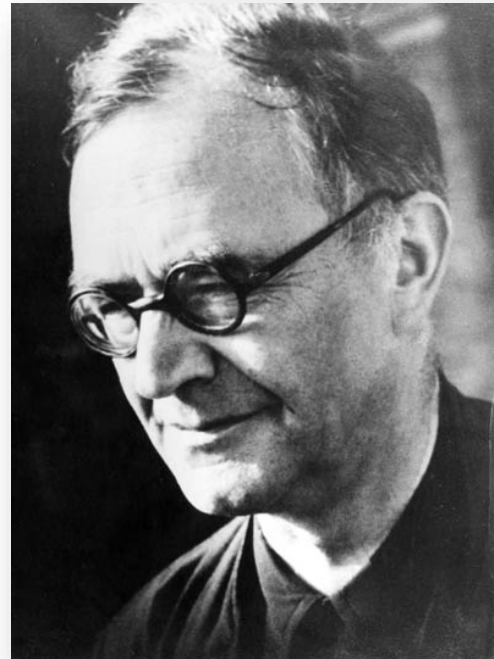


READINGS IN SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

DR503N

30 CREDITS, 11 WEEKS



**PLEASE NOTE CAREFULLY:**

The full set of school regulations and procedures is contained in the Postgraduate Student Handbook which is available online at your MyAberdeen page. Students are expected to familiarise themselves not only with the contents of this leaflet but also with the contents of the Handbook. Therefore, ignorance of the contents of the Handbook will not excuse the breach of any School regulation or procedure.

**You must familiarise yourself with this important information at the earliest opportunity.**

## **COURSE CO-ORDINATOR/COURSE TEAM**

Professor Paul T Nimmo (Course Co-ordinator)  
KCF12, King's College : by appointment  
01224 273120  
[paul.nimmo@abdn.ac.uk](mailto:paul.nimmo@abdn.ac.uk)

Professor Philip G. Ziegler  
KCF17, King's College : by appointment  
01224 272378  
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### **Discipline Administration:**

Mrs Lisa Evans  
50-52 College Bounds  
Room CB001  
01224 273986  
[divrs@abdn.ac.uk](mailto:divrs@abdn.ac.uk)

*Students are asked to make themselves familiar with the information on key institutional policies which been made available within MyAberdeen (<https://abdn.blackboard.com/bbcswebdav/institution/Policies>). These policies are relevant to all students and will be useful to you throughout your studies. They contain important information and address issues such as what to do if you are absent, how to raise an appeal or a complaint and how seriously the University takes your feedback.*

*These institutional policies should be read in conjunction with this course guide, in which School specific policies are detailed. Further information can be found on the [University's Infohub webpage](#) or by visiting the Infohub*

### **TIMETABLE**

*Students can view their university timetable  
at <http://www.abdn.ac.uk/infohub/study/timetables-550.php>*

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course offers students the opportunity to engage at length and in depth with the thought of formative thinkers in the Christian theological tradition. In doing so, it intends to foster critical reflection on the scope and coherence of Christian teaching; to raise questions about the defining concerns and conventions of Christian dogmatic or systematic theology; and to cultivate in students the interpretative and analytical skills required for advanced work in the discipline.

## INTENDED AIMS AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the conclusion of the course, students will have gained:

- close familiarity with significant examples of Christian dogmatic or systematic theology;
- deeper understanding of systematic theology as a discipline and a genre of intellectual labour;
- greater facility and confidence in the analysis of large-scale, complex texts;
- heightened capacity to express complex ideas and arguments in both written and oral form.

## LECTURE/SEMINAR PROGRAMME

The required seminar texts for this course are:

- Karl Barth, *The Knowledge of God and the Service of God According to the Teaching of the Reformation* [1938], translated by J. L. M. Haire and I. Henderson (London: Hodder and Stoughton, 1960)
- Huldrych Zwingli, *The Commentary on True and False Religion* [1525] in *The Latin Works of Huldreich Zwingli*, volume 3, edited by C. N. Heller, translated by S. Macauley Jackson (Philadelphia: The Heidelberg Press, 1929)

Both texts are in the public domain and will be available as downloadable .pdf files via MyAberdeen. The texts can also be accessed in other formats from these sites:

- Barth: <https://archive.org/details/knowledgeofgodan011857mbp>
- Zwingli: <https://archive.org/details/latinworkscores03zwin>

Both texts are also available for purchase as Wipf & Stock reprints if desired.

