GRADUATE COURSE DESCRIPTION

Term: Fall 2013
Instructor: D. Stephen Long
Course #: THEO 8523, Sect. 101
Course Title: Contemporary Protestant Systematic Theology

Content:

In his 1941 seminar on the Council of Trent, Karl Barth stated that each generation of Protestant theologians must set forth Protestant theology in response to Catholic teaching. This course will do this by focusing on the doctrine of God. It will address two questions -- Who is God and how do we know? It will begin with a careful reading of Thomas Aquinas' teaching on the first forty-six questions of the Summa Theologiae, and then compare a number of diverse modern Protestant theologies to see how they relate to this central Catholic teaching. Comparisons will be based both on content and form. Participants will compare content such as God’s simplicity, eternity, perfection and the relation between God’s unity and Trinity, and they will also compare how theologians arrive at such answers: dialectically, analogically, biblically, philosophically, etc.

Format:

Lecture and discussion

Assignments and/or Examinations:

- In class presentations and a seminar essay