The course will focus upon the many texts in Thomas Aquinas’s literary corpus were he addresses the exigencies and capacities of human nature, especially in relation to life with God. We will address grace, cooperation, merit, original sin (and its effects) and freedom. The beatific vision as an event—of God, or of man? Of both? How?—will also be treated at length.

Format:

Regular student presentations of the assigned texts, classroom and paper presentations, and discussion. Expect plurimae capitis fractiones.

Assignments and/or Examinations:

- Three short papers on specified texts, and a longer research paper a term’s end.

Language Pre-requisites:

- Scholastic or medieval Latin will be a big plus, and the ability to employ the usual scholarly research languages (French, German, Italian, Spanish) will be needed for advanced research.