The seminar schedule of readings is as follows:

### Part One—Karl Barth, *The Knowledge of God and the Service of God*

week one	::	Monday 10th September	3–44
week two	::	Monday 17th September	45–91
week three	::	Monday 24th September	92–135
week four	::	*Wednesday 3rd October (tbc)	136–187
week five	::	Monday 8th October	188–245

### Part Two—Huldrych Zwingli, *The Commentary on True and False Religion*

week six	::	Monday 15th October	55–118
week seven	::	Monday 22nd October	118–176
week eight	::	Monday 29th October	176–216
week nine	::	Monday 5th November	216–283

week ten :: Monday 12th November

283–343

### Revision Session

week twelve :: Monday 26th November

Suggestions for additional reading will be made in due course.

## ASSESSMENT

### 1 / Text précis assignments (60% of final grade)

Students will submit a hard-copy précis of 750 words in respect of the reading for each week of the course from week one to week ten. Each précis should:

- distill and analyze the most important material claims of the reading
- reflect critically upon formal matters of argument and presentation
- raise in closing two or three substantive questions about the reading

Each student must bring sufficient copies of their précis to the seminar on each occasion for these to be distributed to all class members and academic staff.

*NB*—Further instruction will be given in the first meeting of the course, thus **no précis should be prepared for the first meeting**. Thereafter, students will submit their précis on each week’s reading at the start of that week’s meeting. The précis for week one will be submitted – with that for week two – in week two.

### 2 / Final oral examination (40% of final grade)

Each student will be given a final oral examination of approximately 40 minutes in length. The exam will be conducted by at least two members of academic staff and will be recorded so as to be available to the External Examiners as required by University policy. Further details and guidance will be provided in due course.

### PLEASE NOTE:

- **In order to pass a course on the first attempt, a student must attain a Common Grading Scale (CGS) mark of at least E3 in each element of course assessment. Failure to do so will result in a grade of no greater than CGS E1 for the course as a whole.**
- If work is submitted on time, you can expect that feedback will **normally be provided within three working weeks** (excluding vacation periods) of the submission deadline.
- To view the CGS Descriptors please go to **MyAberdeen – Organisations – Divinity, History, & Philosophy Student Information for Taught Postgraduates**. The link to the Common Grading Scale (CGS) Descriptors is on the left hand menu.

## ASSESSMENT DEADLINES

Text précis assignments are due at the start of each meeting of the course from week two to week ten; the first and second assignments are both due in week two. The final oral examination will take place on a date to be confirmed in due course.

## SUBMISSION ARRANGEMENTS

Submit **one paper copy** with a completed essay cover sheet to the **drop boxes in CB008 in 50-52 College Bounds** and **one official electronic copy to TurnitinUK via MyAberdeen**. Both copies to be submitted by 3.00pm on the due date.

**Paper Copy:** One paper copy, typed and double spaced, together with an **Assessment cover sheet** – this should have your ID number **clearly** written on the cover sheet, with **NO** name or signature but **EVERYTHING ELSE** completed, including tutor's name – and should be delivered to the drop boxes in CB008, 50-52 College Bounds.

**Electronic Copy:** One copy submitted through Turnitin via [MyAberdeen](#). (for instructions please see <http://www.abdn.ac.uk/eLearning/turnitinuk/students/>) Students are asked to retain the Turnitin receipt so they are able to provide proof of submission at a later date if required.

In advance of uploading, please save the assignment with your student ID number listed in the filename, i.e. 59999999 DRxxxx Essay 1.

When asked to enter a title for the assignment, please enter a title identical to the name of your saved assignment, i.e. DRxxxx Essay 1.

Both copies to be submitted by 3.00pm on the due date.

**Please note: Failure to submit both an electronic copy to TurnitinUK, and an identical paper copy, will result in a deduction of marks.**

**Failure to submit to TurnitinUK will result in a zero mark.**

**Distance Learning Students Only** – Please note that to submit a hard copy is not necessary; an electronic submission will suffice.

***N.B Turnitin doesn't accept Mac documents in Pages. If using a Mac please go to File and export work as a Word document.***

## RESIT INFORMATION

The resit is by way of an oral exam which accounts for 100% of the resit grade. Access to the resit is provisional on:

- All submitted coursework having been submitted and graded at CGS E3 or higher.
- Student having a valid Class Certificate. Students with C7's are not eligible for resits.