Spring 2009**  
Instructor: Danielle Nussberger, Ph.D.  
Course #: THEO 327  
Course Title: Major Figures: Hans Urs von Balthasar

### Content:

This seminar is an introduction to Balthasar's theology that will use the first volume of his *Glory of the Lord* as the point of entry for exploring the goals of Balthasar's theological project as well as the interrelationship between the three parts of his great trilogy: the theological aesthetics, the theo-dramatics, and the theo-logic. Such a careful examination of Balthasar's thought through the lens of his theological aesthetics will immediately uncover Balthasar's acumen as a theological exegete of the sacred scriptural text that is the very heart and soul of his trilogy. We will, therefore, pay careful attention to Balthasar's unique form of scriptural exegesis which invokes a multitude of past voices within the theological tradition in order to faithfully read Scripture anew for the present. This cannot help but produce the necessary, further discussion regarding the usefulness of Balthasar's hermeneutical method for contemporary theological exegesis.

### Format:

Seminar-style format with a mixture of lecture and discussion, including student-led discussion of various reading assignments.

### Required Texts:

- Balthasar, *Glory of the Lord*, Volume I.
- Other texts to be made available on reserve at the library.